




together



MISSION

To end epidemic levels of loneliness and social isolation in Connecticut while addressing their root causes by replicating, adapting, and expanding successful programs/services across zip codes.





VISION & GOALS

Increase awareness and availability of programs and strategies that address social isolation and loneliness to grow social connections within and between CT towns and cities/zip codes

Build and strengthen collaborations with current and potential partners to leverage our collective efforts, resources, innovations and activities to increase social connection across Connecticut

Connect people living with isolation and loneliness to resources and programs through an easily-accessible online platform (Social Health Connector) to build social connections necessary to thrive

*Adapted from U.S. Administration for Community Living/Virginia Easy Access Platform





CORE VALUES



LOVE - We believe love is the most fundamental core value and foundation of compassion and healthy communities

MUTUAL RESPECT - We believe and respect one another for our differences as well as those experiences and beliefs we share

COLLABORATION - We know we cannot change and save lives if we do not act now and do so as a cohesive team

PASSIONATE PERSISTENCE - We know this will take time and patience, and we are willing to get uncomfortable in order for things to get more comfortable

RESILIENCY - We each come with our own challenges and trials faced and will use our resiliency and strength to help us better empathize and engage

RESPONSIBILITY – We believe each of us has a role to play in protecting one other, our community health, and physical and mental environment

BELONGING – We believe all community members belong

SERVICE – We believe in the power of service to help others while increasing one's sense of self

KINDNESS— We believe change happens one act of kindness at a time, no matter how big or small

DIGNITY – We believe everyone must be treated with respect and honored for who they are

TOGETHER CT PARTNERS

Together CT Partners commit to identifying and executing a project or initiative with the specific goal of helping end the epidemic of loneliness and social isolation in their geographic footprint. A badge will be available to post on websites/in print materials.

A "Spotlight Level Partner" commits to helping guide those in other towns/cities to learn from best practices/lessons learned and replicate, adapt, and expand upon programs to best meet the needs of residents in additional CT regions.

KEY CONSTITUENTS

Individuals/Families with lived experiences

Social Services

Healthcare

Town/City/State Governmental Agencies

Faith Communities

Education/Research

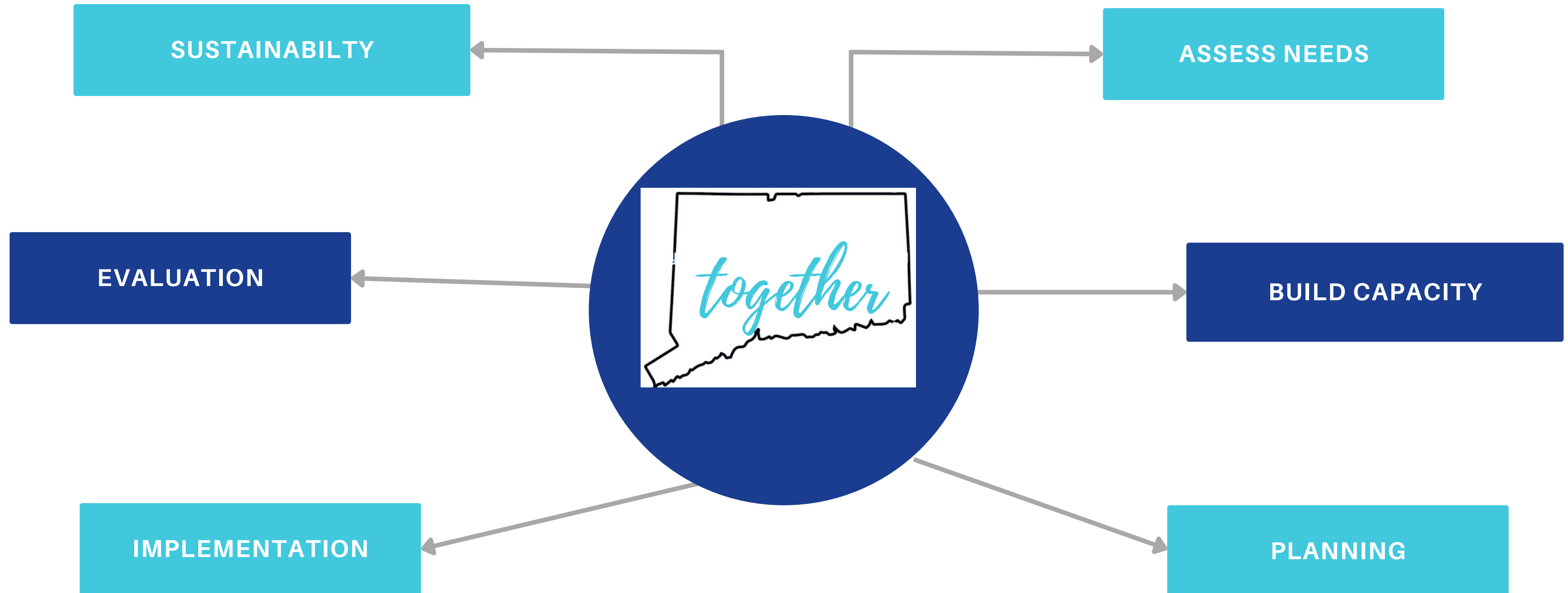
Nonprofit Sector

Business Sector

Legislators

*Adapted from CT RBHAO Local Prevention Council training

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK



*Strategies adapted from CT RBHAO led Local Prevention Council training

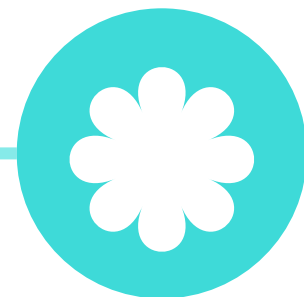
STEP-BY-STEP STRATEGY

COALITION BUILDING



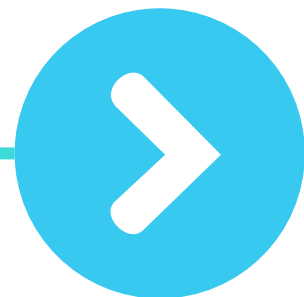
Outreach to key constituents and early stakeholder/task force formation/Determine launch geography

CAPACITY BUILDING



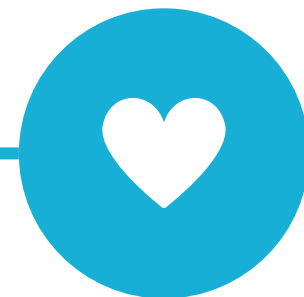
Trainings and consistent meetings/focus groups/roundtables

ASSESS NEEDS



Build initial site with resources from launch towns/cities, collect data and input from beta adopters

MONITOR/EVALUATE



Process early data and continue honing site/hub to best address community needs

MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES



Increase partner base across zip codes/add services to site/maintain meetings

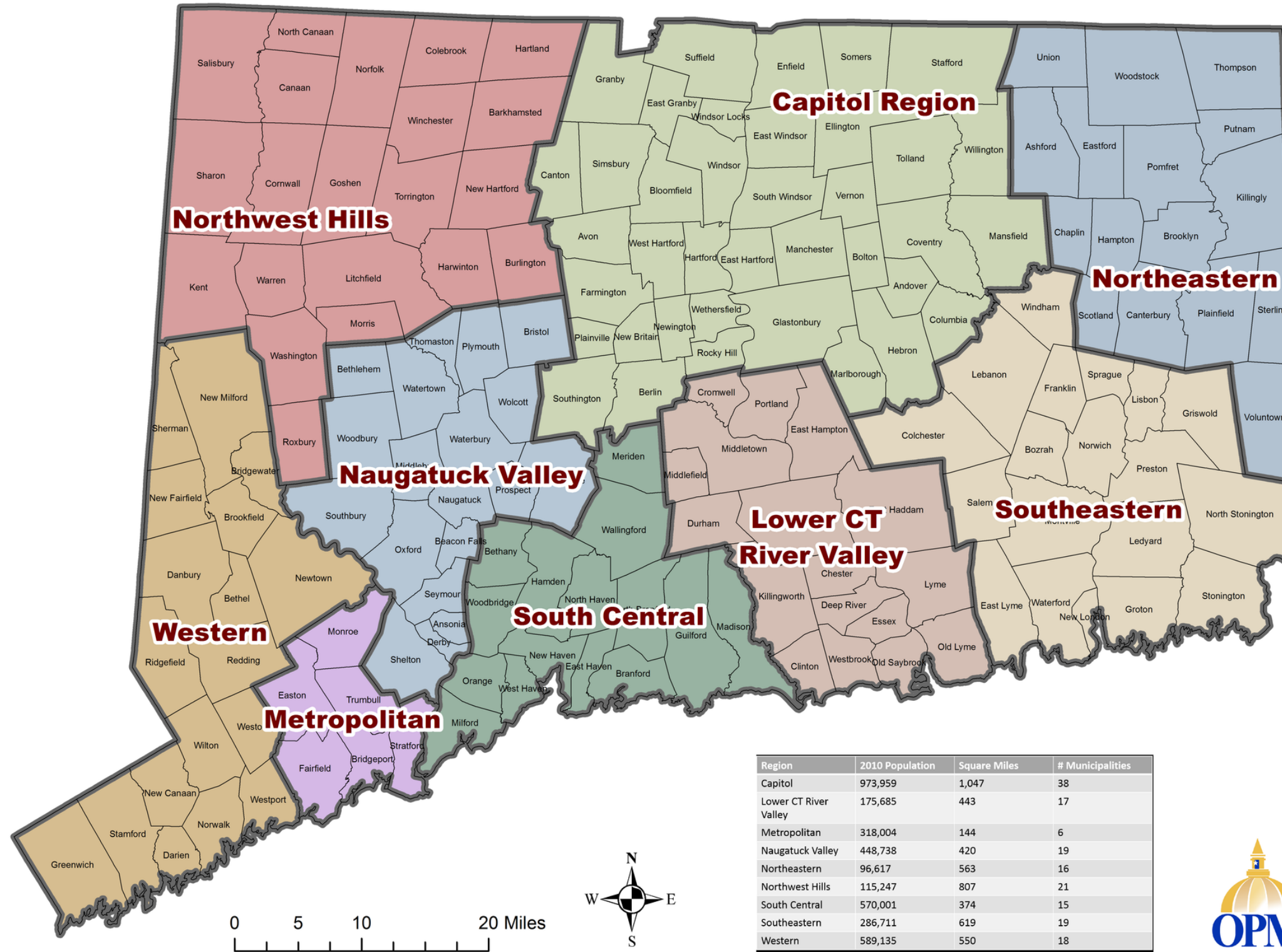
DISSEMINATE INFORMATION



Ensure community awareness and increased adoption of programs as a result of collaboration

CONNECTICUT BY COGS

Regional Councils of Governments in Connecticut



- WESTERN
- METROPOLITAN
- NAUGATUCK VALLEY
- SOUTH CENTRAL
- LOWER CT RIVER VALLEY
- SOUTHEASTERN
- NORTHEASTER
- NORTHWEST HILLS
- CAPITOL REGION

Region	2010 Population	Square Miles	# Municipalities
Capitol	973,959	1,047	38
Lower CT River Valley	175,685	443	17
Metropolitan	318,004	144	6
Naugatuck Valley	448,738	420	19
Northeastern	96,617	563	16
Northwest Hills	115,247	807	21
South Central	570,001	374	15
Southeastern	286,711	619	19
Western	589,135	550	18





COGS BY TOWN/CITY



WESTERN

- New Milford
- Sherman
- Bridgewater
- New Fairfield
- Brookfield
- Danbury
- Bethel
- Newtown
- Ridgefield
- Redding
- Weston
- Wilton
- Westport
- Norwalk
- New Canaan
- Darien
- Stamford
- Greenwich

METROPOLITAN

- Monroe
- Easton
- Trumbull
- Fairfield
- Bridgeport
- Stratford

SOUTH CENTRAL LOWER CT

- Milford
- Orange
- West Haven
- New Haven
- East Haven
- Woodbridge
- Hamden
- North Haven
- Branford
- North Branford
- Guilford
- Madison
- Wallingford
- Meriden
- Bethany

RIVER VALLEY

- Cromwell
- Killingworth
- Durham
- Clinton
- Westbrook
- Old Saybrook
- Essex
- Lyme
- Old Lyme
- Deep River
- Chester
- East Hampton
- Portland
- Middletown
- Middlefield
- Haddam
- East Haddam

NAUGATUCK

- Shelton
- Ansonia
- Seymour
- Oxford
- Beacon Falls
- Southbury
- Woodbury
- Naugatuck
- Derby
- Waterbury
- Watertown
- Wolcott
- Bristol
- Plymouth
- Thomaston
- Bethlehem
- Prospect
- Cheshire

SOUTHEAST

- Colchester
- Salem
- East Lyme
- Waterford
- Groton
- Ledyard
- Lebanon
- Windham
- Franklin
- Norwich
- Lisbon
- Stonington
- N.Stonington
- Griswold
- Montville
- Sprague
- Preston
- Bozrah

The image features a dark blue rounded rectangle on a white background. On the left side of the rectangle, there are several parallel, light blue diagonal lines that extend from the top-left corner towards the bottom-right. The text 'WHAT COMES NEXT' is centered on the right side of the rectangle in a white, bold, sans-serif font, arranged in two lines.

**WHAT COMES
NEXT**



PHASED APPROACH



PHASE 1 (Months 1-6)

- Hold a Community Roundtable - January 11, 2024 at 10:30am at The Marvin, Norwalk
- Create a Task Force of those who will play active roles spearheading "Together CT Project" as it becomes an integral "CT State Level Social Service Program"/establish Task Force protocol and communications
- Create business plan and related planning documents
- Create beta online "hub" for early review
- Launch with Western and Metropolitan COGS (and additional towns based on January meeting interest/attendance)
- Hold meetings with potential funders from the private/public sectors
- Hold meetings with universities/researchers to help with AI

PHASE 2 (Months 6-12)

- Cultivate Statewide Network of Partners/Additional COGS join the Project
- Continue leveraging existing resources (2-1-1, area nonprofits, town-city level collaborations, public programs) to fill in gaps
- Launch beta site for early testing
- Hold specialized community event such as a "Summit to Increase Social Connections"
- Hone internal operations, grow team
- Launch formal campaign to raise funds for long-term project sustainability

PHASE 3 (Months 12-36)

- Additional towns/cities/COGS join the Project
- Develop and provide novel programs and services as ideas are generated and collaborative initiatives launched
- Secure longer-term funding/hire staff to sustain Project to become integral CT Social Service
- Soft launch of site for testing/iterative improvements



LAUNCH CITIES/TOWNS



WESTERN AND METROPOLITAN COGS

- New Milford
- Sherman
- Bridgewater
- New Fairfield
- Brookfield
- Danbury
- Bethel
- Newtown
- Ridgefield
- Redding
- Weston
- Wilton
- Westport
- Norwalk
- New Canaan
- Darien
- Stamford
- Greenwich
- Monroe
- Easton
- Trumbull
- Fairfield
- Bridgeport
- Stratford



PARTNERS BY TOWN/CITY



- Westport -
- Norwalk - Under One Roof, The Norwalk Art Space, Person to Person, Grassroots Tennis, NRVT
- New Canaan - New Canaan CARES, Silver Hill Hospital, SHARE
- Darien -
- Stamford - Agudath Shalom
- Greenwich - JFS
- Monroe -
- Easton - Here to Help Easton, Easton Pride
- Trumbull -
- Fairfield - Boys & Girls Southport Clubhouse
- Bridgeport - Boys & Girls Smilow-Burroughs Clubhouse
- Stratford -
- New Milford -
- Sherman -
- Bridgewater -
- New Fairfield -
- Brookfield -
- Danbury - United Way of Coastal/Western CT
- Bethel - Alice's Flowers
- Newtown -
- Ridgefield - Lounsbury House, Boys & Girls Ridgefield
- Redding - Boys & Girls Redding/Easton, Mark Twain Library, SOAR Together
- Weston -
- Wilton -

TOGETHER CT PARTNERS



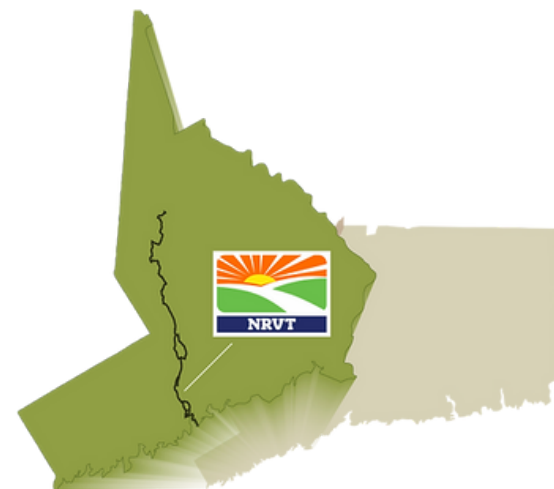
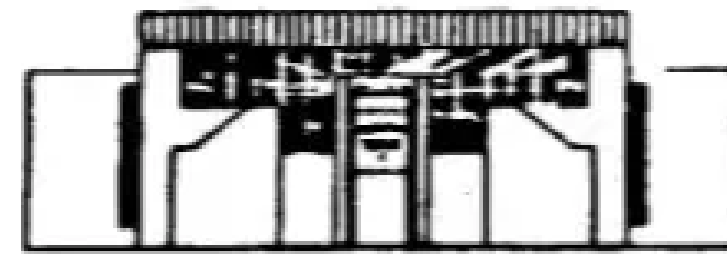
**WAKEMAN
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**



**United Way of Coastal
and Western Connecticut**

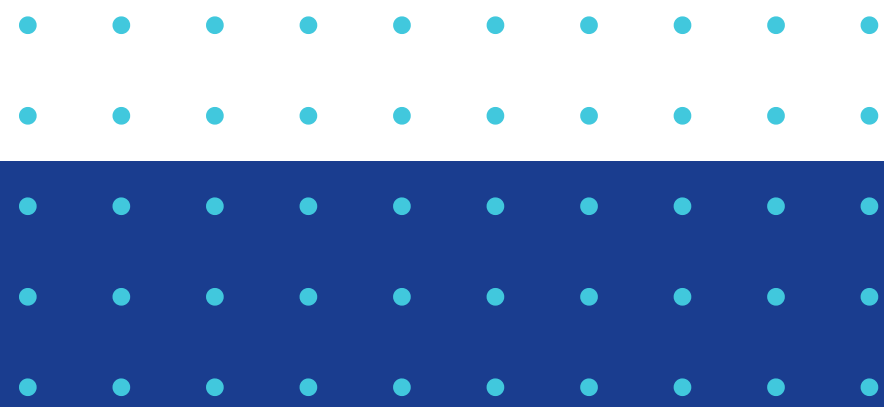


new canaan
CARES



We need your Help

- Access to public/private partners who can meet us with speed and flexibility in addressing an epidemic that bridges the realms of social, economic, health, political, and faith. We are unafraid to bring all of these stakeholders together with a mission of saving lives.
- Voice/platform to amplify existing community collaborations, grow awareness, and gain “Compassionate County/State” status whether by proclamation or compassionate movement designation
- Financial and personnel resources to help scale current programs/partnerships and launch new initiatives across Fairfield County and all of Connecticut in the years to come



THANK YOU

We are exceedingly grateful to live in a geography where those who can support our epidemic-ending mission publicly recognize the devastation caused by loneliness and social isolation for individual constituents and entire communities. We are all living with the weight of this epidemic, yet are coming together through grassroots efforts, shared belief in hope, and a passionate desire to leave the legacy that light shines through darkness. We will together leave a next generation in a better place than we are today and are grateful for the courage of those who use their resources and platforms for change and help us save lives in the process.