CORNERSTONE SOCIETY GIVING LEVELS

**Philanthropist** Lifetime or testamentary gifts of $10,000 and above
- Name on Cornerstone Society Honor Roll
- Special acknowledgment on website, annual report, and newsletters
- Naming Opportunities Available
- Four guest tickets to The Connection Conference or other special event

**Humanitarian** Lifetime or testamentary gifts of $2,500 – $9,999
- Name on Cornerstone Society Honor Roll
- Special acknowledgment on website, annual report, and newsletters
- Four guest tickets to The Connection Conference or other special event

**Sponsor** Lifetime or testamentary gifts of $500 – $2,499
- Name on Cornerstone Society Honor Roll
- Special acknowledgment on website, annual report, and newsletters
- Two guest tickets to The Connection Conference or other special event

**Donor** Gifts of $100 – $499
- Name on Cornerstone Society Honor Roll
- Acknowledgment on website, annual report, and newsletters
- One guest ticket to The Connection Conference or other special event

**Member** Gifts of up to $99
- Name on Cornerstone Society Honor Roll
- Acknowledgment on website, annual report, and newsletters

All gifts are 100% tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.
The mission of the Cornerstone Society is to ensure that the focus of The Connection’s behavioral health services in New Haven remains true to the letter and spirit of the original mission of Cornerstone, Inc.: “To assist individuals with psychiatric disabilities to live as independently as possible in the community, and to enhance public understanding and support for service to those who suffer from mental illness.”

Cornerstone was conceived in 1967–1968 when Joel Finkle, a New Haven businessman, and Dr. Thomas Detre, a psychiatrist at the Yale School of Medicine, gathered together a small group of community leaders to discuss the need for an intensive aftercare service for mentally ill men and women who had been discharged from public and private psychiatric hospitals. Cornerstone, Inc. was officially incorporated on July 17, 1968, and in August 1970, Cornerstone Halfway House opened its doors and began serving 15 adult men and women. Over the next two decades, Cornerstone, Inc. grew significantly, adding the Norton Court Supportive Independent Residences program, the Pendleton House dual-diagnosis program, and the Park Street Residence. In December 2001, after a four-year period of affiliation and collaboration, Cornerstone merged with ALSO, Inc., bringing outpatient clinical services to the new agency: ALSO-Cornerstone, Inc.

In 2010, again after a period of affiliation and collaboration, ALSO-Cornerstone, Inc. merged with The Connection, Inc., a statewide agency with a similar history and mission, that allowed the agency to add a strong community justice component to our existing behavioral health and supportive housing programs. The partnership between ALSO-Cornerstone and The Connection has been highly successful, resulting in the agency’s continued growth in the areas of behavioral health, supportive housing, and community justice in New Haven and beyond.

The Cornerstone Society was established to honor the legacy of the former Cornerstone and ALSO-Cornerstone and to build a fund that will support individual client and programmatic needs of The Connection’s New Haven-based behavioral health programs. Gifts to the Cornerstone Society honor the Cornerstone legacy and help to serve the needs of some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

Programmatic eligibility for Cornerstone Society funding is restricted to those New Haven-based programs that receive full or partial funding from the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. Individual clients or recent graduates in one of the programs named above who are diagnosed with a psychiatric condition, mental illness, or co-occurring disorder also fall under the purview of the Cornerstone Society.