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Elm City Express Blog

Columbus House a winner in BlumShapiro 5K



NEW HAVEN - Columbus House shelter for the homeless was one the beneficiaries from the first-ever BlumShapiro 5K for Charity this year.

The shelter on Ella Grasso Boulevard was given a check for \$2,500 as part of the mission of the 5K race, to raise money and food donations "to help provide meals, shelter, housing support and other outreach services to the homeless in Connecticut," officials said.

BlumShapiro, an accounting, tax and business consulting firm, has offices in Shelton.

"The BlumShapiro 5K for Charity is a fun way for the whole community to join together and help those in need during these tough economic times," Tom DeVitto, chief marketing officer of BlumShapiro said in a release. "On both an individual and company-wide basis, we have a strong history of giving back, and we're glad we can expand our reach by partnering with the Travelers Championship and the PGA TOUR to make this event such a remarkable success."

The BlumShapiro 5K for Charity benefited a total of four Connecticut-based organizations: Columbus House; East Hartford Homeless Shelter; Thomas Merton House, Bridgeport; and St. Vincent de Paul Society of Waterbury.

BlumShapiro's 5K for Charity, which drew more than 300 runners, raised a total of \$10,000 and provided each organization with a donation of \$2,500, the release said. Jay Sattler, partner at BlumShapiro, was this year's 5K winner with a time of 17:23.

With continued support of participants, vendor partners and volunteers, BlumShapiro looks forward to helping more charities through next year's 5K, as well as through charitable acts throughout the year, the release said. Event sponsors included the Travelers Championship, the Hartford Marathon Group, Nature Valley Granola Bars and Coca-Cola.

BlumShapiro also has offices in West Hartford, Waterbury and Westport.

In the photo: Mike Niedermeier, partner-in-charge of BlumShapiro's Shelton office, presents John Brooks, director of development at Columbus House, with \$2,500.