

UR Community Cares Media Profile

Michelle Puzzo, Executive Director, Writing Contributor - [Help Me Book Chapter: Ten Secrets to Success After Graduation - \(Full Potential Books\) by Nick Wagner \(Paperback\)](#) and Author of 2 books, [Oliver's Adventure Skiing at Mount Snow](#) and [Nora Loves Christmas](#).

Honored by Hartford Foundation for Public Giving as one of the top 100 Influencers in Greater Hartford.

Michelle Puzzo is a physical therapist who built a community network that assists aging and disabled residents who cannot afford at-home care but do not qualify for state-funded programs.

In 2019, Michelle noticed her patients' physical and cognitive abilities were declining due to a lack of home-based care. As a result, Michelle co-founded [UR Community Cares, Inc.](#) (UCC). This online network connects local volunteers to older, disabled, and special needs neighbors who need non-medical, in-home care.

"Many of these people were recovering from surgery or illnesses, and I felt bad that I couldn't do more for them," shared Michelle. "With little support at home and unable to afford caregivers, I thought about how I could build a neighbor-to-neighbor approach to helping people, and that's where my co-founder and I worked to create UCC."

UR Community Reach TV Programs produced at Midstate Community TV:

[Pastor Joyce - Center Congregational Church](#)

[Chris Grant - Lavender Policy Center](#)

[Rich Howard, Our Journey of Sight](#)

[HARC, Remote Supports](#)

[Paul Scappaticci, Manchester Veterans Committee](#)

[Richard Zarembo, Honoring Manchester Vets](#)

[Jessee Muñiz-Poland](#)

[Suzanne Ondrus](#)

[Kristen Dockendorff](#)

[Matt Conway](#)

[CT Obudsman Program](#)

[VIFCare](#)

[Manchester Veteran Banner Program](#)

[Lorren Webber, AARP Volunteer](#)

[Zita Christian](#)

[Jessica Quinn](#)

[East Hampton Community Cares](#)

[East of the River Senior Resources](#)

[Kevin McNally](#)

[Nora Duncan, AARP CT](#)

[North Central Agency on Aging](#)

[Avery Heights](#)

TV Programs produced at Valley Shore Community TV:

<https://reflect-vsctv.cablecast.tv/internetchannel/gallery/26?site=1>

UR Hearing Resources programs

2/20/26 - Technology Supporting Deaf & Hard of Hearing Communities

Show 1 (30 min)

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MnTX0M_sH-dMmIJNNCqbd2oQF_cjQ4SJ/view?usp=sharing

Show 2 (30 min)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1za4g6oC4oDmKxZnClrBCXzVM6zpnSEik/view?usp=sharing>

UR Community Cares YouTube: <https://youtu.be/RgUrTUi0I9o>

11/18/25 - Deaf, DeafBlind, Hard of Hearing Community Discussion

<https://youtu.be/BIPN-QDz0fw?si=9EdcYcHp4qfBxB-Z>

9/29/25 - Being Hard of Hearing Aware

<https://youtu.be/gXGQ4ylZ0CE?si=UJQTyaTqO4iPT-OV>

Media Appearances in 2019.

Date	Description	Link
May 2019	Full Potential Movement Podcast	<u>Full Potential Movement - Season 2, Episode 3 - Michelle Puzzo</u>

Media Appearances in 2020.

Date	Description	Link
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Jan. 17, 2020	WTNH interview CT Style	UR Community Cares connects volunteers with the elderly and people with disabilities WTNH.com
Jan. 21, 2020	NBC interview CT Live	CT LIVE!: UR Community Cares – NBC Connecticut
Jan. 30, 2020	Fox 61 interview	(11) UR Community Cares - YouTube
Feb 2, 2020	WTIC Interview	https://youtu.be/qyOc_ACXbgw
Feb 2020	Bolton CVC Interview	Castus VOD Widget
Nov. 17, 2020	Fox 61 Local Business Salute	Local Business Salute fox61.com

Media Appearances in 2021

Date	Description	Link
June 2021	Bolton CVC Interview	Castus VOD Widget
Sept 6, 2021	Yvonne Dam – Amaze Yourself interview	
Sept 7, 2021	Small & Gutsy Podcast	https://theintrinsicgroup.libsyn.com/small-gutsy-interviews-ur-community-cares
Oct. 4, 2021	For The People Radio Show Interview	https://audioboom.com/posts/7953421-encore-boys-girls-village-frontline-ur-community-cares
Dec 16, 2021	Nutmeg TV - The Link Interview	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aE3gAspJCsl&t=192s

Media Appearances in 2022

March 9, 2022	Just Like Home	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4COGk1o7iWg
March 16, 2022	WTNH - Southington Virtual Lunch & Learn	https://www.wtnh.com/news/non-profit-seeking-volunteers-to-help-senior-citizens/

Media Appearances in 2023

April 15, 2023	WFSB CBS	Caityln Interview
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April 16, 2023	Fox61 Anthony Baravo interview	https://youtu.be/sxFzLg4b8t0
April 17, 2023	NBC CT LIVE!	https://www.nbcconnecticut.com/entertainment/ct-live/ct-live-graffiti-and-street-art-fundraiser-to-benefit-ur-community-cares/3014915/
July 28, 2023	NBC CT	https://www.nbcconnecticut.com/news/local/_trashed-21/3076013/

Media Appearances in 2025

May 7, 2025	FOX61	https://www.fox61.com/video/news/local/ur-community-cares-and-rise-up-arts-are-hosting-a-free-community-event-and-graffiti-battle/520-61c269ea-3dcb-41ee-8800-66974bef9d3d
August 3, 2025	News 12	Norwalk Eye Health Fair to offer resources for vision care

Newspaper Articles

Date	Description	Link
May 16, 2019	Hartford Courant article	UR Community Cares Looks To Help Those In Need - Hartford Courant
Nov 29, 2019	Senior Planet AARP	A new way to age in place...digitally. - Senior Planet
Jan. 10, 2020	Manchester Patch online post	Digital Delivery of Volunteer to Doorstep of Seniors & Disabled Manchester, CT Patch
Jan. 2020	Innovation Destination Hartford Blog	CT Startup Digitally Connects Volunteers to Those Who Need Services – Innovation Destination Hartford (innovationhartford.com)

Feb. 2020	AARP Blog by Michelle Puzzo	Linking Intergenerational Volunteers in all Connecticut Communities (aarp.org)
Feb. 28, 2020	Connecticut Prime Time Newspaper article	New Britain Herald - URCommunityCares-PT-030120-002
March 26, 2020	Journal Inquirer Article	The power of a helping hand Other Commentary journalinquirer.com
Oct. 28, 2020	Collision Pitch Competition	(11) COLLISION Pitch Competition October 28, 2020 - YouTube
Nov 30, 2020	Journal Inquirer Article	Groups lend a hand, neighbors connect to provide during pandemic Connecticut & Region journalinquirer.com
Jan. 26, 2021	Zip06 online newspaper – Clinton Community Assistance Team	Clinton PD Pilots Senior Assistance Project Zip06.com
March 11, 2021	Better Manchester – COVID19 Inequalities	COVID-19 Has Heightened Inequities in Manchester — Better Manchester
May 19, 2021	Hartford Courant – HFPG Press release Greater Together Grants	First of Hartford Foundation's 'participatory grants' awarded in South Windsor, Glastonbury, Ellington - Hartford Courant
May 28, 2021	Hartford Courant Community - Greater Together Glastonbury Announcement	Community news for the Glastonbury edition - Hartford Courant
July 2, 2021	Hartford Courant Community – Greater Together Glastonbury Announcement	Community news for the Glastonbury edition - Hartford Courant
July 7, 2021	CVC Interview with Bolton Senior Center Director	https://youtu.be/nmRk_WbUN0U
Jul 13, 2022	Yard Goats Stadium - Community Kindness Hero recognition	https://youtu.be/aMFBfycM1CQ
July 18, 2021	Archdiocese of Hartford video	https://youtu.be/zAOJW2cb9VI

July 29, 2021	Hartford Courant Community – Newington Lunch & Learn	Community News For The Wethersfield Edition - Hartford Courant
Aug. 4, 2021	New Britain Herald – Newington Lunch & Learn	New Britain Herald - UR Community Cares will host a free Lunch & Learn presentation
Aug. 13, 2021	Hartford Courant Community – Silk City Fest	Community News For The Manchester Edition - Hartford Courant
Aug. 19, 2021	VSCTV Sore Things Interview	https://youtu.be/-f5TP-4Ri6g
Aug. 20, 2021	CTInsider -Shoreline Times -CCAT	Clinton team aims to help seniors stay in their homes (ctinsider.com)
Aug. 24, 2021	Avon town website	https://www.avonct.gov/user/login?destination=node/71101
Sept. 7, 2021	Yvonne Dam Interview	https://youtu.be/zIIHaLQolg4
Sept. 8, 2021	Journal Inquirer - American Relief Funding	https://www.journalinquirer.com/towns/manchester/manchester-directors-hear-ideas-on-how-to-use-25m-in-federal-money/article_e42eb3aa-10b3-11ec-b75d-d3fccf416c0.html
Sept 23, 2021	The Chronicle - Greater Together Hebron Grant	https://news.yahoo.com/hebron-doles-hartford-foundation-grants-035900488.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuZ29vZ2xlLmNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAB2pMaSZ9xAor-LcETzv8po3a1YFXGoclxctimumXPYnFMv1QarK750AIlv8jtV83DIF-EulsVlVwWT0jZKfLqzE NDvBI EgpVlai3chDVOdlR00hTa3DBID14I_Z4uoU0sg90MM6RwVHmc4N3tRGX7Ww-oxTr0Hoyp1uPUmkS9HK
Sept. 24, 2021	Avon Patch - Greater Together Avon Announcement	https://patch.com/connecticut/avon/town-avon-avon-greater-together-community-fund-recipient-urcommunitycares-seeking
Sept. 24, 2021	Zip06 - Lourdes Hometown Hero	https://www.zip06.com/profile/20210922/lourdes-rojas-changing-the-mood-through-helping-others
Oct. 8, 2021	Middletown Press - CCAT	https://www.middletownpress.com/shoreline/article/Agency-wins-8-500-grant-to-launch-Clinton-16519642.php

Nov. 4, 2021	New Haven Register - Frank's 107 Birthday	https://www.nhregister.com/news/article/Cheshire-man-will-celebrate-107th-birthday-16590407.php
Jan. 25, 2022	Journal Inquirer UR Pet Community with ECHN	https://www.journalinquirer.com/connecticut_and_region/volunteers-sought-to-help-with-hospital-patients-pets/article_a2648b0a-7df7-11ec-af9f-078ede03a52a.html
Feb. 2, 2022	The Vernon Patch	https://patch.com/connecticut/vernon/vernon-greater-together-community-fund-awards-grants
Feb 2022	AARP Blog	https://states.aarp.org/connecticut/volunteers-with-ur-community-cares-help-connecticut-neighbors-in-need
Feb 22, 2022	Bristol Rotary Club Online Presentation	https://bristolrotaryclub.org/speakers/e22915f5-d814-44f9-9faf-c7409afd89dc
March 2, 2022	Darik News	https://darik.news/connecticut/ur-community-care-volunteers-help-connecticut-neighbors-in-need-2/202203524175.html
March 5, 2022	Middletown Press	https://www.middletownpress.com/middletown/article/UR-Community-Cares-grant-to-connect-volunteers-16977255.php
March 9, 2022	Press Reader	https://www.pressreader.com/usa/the-middletown-press-middletown-ct/20220307/281569474188865
March 15, 2022	Bristol Press	http://www.bristolpress.com/BP-Southington+Herald+News/403475/local-nonprofit-that-connects-volunteers-with-physically-disabled-impaired
April 2022	Main Street	2022 Spring Newsletter FINAL.pdf (mainstreetfoundation.org)
May 2, 2022	Southington Patch	https://patch.com/connecticut/southington/nonprofit-branching-southington-using-grant-money
May 22, 2022	Southington Patch	https://patch.com/connecticut/southington/nonprofit-ur-community-cares-looking-southington-volunteers

May 27, 2022	Register Citizen-Torrington	https://www.registercitizen.com/business/article/Business-briefs-May-29-2022-17202361.php
May 31, 2022	Guilford Community Cares	https://www.zip06.com/news/20220531/guilford-implements-volunteer-program-for-seniors
June 3, 2022	Job Funter	https://jobsfunter.com/job/ur-community-cares-vacancies/
June 9, 2022	New Haven Independent - Valley programing	https://valley.newhavenindependent.org/article/comcast-channel-10-programming-guide-3
June 24, 2022	Hartford Courant - Courant Community - Windsor Locks Greater Together	https://www.courant.com/community/windsor-locks/hc-wl-0630-communitynews-20220623-zvit6zdiyrfarbgg7my2fehpk4-story.html
July 14, 2022	Beacon Falls town website	https://www.beaconfalls-ct.org/home/news/ur-community-cares
July 17, 2022	Journal Inquirer Glastonbury Greater Together Grant	https://www.yahoo.com/entertainment/glastonbury-nonprofits-awarded-28-000-150800816.html
July 20,2022	Southington Police Dept.	https://southingtonpolice.org/ur-community-cares/
Aug 26, 2022	Hartford Courant June/Beth	https://www.courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-news-manchester-connecticut-volunteer-senior-citizens-20220826-xtvaff4n5fcqlinvb4e2zmfo-uq-story.html
Aug 27, 2022	Press Reader Hartford Courant June/Beth	https://www.pressreader.com/usa/hartford-courant/20220827/281659668849954
	Happening Now - Cornhole Tournament	https://happeningnext.com/event/ur-community-cares-cornhole-tournament-eid3a098ek5qa
Sept 19, 2022	We-Ha.com - Sage Solutions	West Hartford Business Buzz: September 19, 2022 - We-Ha West Hartford News
Oct 21, 2022	New Britain Herald	http://www.newbritainherald.com/article/view/article_id/409845/headline/nonprofit-organization-recruiting-volunteers-to-help-neighbors-in-new-britain/section/

Nov 18, 2022	CT Post	https://www.ctpost.com/news/article/community-cares-litchfield-west-hartford-bristol-17586855.php
Nov 18, 2022	CT Insider	https://www.ctinsider.com/news/article/community-cares-litchfield-west-hartford-bristol-17586855.php?src=ctipdensecp
Dec 12, 2022	Norfolk Now	Norfolk NET Joining Forces With UR Community Cares - Norfolk Now : Norfolk Now (nornow.org)
Dec 25, 2022	Hartford Courant	https://www.courant.com/news/connecticut/hc-news-connecticut-adopt-a-grandparent-2022-1227-4iawosdbmnguxkiox3zhisniz4-story.html
Feb. 1, 2023	Record Journal	https://www.myrecordjournal.com/News/Southington/Southington-News/Community-group-looking-to-link-volunteers-with-needs
Feb. 7, 2023	Southington Patch	https://patch.com/connecticut/southington/southington-volunteers-sought-help-disabled-elderly
Feb 19, 2023	For The People Radio Interview	https://www.star999.com/for-the-people/?fbclid=IwAR26uRZDuZT0zyQVunBon4xtDjblYYy4C5Y181MBFAVnCGRhDtoRKP6IkM
	Radio Interview Siobann	
3/14/2023	Tech Target	https://www.techtarget.com/searchhrsoftware/news/365532574/How-the-SVB-collapse-opened-payroll-for-thousands
7/3/2023	Manchester Patch	https://patch.com/connecticut/manchester/coming-soon-manchester-rickshaw-service
7/24/2023	Newtown Bee	https://www.newtownbee.com/07242023/commission-on-aging-hears-about-possible-collaboration-with-ur-community-cares/
7/28/23	Rivereast News Bulletin	https://glcitizen.com/archives/2023/7-28-23.pdf
8/7/2023	Republican American	Republican American URCommunityCares-Article 08-07-2023.pdf

11/7/2023	AARP website	https://states.aarp.org/connecticut/nine-recipients-part-of-aarp-connecticuts-sixth-livable-communities-grant-program
12/22/2023	Newtown Bee	https://www.newtownbee.com/12212023/my-time-with-ur-community-cares/
3/8/24	CT nonprofit's new tech center to help older residents learn about computers, and combat loneliness	https://www.ctinsider.com/journalinquirer/article/ct-manchester-tech-center-ur-community-cares-18707079.php
3/25/24	NBC30 CT Live Interview about the new Technology Center opening April 1, 2024	https://www.nbcconnecticut.com/entertainment/ct-live/ct-live-new-tech-center-opening-in-april-by-ur-community-cares/3252043/
4/11/24	COA To Continue Working With Friends Of Newtown Seniors For Local Outreach	http://www.newtownbee.com/04112024/coa-to-continue-working-with-friends-of-newtown-seniors-for-local-outreach/
4/23/24	Empowering Older Adults to Use Technology - AARP States	https://states.aarp.org/connecticut/empowering-older-adults-to-use-technology
6/4/24	"Killingworth Community Cares" Program Offers Help to Older Residents and Those with Disabilities	https://hk-now.com/killingworth-community-cares-program-offers-help-to-older-residents/
11/13/24	AARP	Seven Recipients Part of AARP Connecticut's Seventh Livable Communities Grant Program
12/11/24	Manchester Patch	UR Community Cares Hosting Special Program For Blind, Deaf Community Manchester, CT Patch
12/30/2024	Journal Inquirer	https://www.ctinsider.com/journalinquirer/article/ct-manchester-blind-hearing-impaired-fire-safety-19973718.php
1/3/2025	Manchester Patch	https://patch.com/connecticut/manchester/ur-community-cares-gets-dime-bank-grant-enhance-vision-services
2/26/2025	Manchester Patch	https://patch.com/connecticut/manchester/cycling-without-age-manchester-receives-grant-inclusion-project

3/4/2025	The Westerly Sun	https://www.thewesterlysun.com/news/stonington/new-program-in-stonington-pairs-volunteers-seniors/article_ab22a1ba-fb9d-11ef-8fdd-4b9175eae2b.html
5/7/25	FOX61	https://www.fox61.com/video/news/local/ur-community-cares-and-rise-up-arts-are-hosting-a-free-community-event-and-graffiti-battle/520-61c269ea-3dcb-41ee-8800-66974bef9d3d
5/27/25	Hartford Foundation for Public Giving	https://www.hfpg.org/what-we-do/new-and-noteworthy/hartford-foundation-awards-nearly-240000-in-grants-to-assist-individuals-with-visual-impairments
5/19/25	Patch West Haven	https://patch.com/connecticut/westhaven/blind-support-group-our-journey-sight-welcomes-west-haven-mayor-borer
5/31/25	Candid	https://philanthropynewsdigest.org/news/community-foundation-update-05-31-2025
6/6/25	UConn Magazine	https://magazine.uconn.edu/2025/06/05/the-good-neighbor/
6/8/25	Middletown Press	https://www.middletownpress.com/journalingwired/article/ct-hartford-foundation-ur-community-cris-radio-20351053.php
6/27/25	Hartford Foundation for Public Giving	https://www.facebook.com/HartfordFoundation
7/20/2025	iHeart Allison Demers	Community Access iHeart
7/25/2025	Community Voice Channel(CVC) Graffiti Battle recap	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UKcqng_V5ck
8/5/2025	Nancy on Norwalk	https://www.nancyonnorwalk.com/norwalk-eye-health-fair-wednesday-at-norwalk-hospital/
3/25/26	NBC CTLIVE	https://www.nbcconnecticut.com/video/entertainment/ct-live/ct-live-living-well-at-any-age-with-masonicare-ur-community-cares-cycling-without-age-program/3717948
4/19/26	News 12	https://connecticut.news12.com/connecticut-nonprofit-invites-public-to-eye-health-fair

5/4/26	CT Insider	https://www.ctinsider.com/politics/article/ct-budget-earmark-youth-service-grant-fund-mccro-ry-22238500.php
8/6/26	Senior Planet Licensing Program 2026 Q3 Newsletter	



UR Community Cares

“We believe that everyone, regardless of age or ability, should have access to the tools and opportunities they need to thrive.”

– Michelle Puzzo, Founder and Executive Director



VOLUNTEER WITH US in one or more of our community programs



Neighbors Helping Neighbors



UR Community Tech Center



Cycling Without Age Manchester



UR Vision Resources



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a 501c(3) nonprofit organization

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