



inspire DONATE
give INSPIRE hope
DONATE legacy INSPIRE GIVE
DONATE HOPE
GIVE LEGACY legacy
donate INSPIRE give hope
give DONATE



NEAR & FAR AID

TARGETING POVERTY, CHANGING LIVES



DONATE inspire LEGACY GIVE
give DONATE hope
INSPIRE inspire INSPIRE
GIVE DONATE HOPE
INSPIRE LEGACY
DONATE GIVE DONATE
LEGACY GIVE DONATE
DONATE hope

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Near & Far Aid, a volunteer fundraising and fund granting organization, is dedicated to eliminating the causes and effects of poverty in Fairfield County.

We accomplish our mission by finding and funding programs that provide life's most basic necessities, as well as those that seek to achieve lasting change.

2023 - 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Joan Panagos + Katie Dresch

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Lindsay Muldoon

Lesley O'Connell

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Lauren Kelly-Weiss

*on leave 2023-24

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Ariane Mermod

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Laura Wilbur

Lisa Zelson

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Co-Chairs

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Meri-Leigh Daniele

Vanessa Dembowski

Lia Filiberto

Meaghan Lillo

Dana Mitchell

Kelsey Montellese

Madeline Peck

Kathryn Pleines

Alexa Prunotto

Emily Rigo

Allie Sherman

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENTS

DEAR FRIENDS,

As we reflect upon our 75th Anniversary year, we are most grateful for the support and generosity of hundreds of friends, local businesses and corporations whose joint efforts enabled us to grant over \$1 million to 108 local agencies which depend on us to help fund their missions. This was the greatest way to honor our legacy and build for the future. So, thank you to all of you who make our work possible and who join us in the belief that **doing good is its own reward.**

Looking ahead, we are motivated to increase our impact as our non-profit agencies and published reports speak to the disproportionate wealth growth between our communities, and the harsh economic realities for so many people in Fairfield County. We are troubled to see increasing hardship as food insecurity doubles, Covid-relief programs fade away and unprecedented inflation in housing, food and other essential costs, continues to rise. The United Way of Connecticut's latest ALICE projections — an acronym for Asset-Limited Income-Constrained Employed households — found a family of four, with two adults, one pre-schooler and one infant, needed to earn \$106,632 in 2021 to cover a basic survival budget. Given an 18.2% increase in the cost of household essentials over the past two years, that figure is expected to rise to \$126,018 in 2023, more than four times the Federal Poverty Level.

Through these hard times, Near & Far Aid is proud to be a reliable partner for the agencies we support. We have been able to remain consistent in our grant funding, which we could not accomplish without a dedicated group of donors, sponsors and volunteers. With this in mind, **our goal this year is to increase our donor base and engage more of us in our efforts to "do good", so that our collective contributions will have even greater impact.**

As you read the following pages, we hope that you will be inspired to join us, and help make a real difference for hardworking families in great need of food, shelter and other basic necessities. Together, we can target poverty and truly change the lives of our less fortunate neighbors.

With gratitude,



Kelly Scinto
Co-President, Near & Far Aid



Joanne Mason
Co-President, Near & Far Aid

EMERGENCY SERVICES AND CRITICAL NEEDS

Food, shelter and clothing. Sadly, 40 percent of households in Fairfield County lack a basic survival budget.* They struggle to pay for things such as food, housing, transportation, childcare and other necessities. One in four families struggles with food insecurity, living meal to meal.**

*Source: United Way; ALICE in CT 2023, 2021 Data

**Source: United Way; ALICE in CT 2023, 2022 Data



EDUCATION AND HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

All children have a right to high-quality education, academic support and enrichment programs, regardless of zip code. That's why Near & Far Aid invests in school day, after-school and summer programs for underserved students throughout Fairfield County. Our grants help provide children with the resources they need, from computer access and homework assistance to nutritious snacks and physical activity. We know that education is an essential component of lifting up communities and breaking the generational cycle of poverty within families.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Near & Far Aid supports innovative approaches and partnerships that are the foundations for lasting change. Job-training programs empower those facing barriers to employment by restoring hope and offering a path that affords individuals the opportunity to provide for their families and their communities. The goal is to break down systemic barriers to employment and to overcome poverty and financial insecurity by supporting job creation and skills enhancement initiatives.



ROAD TO GRANT APPROVAL

OUR COMMITMENT TO RESPONSIBLY STEWARD THE FUNDS WE RAISE

Our Board of Directors carefully reviews every grant application to ensure it meets our mission. Each applicant receives an on-site visit and interview, as well as a thorough review of financial statements, government filings and operating budgets.

Further, we give a thoughtful comparison to peer agencies, provide counsel when necessary, and maintain long-standing relationships with experts and local leaders who share our commitment to maximize the impact of our supporters' poverty-fighting dollars.



Applications submitted



Preliminary evaluation of all submissions. The 100+ applicants that meet our mission are assigned to board members for intensive review



Reviewer evaluates application, agency financials and any external factors



Site visit and in-person interview with agency directors



Presentation of findings in Committee



Grants recommended for approval go to the Board for final vote

COMMITMENT
RESPONSIBILITY
IMPACT
STEWARDSHIP
IMPACT
COMMITMENT
RESPONSIBILITY
COMMITMENT
RESPONSIBILITY
IMPACT
STEWARDSHIP
IMPACT
COMMITMENT
RESPONSIBILITY

NEAR & FAR AID

SHARON KANE KLAMMER HONORARY GRANT



At our final Board meeting and volunteer luncheon in June, we had the great pleasure of honoring Sharon Klammer for her 33 years of dedication and service to Near & Far Aid. Through three decades, Sharon has been a tireless advocate and champion for those in need in Fairfield County. She has served on and chaired many committees, but her longest tenure was in our grant reviews. Sharon's in-depth knowledge and understanding of the services that can help to raise individuals and families out of poverty is remarkable. We are thankful that Sharon will continue to serve on our Grant Review Committee, helping to inform our granting decisions.

As a tribute to Sharon, we announced the Sharon Kane Klammer Honorary Grant. This will be a special grant of \$2,500, to be given annually to an agency or program that has worked to have positive, life-changing effects for the people they serve, with a particular focus on home ownership. Sharon chose Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust (BNT) as this year's special grant recipient. In Sharon's words, she selected BNT "because of the critical work that they do in developing affordable housing in the Bridgeport area, while at the same time educating thousands of low income adults each year in how to manage their money, the importance of making on-time rent payments and other ways to improve credit scores to achieve some level of financial stability, perhaps even home ownership, for themselves and their families."

Sharon's passion in helping people move out of true poverty toward stable lives has impacted the many agencies she has worked with over the years. Here is a sampling of the many lovely and heartfelt responses Sharon has received.

We at Catholic Charities are forever grateful for Sharon's incredible support and passion for The Thomas Merton Center. Sharon has great insight into the needs of the community and has been a wonderful partner and champion of our neighbors in need. Because of Sharon, we will be able to expand our shower program at the new Family Center. People living on the street can rinse off the harshness of their lives and leave with clean clothes and a feeling of support and a sense of dignity because of Sharon and Near & Far Aid. **Thank YOU Sharon for caring** – and for giving voice and support to our neighbors in need for so many years.

Shaye Anne McCormick,
Senior Development Officer,
The Thomas Merton Center

Sharon, your unwavering dedication has ignited a blaze of hope within Carver's youth. Your generosity, empathy, and strategic insights have paved the way for transformative initiatives and breathed life into our endeavors, enabling us to **empower, uplift, and transform** the lives of our students. You helped to shape our present and show the way for Carver's future. We celebrate your remarkable and countless contributions that have forever woven your legacy into the fabric of our organization.

Novelette Peterkin
CEO, The Carver Center

I was impressed by Sharon's genuine interest in what we were doing to help our neighbors in need. We had great conversations about existing solutions to long-time social problems, which prompted me to think outside the box and helped us move our agency forward. One thing that stands out was her call to me during the pandemic. Sharon asked how we were faring, and really listened. She summed up our needs and advocated for additional funds to help us continue to work at full capacity during that challenging time. Thank you, Sharon, for sharing your **wisdom, with a keen sense of right and wrong**. Our communities are better places because of you!

Carla Miklos,
Operation Hope

AGENCY SPOTLIGHT: THE THOMAS MERTON CENTER

Since 2005 when Merton House became the Thomas Merton Center in the Hollow section of east Bridgeport, Near & Far Aid has been a staunch supporter of the Center's outreach to some of the very poorest people and struggling families in the city. Having opened in 1980, the building in the Hollow became dilapidated and too limited in floor space to meet the needs of all the people TMC was trying to serve. Following the success of TMC's recent New Home New Hope Capital Campaign, TMC is moving by the end of this year to a newly renovated building at 1406 State Street in the heart of Bridgeport, where it will have over twice as much space to provide greatly expanded services to Bridgeport's neediest residents. To help fund the Center's new home, Near & Far Aid has donated \$25,000 for the fully equipped showers where toiletries and clean underwear will also be made available.

In addition to serving hot meals, operating a food pantry and offering showers, the renovated Thomas Merton Family Center, as it will now be called, will offer primary medical care, dental care, behavioral health care, housing assistance, family loan and financial assistance, job training, immigration legal assistance, ESL classes, parenting classes and overall case management.



Congratulations to all of those who have worked so hard to make the Thomas Merton Family Center happen. Your Near & Far Aid friends and those who support you wish you every success in the vital work that you do.

Pictured:

Scott Burns, Bridgeport City Council Member
Mike Donoghue, Executive Director of Catholic Charities of Fairfield County
Councilman Jorge Cruz of Bridgeport, Former Thomas Merton Guest
Bill Colson, Director of the Thomas Merton Center
Congressman Jim Himes
Bishop Frank Caggiano
Senator Tony Hwang
Bridgeport Mayor Joe Ganim
Mollie Melbourne, President/CEO of Southwest Community Health Center



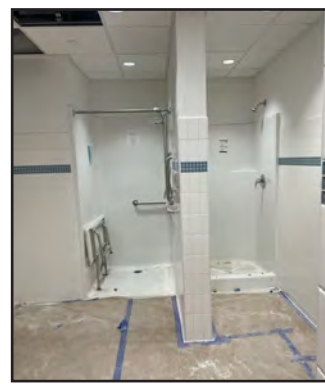
TMC Director Bill Colson, TMC Capital Campaign Council Member Sheila Clancy, Near & Far Aid Vice President Joanne Mason, Catholic Charities Executive Director Mike Donoghue



TMC guests



TMC guest



Near & Far Aid showers, under construction

NEAR & FAR AID

FAIRFIELD COUNTY IS MARKED BY SOME OF THE SHARPEST DISPARITIES IN THE COUNTRY

As often as Fairfield County is recognized as a beautiful place to live with high rankings in terms of well-being and quality of life, we also know these rankings do not reflect significant economic disparities between our communities. While the wealthiest towns enjoy a high quality of life, residents of neighboring towns are burdened with grossly lower income levels, lack of home ownership and an overall lack of access to resources, resulting in some of the wealthiest and poorest communities in the country living side-by-side.*

INCOME SEGREGATION WIDENS

Between 1980 and 2020, median incomes in the wealthiest towns grew as much as 60% while the median income in Bridgeport increased only 9%.

Fairfield County now has the second-highest income inequality among all metropolitan areas in the country.

FOOD INSECURITY GROWS

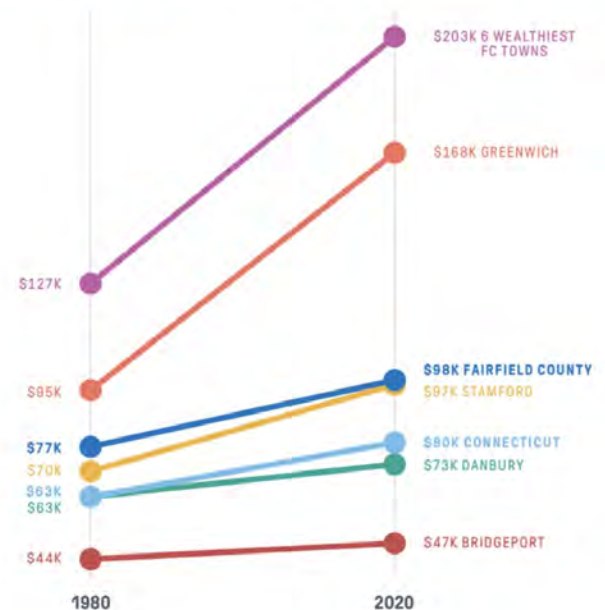
Between August 2021 and August 2022, rising food costs outpaced the rate of inflation. As a result, a greater number of CT residents reported feeling food insecure. Black and Latino adults, and those with children at home, were hardest hit.

*Source for all statistics on these pages: DataHaven Fairfield County Community Wellbeing Index 2023

The DataHaven Community Wellbeing Survey is a data source indicator in Connecticut, by town. Fairfield County holds some of the highest and lowest scoring towns for defined well-being terms. A full copy of this Survey is available online.

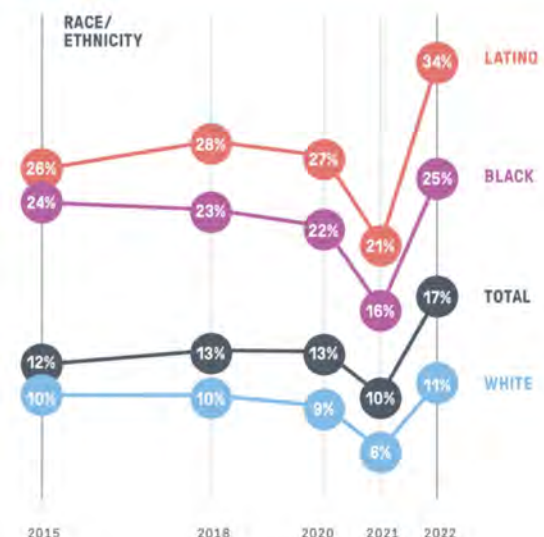
Median incomes have risen steeply in higher-income towns

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN 2020 DOLLARS, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, 1980-2020



As pandemic relief programs fade, Black and Latino adults and adults who live with children are hit hard by food insecurity

SHARE OF ADULTS REPORTING FOOD INSECURITY BY RACE/ETHNICITY AND PRESENCE OF CHILDREN, CONNECTICUT, 2015-2022

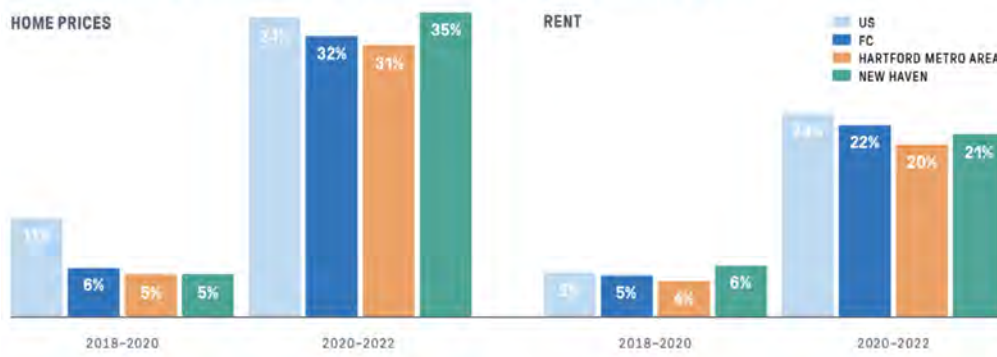


ESCALATING HOUSING COSTS

A 32% surge in home buying prices from August 2020 to August 2022 forced many prospective home buyers to the rental market, in turn causing a 22% spike in rental prices. This steep increase in housing costs had a devastating impact on some lower-income households, leading to a rise in homelessness, overcrowding and evictions across the region.

Housing prices have surged since the start of the pandemic

PERCENT CHANGE IN AVERAGE HOME PRICES AND MONTHLY RENT BY COUNTY, 2018–2022

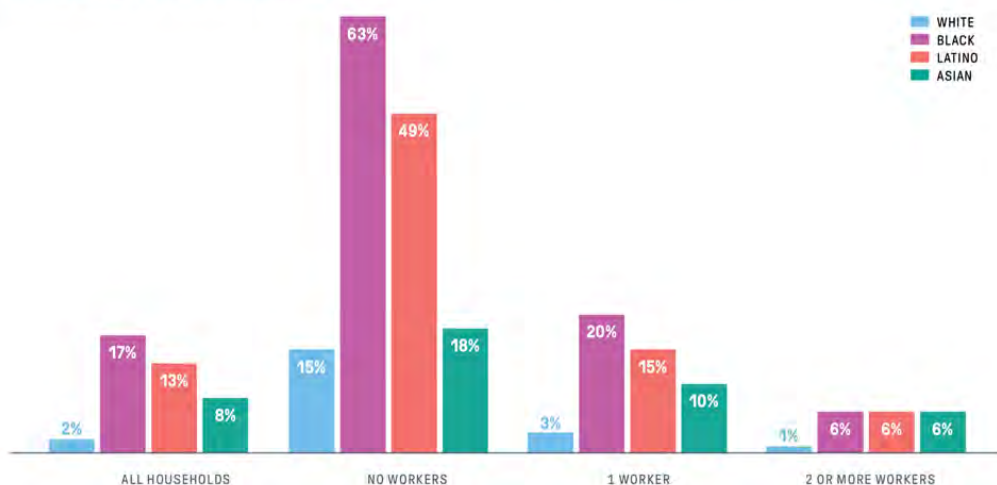


LIMITED ACCESS TO TRANSPORTATION

Many Fairfield County residents lack adequate access to transportation, which is often needed to find or hold a job. Limited access to transportation was about twice as high for those who did not attend college and more than twice as high for adults making less than \$30,000. In addition, according to Census data, vehicle availability varies by race, ethnicity and the number of workers in the home.

Higher shares of Black and Latino households do not have access to a vehicle

SHARE OF HOUSEHOLDS WITHOUT VEHICLE ACCESS BY NUMBER OF WORKERS AND RACE/ETHNICITY OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD, FAIRFIELD COUNTY, 2020



REVENUE AND SUPPORT

Corporate + Individual Event Sponsorship + Contributions	\$405,757
Individual Donations	\$456,987
Event Revenues	\$680,970
In-Kind Material and Services	\$66,518
Investment Income, net of fees	\$40,965
Realized and unrealized gains (and losses)	\$5,724

Total Revenue and Support **\$1,656,921**

DIRECT EXPENSES

Grants to Charity	\$1,053,000
Events	\$331,222
Operating	\$61,035

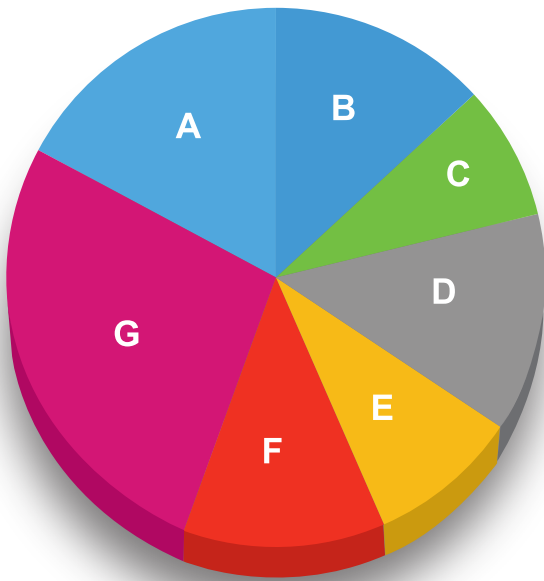
Total Direct Expenses **\$1,445,257**

Change in Net Assets from Operations	\$211,664
Net Assets, Beginning of the Year	\$1,541,453
Net Assets, End of Year	\$1,753,117

2023-24 Granting Pool Reserve	\$1,100,000
Special Gift Reserve	\$20,000
Net Unrestricted Reserves	\$633,117

2022 - 2023 GRANT ALLOCATIONS

GRANT ALLOCATIONS BY AREA OF NEED



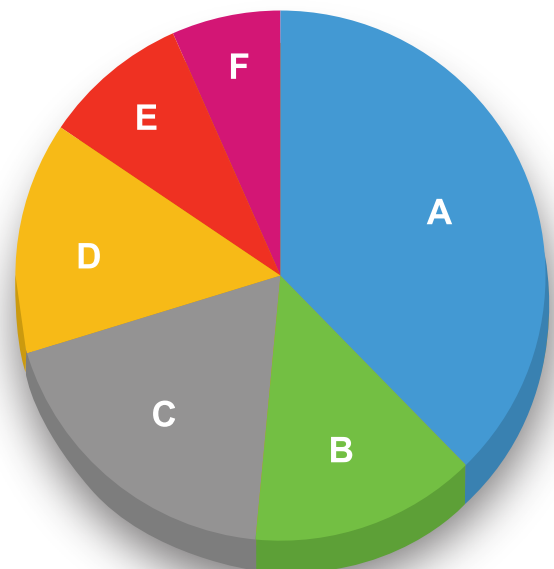
A. Aid to Families at Risk	17%	\$174,500
B. Aid to Homeless	13%	\$136,000
C. Aid to Adults in Crisis	8%	\$80,500
D. Aid to Children	13%	\$136,000
E. Community Health Services	9%	\$90,000
F. Education/Training for Adults	12%	\$124,000
G. Education for Children	27%	\$274,500

TOTAL: \$1,015,500

GRANT ALLOCATIONS BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

A. Bridgeport	38%	\$382,500
B. Norwalk	14%	\$140,500
C. Stamford	19%	\$190,500
D. Upper Fairfield County	14%	\$144,000
E. Lower Fairfield County	9%	\$90,500
F. Other CT Counties	7%	\$67,500

TOTAL: \$1,015,500



NEAR & FAR AID

**TOTAL FUNDS GRANTED
IN 2022-2023
\$1,053,000**

**GRANTS
\$1,015,500**

**SPECIAL GIFTS
\$37,500**

Near & Far Aid impacts thousands of people through our grants to agencies that work to eliminate the causes and effects of poverty. We focus on Fairfield County, and partnerships that foster lasting change and a hopeful future.

The agencies we support continue to evolve, creating new programs in response to ever increasing needs. They provide food, housing, education, child and elder care, and a social safety net for families throughout Fairfield County. We are encouraged and inspired by the collective commitment of our non-profit partners to build a stronger community.

Achievement First
Adam J. Lewis Academy
All Our Kin
Americares Free Clinics
Arts for Learning Connecticut
Association of Religious Communities
Boys & Girls Club of Stamford
Boys & Girls Village
Bridge Academy
Bridge House
Bridgeport Caribe Youth Leaders
Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust
Bridgeport Public Education Fund
Bridgeport Rescue Mission
Building One Community
Cardinal Sheehan Center
Career Resources
Caroline House
Carver Foundation of Norwalk
Center for Children's Advocacy
Child Advocates of SW Connecticut
Children in Placement
CLASP Homes – Westport
Community Resources for Justice – Family re-Entry
Connect-Us
Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants
Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport –
Capitol Ave
Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport –
Food Access
Danbury Grassroots Academy
Diaper Bank of Connecticut
Domestic Violence Crisis Center
Domus Kids
ElderHouse
Emerge
Family & Children's Agency
Family & Children's Aid
Family Centers
Filling in the Blanks
Food Rescue US

2022 - 2023 GRANTS

Future 5
Global PEHT Corp. – Partnership to
End Human Trafficking
Great Oaks Charter School – Bridgeport
Green Village Initiative
Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County
Hall Neighborhood House
Healing Tree Economic Development
HELP for Kids – An Exchange Club
Parenting Skills Center
HomeFront
Homes With Hope
Horizons Bridgeport
Horizons at New Canaan Country School
Horizons at Sacred Heart University
Horizons at Greens Farms Academy
Housatonic Community College Foundation
Human Services Council – Appleby Health Centers
Human Services Council – Children’s Connection
Inspirica
INTEMPO
Jewish Family Services Greenwich
Junior Achievement of Greater Fairfield County
KEYS
Kids In Crisis
Laurel House
Lawyers for Children America
Liberation Programs
LifeBridge Community Services
Malta House
McGivney Community Center
Mental Health Services at Bridgeport Hospital
Mercy Learning Center of Bridgeport
Mid-Fairfield Child Guidance Center
Mozaic Senior Life Center for Elder Abuse Prevention
- Bridgeport
New Beginnings Family Academy
New Reach
Norma Pfriem Breast Center
Norwalk Community College Foundation
Norwalk Housing Foundation

Norwalk/Stamford Grassroots Tennis & Education
Nourish Bridgeport
Open Doors
Operation Hope
Pacific House
Person-to-Person
Planned Parenthood of Southern New England
Project Music
Renewal House
RYASAP
Saint Joseph Parenting Center
Shepherds
SHU Discovery Science Center and Planetarium
SoundWaters
Stamford Peace Youth Foundation
Stamford Public Education Foundation
Sterling House Community Center
The Bridge to Independence &
Career Opportunities
The Center for Empowerment and Education
The Center for Family Justice
The Child and Family Guidance Center
The Rowan Center
The Tiny Miracles Foundation
The Workplace
Thomas Merton Center
Urban Impact of Black Rock
Wakeman Boys & Girls Club
Women’s Mentoring Network
YMCA Central CT Coast - Camp Hi-Rock
YWCA Greenwich

SPECIAL GIFTS:

Al’s Angels
Caroline House
Fairfield Family Services
RPMS Meal Train
Thomas Merton Center
Westport Department of Human Services

NEAR & FAR AID

As an all-volunteer organization, Near & Far Aid is grateful for the dedication and time of our incredible volunteers. Some volunteer for months, and others for many years. They all serve tirelessly, with dedication and compassion in the spirit of helping others.

Our Presidents' Council is a dedicated group of volunteers who support and advocate for our mission in the community. When they're not supporting our tentpole fundraising events, the Presidents' Council plans and executes grassroots initiatives such as food and clothing drives to support the immediate needs of local agencies.



Emily Gordon, Karen Mitchell, Dana Mitchell, Courtney Petti, Linda Raymond, Kelly Scinto, Joanne Mason



Presidents' Council members Meri-Leigh Daniele + Madeline Peck delivering diapers to Anita at the Domestic Violence Crisis Center



Kristin Clark, Haylee Milligan, Katerina Powers, Katie Morrell, Lia Filiberto, Liz Bechtold

VOLUNTEER
SUCCESS
SERVICE
make a difference
DEDICATION
UNTEER
SUCCESS
RVICE
make a difference
DEDICATION



Presidents' Council member Allie Sherman collecting items for LifeBridge Community Services with the help of a volunteer-in-training.

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

In honor of our Founder, the **Jeannie Fay Award** is granted at the discretion of the Board to individuals who, without previous formal recognition, have volunteered selflessly for several years and demonstrate outstanding dedication to furthering the work of Near & Far Aid. The recipients are recognized for being instrumental in supporting the fundraising activities of the organization and for lengthy service which has impacted our success and growth. They have worked tirelessly, accepting responsibility with grace, while setting a standard of caring that was first established by Jeannie Fay. The first Jeannie Fay Award was presented in 2001. This year the Jeannie Fay award was granted to Lia Filiberto.

2022-2023 VOLUNTEERS

Erica Acheychek	Cynthia Melchiorri
Marie Adovasio	Veronica Monahan
Stacie Armistead	Krystal Murphy
Lorelei Atwood	Christina Musso
Jessica Batista	Mary Petro Noonan
Cathy Blount	Courtney Petti
Tara Chlupsa	Georgiana Platt
Brooks Dibble	Linda Raymond
Li-Er Fradella	Leslie Riback
Ryann Giannone	Jo Ann Ripostella
Charlotte Gray	Linda Schwartz
Janet Haller	Cindy Shanley
Dawn Huizer	September Sirico
Julie Kaufman	Barbara Sweeney
Becky Kearn	Carol Timpanelli
Jillian Klaff	Ellen Turto
Sally Kruteck	Jenny Walsh
Loree Lash-Valencia	Julie Walsh
Vanessa Lewis	Georgia Wasserman
Christine Magliocco	Christine Yeranossian
Meghan Mangan	
Gerijo Matyka	

*We apologize if we inadvertently left anyone off the list. Our volunteers are the backbone of our organization and we appreciate all everyone does!



Katerina Powers with 2023 Jeannie Fay Award recipient Lia Filiberto

VOLUNTEER service
SUCCESS make a difference
DEDICATION

NEAR & FAR AID

a moment
75
YEARS
in the making

The 2023 Near & Far Aid Spring Gala at Mitchells of Westport on April 28th was “A Moment” in time to celebrate Near & Far Aid’s legacy of granting over the past 75 years. An elegant black tie event, the Gala featured a martini lounge, live music and dinner followed by a late-night DJ.

Our philanthropic attendees helped us to raise critical funds for our 2023-2024 grants through a silent auction, paddle raise and live auction hosted by the entertaining Dave Price and Elyse Luray.

Our guests were then treated to a fashion show sponsored by Akris, featuring their 2023 100 Year Anniversary Collection. This evening would not have been possible without the generosity of both our guests and sponsors.

Thank you to all who helped us both honor our legacy and build for the future, one moment at a time!



Karen Mitchell (Co-President), Katerina Powers, Suzanne Jesse (Gala Chair), Charlotte Gray (Gala Chair), Bob Mitchell, Elora Sweedler (Gala Chair), Kelly Scinto (Co-President), Dana Mitchell (Gala Chair), Kim Meier



Lisa Sherman, Chris Andrade, Russell Sherman, Nikki + Ryan Ambrifi (Premiere Sponsor Jaguar Land Rover-Fairfield) Pam Duckworth, Eduardo Andrade



Jaclyn Picarillo, Melissa Sherwood + Gardner Stevens (With Kohler Westport)



Adrienne Kardos, Haylee Milligan, Katerina Powers, Meri-Leigh Daniele, Jenna Crandall, Kerry Wilson, Jennifer Efthasiou



Mary Ellen + Jim Marpe



Andrew Mitchell



Andy Amil, Nancy Gault, Jonathan Moffly (Presenting Sponsor Westport Magazine), Samantha Yanks (Editor of Westport Magazine), Deb Placey, Gabriella Mays, Tracy Fincher



Katie Morrell, Allie Sherman, Kate Wenzel



Rob Scinto, David Sweedler, Shawn Hood, Lindsay Muldoon, Brian Muldoon



Peter Henrirk (CEO Akris Americas), Karen + Bob Mitchell



Model wearing Akris



COMMUNITY COMPASSION AWARD

This anniversary year we were proud to honor long-time supporter W.R. Berkley and Elise and Rob Stone for their commitment and advocacy on behalf of Near & Far Aid and the mission we serve. We also wish to thank the many employees of W.R. Berkley who generously support us each year through their annual Gingerbread House fundraising event. For the past 22 years, Rob and Elise, together with the W.R. Berkley family, have demonstrated their unwavering commitment to Near & Far Aid through their generous financial support and their support of our annual Spring Gala fundraising event. Elise was an early architect of the Spring Gala, serving as Chair and committee member for several years. Through their many years of participation, the Stones have invited family and friends to attend our events, and to learn about the important work that we do. We are grateful for their dedication, friendship and loyal partnership.



GALA HOST COMMITTEE 2023: John + Courtney Petti, Emily Gordan, Rob + Elise Stone, Georgia + Charlie Adams, Steve + Joan Panagos, Bob + Karen Mitchell, Katerina + Tim Powers, Heather + Jon Cody, Suzanne + James Jesse, Nancy Gault, Sofia + DeVer Warner
Not pictured: Sarah + Mark Hale, Katie Scinto + Joe Emanuel

NEAR & FAR AID

GOLF CLASSIC

Our 2022 annual Near & Far Aid Golf Classic took place on Monday, September 12 at the beautiful Country Club of Fairfield. Presented by long-time sponsors Fairfield County Bank and Jaguar Land Rover of Fairfield, the event was a success with 119 golfers enjoying a day of friendly competition and fundraising.

Golfers were welcomed with gift bags, courtesy of Northern Trust and Katie O'Grady & Co. Following a BBQ lunch, courtesy of Cantor Fitzgerald, golfers set out for a memorable 18 holes along Long Island Sound. Throughout the course, golfers enjoyed drinks from our friends at Connecticut Distributors, Inc., Highland Imports and Northeast Beverage CT, as well as friendly competition at a variety of on-course challenges including Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, Straightest Drive, Beat the Pro and a Putting Contest.

Golfers had a chance to win off the course too with raffle items donated by Golf Digest and golf foursomes at The Patterson Club, Brooklawn Country Club, Brownson Country Club and Aspetuck Valley Country Club. The day wrapped up with cocktails, light bites and an awards reception, sponsored by George Comfort & Sons.



Jim Blose, Lou Sciarretta, Ryan Ambrifi, Jeremy Saunders



Tim Dillion, Frank Napolitani, Gil Johnson, Lindsay + Brian Muldoon, Tom Franco, Trevor Tuminski



Bill Loftus, Alex Foster
Joe Stampone, Ryan Duffy



Kelsey Montellese, Kim Meier, Liz Bechtold, Katie Morrell, Alexa Prunotto, Samira Cwanek



Karen Mitchell, Brian Muldoon, Kim Meier



Mimi Shaloub, Kim Carney,
Dana Howe, Dana Walsh

DESIGNER HOUSE TOUR

After a three-year hiatus, House Tour returned to overwhelming success. We had perfect weather for our supporters to view the four stunning homes on this year's tour: a renovated antique in Southport, a custom newly-built home in lower Greenfield Hill, a unique home and barn with farm and fields, and a restored and expanded vintage home with manicured grounds in Westport. Homeowners generously opened their doors to showcase the works of four talented, local or locally-connected designers, including Nina Farmer, Olivia Charney, Mia Johnson and Shawna Feeley. Over 550 members of the community enjoyed a day of extraordinary design while supporting Near & Far Aid.

We celebrated our House Tour success with a Sunset Cocktail party under the stars and willow trees at Gaelle Dudley's home later that evening. Kohler, our presenting sponsor, was honored and had the opportunity to showcase showroom items. The party was sold out (and the rain held off almost until the very end!). Supporters of Near & Far Aid enjoyed live music and cocktails at a special kick-off to summer party.



Jessica Stander, Mairead Howley, Jennifer Seymour, Robin Charron, Gately Swearingen



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*** Gifts made in memory of Daisy McCann who passed away on April 21, 2023. We thank the family and friends of Daisy for their support in honoring her memory.*

If we inadvertently failed to include you on a list where you belong or have misspelled your name, we apologize. Please contact us at treasurer@nearandfaraid.org so that we may correct our records.

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NEAR & FAR AID

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Spring Gala

Friday, April 26, 2024

Designer House Tour

Friday, May 31, 2024

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HOW TO GET INVOLVED

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Send to PO Box 717, Southport, CT 06890

Set up a recurring monthly gift. A convenient way to spread your gift over several months.

Make a gift of appreciated stock.

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Attend one of our Annual Near & Far Aid Fundraising Events:

Spring Gala at Mitchells of Westport: April 26, 2024

Designer House Tour: May 31, 2024

Golf Classic: The Country Club of Fairfield, Fall 2024

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