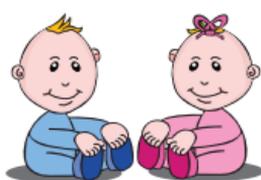


2020 Annual Report



IHSP

**Interfaith Human
Services of Putnam
An All Volunteer Organization.**



President's Message



“You’ll never plough a field by turning it over in your mind.”

~ Irish Proverb

Wow, 2020 was one for the record books. The Covid-19 Pandemic turned our world upside down. In mid-March, IHSP was forced to close its doors so that we could reorganize, re-train and sanitize. Fortunately, we were able to re-open most of our programs just 10 days later with new procedures in place and a small group of hearty volunteers ready to serve. Unfortunately, we saw a 35 percent increase in requests for services, a significant drop in volunteerism and we had to cancel most of our fundraisers. Daily Bread went from a “drop-in format” to “pre-bagging Client Choice” to an “in-house, one client at a time” appointment only practice. This meant longer hours with fewer volunteers. We added Senior deliveries to keep them safe, and reduce the amount of contact for both clients and volunteers. We had to close the NU2U Clothing Closet for all of 2020. At times, we had difficulty sourcing food. Toilet paper was not the only shortage, so were staples like peanut butter, baked beans and mac & cheese. We managed to continue being a “client choice” food pantry but that meant hundreds of volunteer hours calling clients to schedule appointments, take food orders and do wellness checks for our senior and medically compromised clients. We shifted from “bring your own bags” to purchasing paper bags. We added extra cleaning shifts and the expense of PPE and sanitizing products. But through it all we remained a 100% volunteer organization.

As president of IHSP, I am often asked whether we are proactive or reactive. We are both, but what is really important is that we take action, that we plough the field. When challenges and new situations, such as Covid-19, are presented to us, we must act as best we can with the best interest of those we serve in our hearts and our decisions. As trying as this pandemic has been, IHSP remains committed to serving those who seek our assistance.

Karen Osbrey

Pandemic Response

Behind the Scenes

Every Wednesday, something very special happens at the IHSP Daily Bread Food Pantry in Putnam. Retirees, business people, service organizations, church members and volunteers from all walks of life leave their homes and businesses and begin arriving at Daily Bread at 10:30 am. Cars, SUV's and pick-up trucks line up and are loaded with bags of groceries. Then, with assignments in hand, they head out to make their weekly deliveries to seniors and medically compromised individuals and families. But the weekly delivery effort begins long before the drivers show up on Wednesday.



It all starts on Friday and Saturday when volunteers call to take their grocery orders. The phone call also serves as a wellness check to determine if there are unmet needs. On Mondays, emails go out to the drivers to see who's available. On Tuesdays, volunteers spend about three hours filling the grocery orders by packing and labeling each brown paper bag. On Tuesday nights, drivers are assigned their specific delivery locations.

On Wednesday mornings, delivery day, another crew comes in and tops off each order with perishables like meat, produce and dairy and then hands off the groceries to the drivers. The majority of the 80 monthly deliveries are made in Putnam as well as Pomfret, Woodstock and Eastford. Then on Friday, it starts all over again.



That is just one aspect of the Daily Bread Food Distribution Program. Another group of volunteers make appointments, serve clients out of the Daily Bread location and keep the shelves stocked.

Pandemic Response

Creative Fund Raising



BPOE #574 TRACTOR SPECTACULAR

The Putnam Lodge of Elks #574 collaborated with the Town of Putnam to hold a Tractor Spectacular Parade that wound its way all through town to the delight of many residents, especially the kids. Residents ran out of their homes to view and donate \$\$, and non-perishable food to the Daily Bread Food Pantry.



BIRDHOUSES FOR SALE

During the Pandemic, George and Pam Brown built birdhouses to sell on Facebook. Much to our delight they sent a very generous donation to the Daily Bread Food Pantry.



Emma Costa, a Troop 65500 Cadette Girl Scout

made for her Silver Award Project 10 reusable grocery bags and created a recipe book with 5 recipes. She raised money and collected non-perishable food items specific to her 5 recipes. She also included a \$10 gift card to purchase the perishable food items needed to cook her recipes. Daily Bread families were the recipients of the bags.

The Areas We Serve



Daily Bread Food Pantry

- Putnam
- Pomfret
- Woodstock
- Eastford

Diaper Bank of NECT

- All of Windham County with the exception of the Willimantic/Mansfield area

NU2U Clothing Closet

- Anyone, Regardless of Residency

Pathways 2 Success

- Anyone, Regardless of Residency

Fuel Assistance

- Putnam Residents Only

Homelessness/Rental Assistance

- Putnam Residents Only

Senior Resources

- Putnam Residents Only

Balloon Pop Extravaganza

With the onset of the Pandemic and the cancellation of our popular Guest Bartenders Night, Friends of the Diaper Bank rose to action in September with our Drive Thru Diaper Bank Balloon Pop Extravaganza at the Farmers Market Pavilion. With multi-colored balloons on display along with the many donations/gift baskets people were able to do a \$10 Balloon Pop and never get out of their vehicle. The event was a success and so was the Guest Bartenders Night when the bartending teams made donations to support the cancelled event.





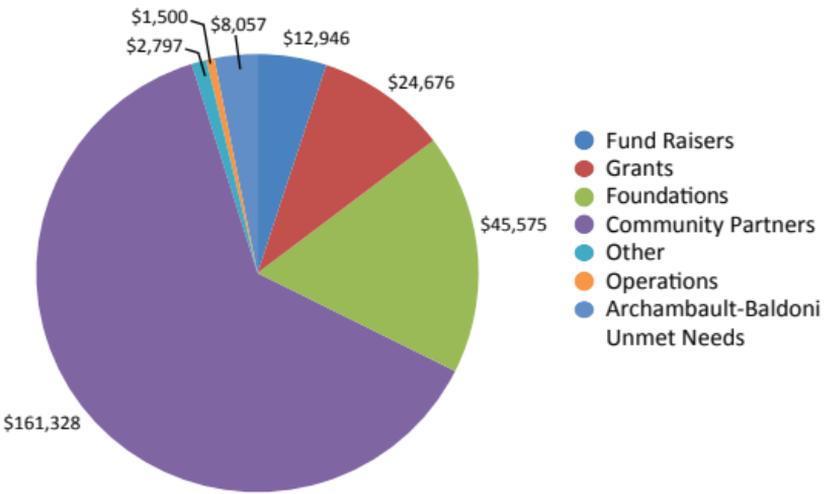
OUR GARDEN OF GIVERS

Foundations that help IHSP meet the needs of our clients

American Legion Club
Arbella Insurance Foundation (Gerardi Ins)
bankHometown
Cargill Council No. 64 K of C
Carlyle Family Fund
Centreville Savings Bank Foundation
Charter Oak Federal Credit Union
Community Foundation of Eastern Conn
Cranston Foundation
CT BPOE Elks Association
Eastern CT Savings Bank Foundation
Eversource Energy Foundation
Farm Credit East Cares CNY
International Paper Foundation
Jewett City Savings Bank Foundation
Joy of Childhood Foundation
New London Telephone Employees CSF
Newell D Hale Foundation
Putnam Area Foundation
Putnam Business Association
Putnam Lions Club
Putnam Lodge of Elks #574
Putnam Rotary Club
ReMax/Bell Park Realty
Stop n Shop (Ahold Foundation)
The Mitchell D Phaiah Foundation
The New Leaf Fund
The Norwich Diocesan Bishop's Cradle Fund
Thompson Lions Club
Town of Putnam
United Fiduciary Institute
United Natural Foods (UNFI)
Wakely Foundation
Walmart
Wheelabrator

OUR FINANCIAL

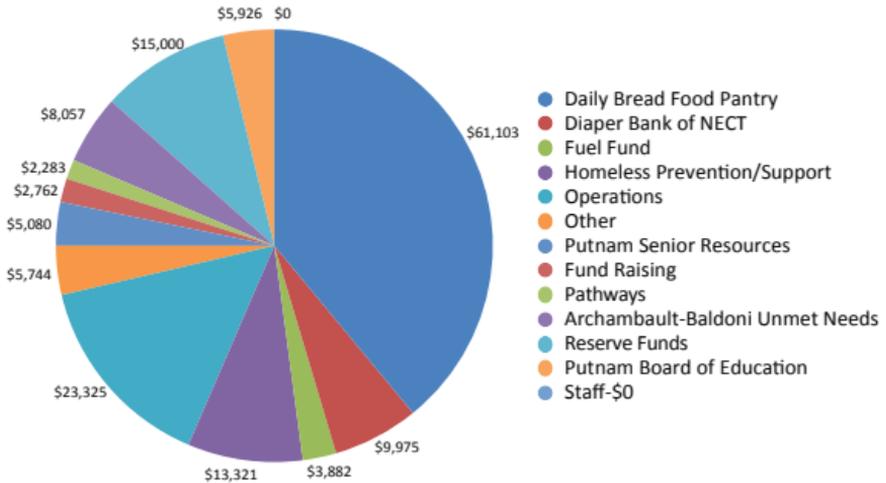
2020 INCOME \$256,879



2020 INCOME

Fund Raisers	\$12,946
Grants.....	\$24,676
Foundations.....	\$45,575
Community Partners.....	\$161,328
Other.....	\$2,797
Operations.....	\$1,500
Archambault-Baldoni Unmet Needs	\$8,057

2020 EXPENSES \$156,458



2020 EXPENSES

Daily Bread Food Pantry	\$61,103
Diaper Bank of NECT.....	\$9,975
Fuel Fund	\$3,882
Homeless Prevention/Support.....	\$13,321
Operations.....	\$23,325
Other.....	\$5,744
Putnam Senior Resources.....	\$5,080
Fund Raising.....	\$2,762
Pathways.....	\$2,283
Archambault-Baldoni Unmet Needs	\$8,057
Reserve Funds.....	\$15,000
Putnam Board of Education	\$5,926
Staff-\$0.....	\$0

OUR MISSION

Interfaith Human Services of Putnam REACHES out to Restore lives through Education and Empowerment of individuals, to Actively respond to the needs in our Community, to be Compassionate towards others, and to Help those around us who are in need or in transition by sponsoring, funding and facilitating programs and projects that address these needs in Northeastern Connecticut.

OUR DIRECTORS

Karen Osbrey, President

Lori Wajer, Vice President

Ann Kathi Peterson, Secretary/Treasurer

Shawn Johnston, Immediate Past
President

Helen Ferland, Diaper Bank Coordinator

Gary St. Jean, Volunteer Coordinator

Emily Barnes

Debby King

Holly Ann Gilbert

Eileen Piotroski

Marge Guerin

Patricia Harrington

Bill Guillot

Patricia Faucher

Krista Cote

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At [Facebook.com/putnamdailybread](https://www.facebook.com/putnamdailybread)