

2016 ANNUAL REPORT

INTERFAITH HUMAN SERVICES OF PUTNAM “THE VALUE OF PARTNERSHIPS”

The key to our success rests in people like you, who embody the spirit of greatness by saying “Yes I can, and YOU can too!”

MyThankYouSite.com



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT KAREN OSBREY

2016 has been a year of change for Interfaith Human Services of Putnam. We established new services, expanded current programs, streamlined procedures and cultivated new partnerships. One thing that hasn't changed is IHSP's commitment to our mission: to sponsor, fund and facilitate programs and projects that will serve people in need or in transition in northeastern Connecticut.

IHSP continues to respond to the ever-changing economic challenges in northeast Connecticut. But we can't accomplish this alone, that is why we are so grateful for our many community partners.

Driven by our Nourishing Neighbors Healthy Initiative, we fostered partnerships with area supermarkets, bakeries and farmers, and established food recovery programs. We expanded our coupon program to include juice, eggs, milk, butter, cheese, fresh and frozen produce, and Farmer's Market options as well. This allowed our clients the opportunity to have more control and responsibility over their food choices.

Over 56 percent of Putnam school children qualify for free or reduced school lunches. But where do those meals come from during summer vacation? In response to this dilemma, IHSP-Daily Bread continues to partner with the Putnam Board of Education to subsidize their Summer Meal Program so adult care-

givers can eat with the children participating in the program. We also continue to distribute Summer Snak Paks to our families with children and to double their food pantry visits during July and August.

Nearly 1 in 3 American families struggle to afford enough diapers, which can lead to serious health problems for both babies and parents. Many families are faced with a choice between buying diapers and paying for food, rent, and utilities. Over time, these stressors can contribute to the incidence of abuse and neglect of young children. In 2016, IHSP-Diaper Bank of NECT expanded our service area by partnering with local town hall management, early learning programs and other social service agencies to distribute over 80,000 diapers.

Our IHSP-NU2U Clothing Closet was busier than ever, seeing over 300 people per month. We continue to partner with our community for donated clothing, bedding and household items. Our Back to School Clothing Day is always a big hit.

We expanded our Squash Hunger Challenges to include even more community partners. These partners collected enough tuna and pasta to stock our shelves for 9 months. This accomplishment was a welcome relief for our tight budget. And we partnered with the local business association and law



enforcement to provide Thanksgiving baskets to over 350 families.

And all this is accomplished by a 100 percent volunteer workforce. Our dedicated partner volunteers logged in over 7,000 hours of service in 2016.

To each and every individual and organization that donated, supported or volunteered, please know that we value these partnerships and we are sincerely grateful for your support of our mission.

Thank you.

FEATURED PARTNERSHIPS

“Individually, we are one drop. Together we are an ocean.”

-Ryunosuke Satoro, Poet-



ASHFORD SOCIAL SERVICES

When IHSP was approached by the Town of Ashford to include their residents for Diaper Bank services, we were concerned about manpower. There was no need to worry. Seeing the value, Ashford Social Service Director, Melissa McDonough agreed to handle all Diaper Bank distribution, record keeping and inventory for Ashford, Eastford and Chaplin recipients. She also serves on the IHSP Diaper Bank of NECT Board.

PUTNAM STOP & SHOP

Stop & Shop in Putnam is one of our long time partners. Whether it's donating re-usable shopping bags, organizing in-store food drives or participating in our food recovery program, they are always willing to lend a helping hand. In 2016, they donated more than 11,900 pounds of food as part of their Meat the Need Program and \$3900 as part of their Food for Friends program.



PUTNAM BANK—2016 SQUASH HUNGER PASTA CHALLENGE WINNERS

Putnam Bank has been a faithful supporter of IHSP for many years. In 2016, they took their dedication to a new level. As the winners of the Squash Hunger Pasta Challenge, they collected and donated over 2100 boxes of pasta. Core Plus Credit Union, First Niagara, Charter Oak Federal Credit Union and CNB a Division of ESB also participated in the Pasta Challenge. All told, they collected enough pasta to stock our shelves for 9 months.

FEATURED PARTNERSHIPS

Cont.

SQUASH HUNGER TUNA CHALLENGE PARTICIPANTS



Every September, local manufacturer U.S. Button Circle of Hope would collect tuna for Daily Bread. As an expensive item to purchase, we decided to add tuna to our Squash Hunger Challenges. We reached out to our industrial community and quickly had a serious challenge. Linemaster Switch, National Chromium, Staples Distribution and Nutmeg Container joined U.S Button for the 2016 Squash Hunger Tuna Challenge and collected enough tuna to stock our shelves from October 2016 to June 2017. When IHSP President, Karen Osbrey, went to pick up the tuna from 2016 winners Nutmeg Container, she was greeted by many smiling faces and a forklift full of tuna!

2016 WINNERS-NUTMEG CONTAINER

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF PUTNAM

Every spring, the Congregational Church of Putnam partners with Sawmill Pottery to organize the Empty Bowl Supper. Besides being our largest fundraiser for Daily Bread, this event has become a much anticipated tradition for many who attend. It is a celebration of our community and to the genuine love we share for our neighbors.

2016 SPAGHETTI SAUCE WINNERS!

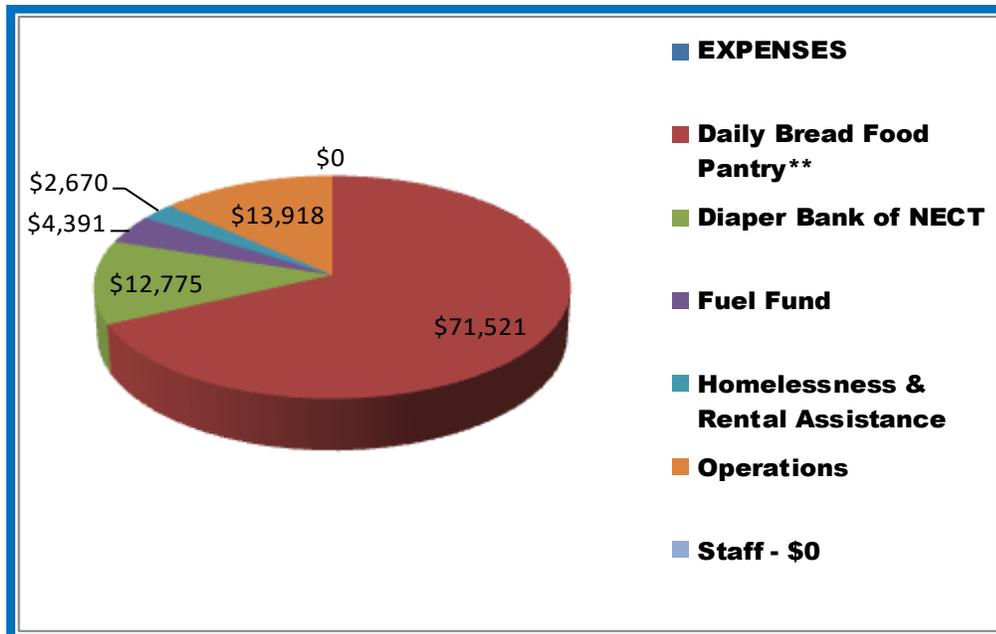
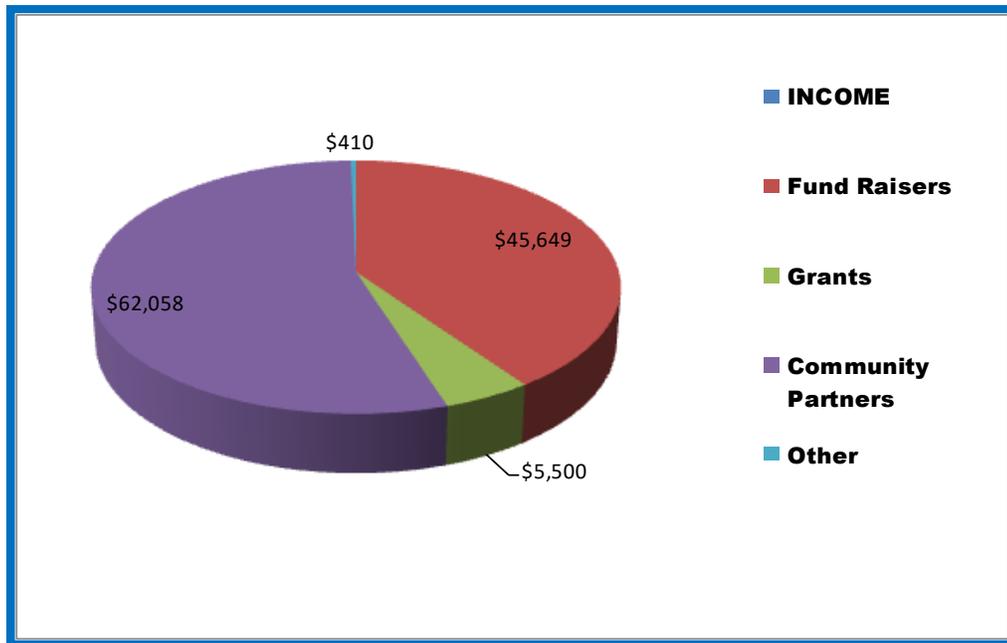


JEWETT CITY SAVINGS BANK

They have become a partner that understands the bottom line [babies' bottoms, that is] by supporting our successful Guest Bartenders Fund Raiser for the IHSP-Diaper Bank of NECT. They also have supported the Diaper Bank with grant funding for our Potty Training Kits and 1st Time Parent Gift Baskets that are distributed through another partner, Day Kimball Hospital Nurturing Family Network.



OUR FINANCIALS



**Includes our Coupon Program, our Nourishing Neighbors Program and Summer Food Program
 IN KIND DONATIONS VALUED AT \$119,373.28

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS

CONNECTICUT FOOD BANK MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

The fourth Tuesday of every month the Connecticut Food Bank Mobile Food Pantry pulls in to the St. Mary's Church parking lot. It is filled with lots of fruits, vegetables and other items that are distributed to local individuals and families. The Mobile Pantry is staffed by IHSP, St. Mary's Church, TEEG and Evangelical Covenant Church in Woodstock.

The Connecticut Food Bank Mobile Pantry helps address food deserts and transportation barriers that make it difficult for people who are food insecure to access the adequate nutrition they need. The Mobile Food Pantry has the ability to meet the changing needs in our communities.

<http://www.ctfoodbank.org/get-help/connecticut-food-banks-mobile-pantry-schedule/>

CSFP "SENIOR BOX PROGRAM"



Connecticut Food Bank provides an additional food resource to improve the health of low-income senior citizens through the CSFP "Senior Box Program". This federally funded program supplements senior diets with nutritious USDA-recommended commodity foods.

As part of **Daily Bread's Meals 4 Seniors Program**, we partner with Connecticut Food Bank to provide this resource to individuals who are Connecticut residents and meet federal income guidelines.

Participants in the program receive a food box each month consisting of staple foods, which include pasta, cereal, rice, canned fruit, canned vegetables and canned meat.



HOMELESSNESS SUPPORT & RENTAL ASSISTANCE

This project was established in an effort to prevent eviction & homelessness, or the need to seek alternative housing. With funds donated for this project we are able to assist 8-10 families or individuals during the year.

Program Goals include:

Provide Lifestyle Kits for those who live outside of a residential environment.

Assist homeless individuals by providing personal care kits, sleeping bags and other equipment for outdoor living.

Provide emergency rental assistance.

Provide support to other outreach programs that work with the homeless.

Our NU2U Clothing Closet assists individuals with clothing on an as needed basis. This includes warm clothing, like socks, underwear, sweatshirts or jackets.

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CONNECTICUT
FOOD BANK MEMBER OF FEEDING AMERICA

OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE PRICELESS

NO of VOLUNTEERS: 124

VOLUNTEER HOURS: 7,078

**VALUE FOR CONNECTICUT—
\$207,314.62**

NATIONAL VALUE—\$170,862.92



I volunteer because I care. I want to be able to make a difference, and if I could change even 1 person's life, then I have succeeded and all by volunteering.

-Karyn-

I volunteer because I like to help people in need.

-Cathy-

I like to volunteer because I am retired and like to help other people.

-Dottie at Plainfield Early Learning Center



I volunteer because I want to help people who have less than the average person. I feel it is important to give back to society and help those who have less than I do because I appreciate the good life that I have had over the years. I know what it is like to need help. I have empathy for those who need it in these tough economic times especially in our rural area where people earn so little money. It is empowering to know that I helped a struggling family keep their little one's bottom dry. It's rewarding to know that such a small gesture as a package of diapers and wipes can make a big difference in a family's life.

-Helen-

Photographs are used with courtesy of WINY, Karyn DiBonaventura, and Geoff Bolte of Clarus Studios

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OUR MISSION

The Mission of Interfaith Human Services of Putnam is to sponsor, fund and facilitate programs and projects that will serve people in need or in transition in Northeastern Connecticut.

Check Out Our Website at
www.ihspputnam.org

Our Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/putnamdailybread

2016 Board of Directors

Karen Osbrey, President
Lori Wajer, Vice President
Ann Kathi Peterson, Secretary & Program Coordinator
David Dunham, Treasurer
Shawn Johnston
Sarah Hamby, Communications Coordinator
Helen Ferland, Diaper Bank Program Coordinator
Rachael Arcand Martel
Debby King
Marge Guerin, Corresponding Secretary
Patricia Harrington
Bernice Mazzarella, NU2U Clothing Closet Coordinator
Lysa Molnar, Volunteer Coordinator
Holly Ann Gilbert

IHSP-Diaper Bank of NECT Advisory Board

Helen Ferland, Program Coordinator
Kathi Peterson, Assistant Program Coordinator
Rev. Barbara Schreier, Mobile Diaper Bank Coordinator
Mona Tremblay, Generations Family Healthcare
Christine Millette, Day Kimball Hospital Nurturing Families
Kera Morrisette, WIC & Healthy Start
Nicole Hill, TEEG, Mobile Diaper Bank Coordinator
Judy Castonguay, Conn. Dept. of Children and Families, Kinship and Family Program
Emily Ross, Killingly-Goodyear Family Resource Cntr
Melissa McDonough, Ashford Social Services
Amy Parcinski, Plainfield Early Learning Ctr