

2017 Annual Report

Interfaith Human Services of Putnam COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

*“Connectedness.
One thing leads to
another. Often in
unexpected ways.”*

*-Holly Goldberg
Sloan-*

Special points of interest:

- ♦ WFSB Channel 3 Eyewitness News
- ♦ Troop 21/KofC Council 64
- ♦ Living Faith UMC Sunday School
- ♦ Archambault Insurance Company
- ♦ Courthouse Bar & Grille
- ♦ Putnam Lodge of Elks #574
- ♦ Walmart/Connecticut Food Bank
- ♦ bankHometown
- ♦ Steve Bousquet Appliance & TV
- ♦ Putnam Leos II Club
- ♦ Guest Bartenders Night and Longmeadow Auto/The Crossings Restaurant & Brew Pub
- ♦ United States Postal Service- Putnam Branch
- ♦ Stop n Shop, Price Chopper, Big Y & Feeding America Reducing Food Waste
- ♦ Volunteer Stats/Story
- ♦ Financials

President's Message— *IHSP Family of Givers*



President, Karen Osbrey

Vice-President, Lori Wajer

As a 100% Volunteer Human Service Provider, our most valuable asset is our people. With no paid staff, no Federal or State funding, we rely on our volunteers, donors and partnerships within the community to provide the much-needed services of IHSP.

Some of our partners give of their time, talents, treasures, or all 3. Some

of our partners volunteer for just a few hours a month while others are there every other day. Some of our partners give ten dollars and others give thousands. All are part of the *IHSP Family of Givers*. Without their generosity, dedication, kindness and selfless concern for the well-being of others, IHSP would not be able to accomplish all that it does on a day to day basis.

In 2017, IHSP served over 2300 local families by providing groceries, toiletries, household items, diapers, baby wipes, potty training kits, baby food and formula, clothing, blankets, bedding, tents, sleeping bags, tarps, emergency fuel and rental assistance, a listening ear, moral support and encouragement.

Our partners help us so we can help others. To each and every person or organization that supported us, we thank you, value you and are truly grateful that you are part of the *IHSP Family of Givers*.

WFSB CHANNEL 3 EYEWITNESS NEWS



Weatherman Extraordinaire, Scot Haney and WFSB - Channel 3 Eyewitness News paid Putnam a visit in April. Scot kicked off “20 Towns in 20 Days” with

a visit to us and a very generous donation of \$1000 for the Daily Bread Food Pantry.

Troop 21 Boys Scouts & Knights of Columbus, Cargill Council #64—Scouting for Food

Needy people in the area got a helping hand recently, thanks to a collection effort by a local Boy Scout troop and a Knights of Columbus council, assisted by Putnam Town employees. Putnam’s Boy Scout Troop 21 and Cargill Council 64 joined forces with the community for their ninth annual food drive, collecting just over \$2,300 and 2,355 pounds – more than a ton – of non-perishable food.

Scouting for Food is a nationwide annual effort by Boy Scout troops, Cub Scout Packs and Explorer posts to collect food for their local non-profit food pantries.

Food donations came from St. Mary Church of the Visitation in Putnam and Most Holy Trinity Church in Pomfret.

Meanwhile, the effort took hold at the Putnam Town Hall, where more than two dozen “Scouting for Food” bags were col-

lected from town employees. Mayor Tony Falzarano’s executive assistant, Denise Roireau, organized a collection effort after the Knights brought the mayor a yellow bag to fill with groceries. This was the second year Falzarano was involved, helping to drum up support. On St. Patrick’s Day the mayor was assisted by several town employees to load donated food into his Chevy Equinox in the parking lot.



The two week food drive was capped off with a community collection during an outdoor event at the K of C. Motorists pulled in to the parking lot and donated either bags of groceries or cash. -John Ryan-



NU2U Clothing Closet Donations

Donations to the NU2U Clothing Closet arrive weekly. They come from people within the Community and from groups like the Living Faith UMC Sunday School Class. Under the leadership of Angela Sanchez and Jennifer Fos-

ter the class used their monetary donations to provide socks and underwear for children. All clothing is free to the many individuals who visit the Closet throughout the year.

The NU2U Clothing Closet is open four days a week and serves anyone living in Northeastern Conn. Over 300 people pass through our doors on a monthly basis.

We cannot live only for ourselves. A thousand fibers connect us with our fellow man; and among those fibers, as sympathetic threads, our actions run as causes, and they come back to us as effects>

-Herman Melville-

Archambault Insurance Associates

We think the folks at Archambault Insurance Associates are SOUPER! Always ready to pitch in and help those in need. This year, they were the winners of the Squash Hunger Soup Challenge. Other participants included Putnam Stop & Shop, Gerardi Insurance Services, Putnam Supermarket and Putnam Chiropractic. All totaled, 1846 cans of soup were collected.



Courthouse Bar and Grille



Hartford Marathon O'Putnam

In March, with Spring just around the corner, the Courthouse Bar and Grille and the Hartford Marathon Foundation were planning for the O'Putnam 5K.

They chose IHSP as their HMF Can partner. Runners are encouraged to bring non perishable food donations to the race to support the needs of the community. This year 285 pounds of food were donated to the IHSP-Daily Bread Food Pantry. Thanks to the many runners who turned out to participate in the race braving the wind and frigid temperatures.

"The best way to not feel hopeless is to get up and do something. Don't wait for good things to happen to you. If you go out and make some good things happen, you will fill the world with hope, you will fill yourself with hope."

— Barack Obama



Their Pitch League continues to make yearly donations to the Daily Bread Food Pantry.

They have also supported the IHSP Homelessness Program with the purchase of sleeping bags, tents, tarps, and ground cover.

Putnam Lodge of Elks #574

We have many reasons to love the Putnam Lodge of Elks and here's just one! Members of the Putnam Elks got together after work one evening and went on a \$2,000 shopping spree. They purchased much needed health and beauty items at Family Dollar in Putnam

and they delivered the items to the Daily Bread Food Pantry. Items were purchased using a Gratitude Grant from the Elks Foundation.

The Elks are active participants in the Good Friday Food Drive along with the Putnam Rotary Club and the Putnam Lions Club.



Connecticut Food Bank and Walmart

The CT Food Bank was awarded a grant from Walmart to purchase refrigerators and freezers for member programs to increase their capacity to obtain and distribute fresh and nutritious food. We chose this beautiful, energy efficient refrigerator. This new piece of equipment allows us the opportunity to increase our storage area for perishable and fresh items, such as fresh fruits and vegetables, yogurt, milk and eggs. It will be especially beneficial when we are offered perishable items and quickly need extra refrigerator space or risk the possibility of not being able to accept the donation.

Thanks CT Food Bank and Walmart! We love our partnerships!

bankHometown Neighbors Helping Neighbors

bankHometown gives new meaning to Neighbors Helping Neighbors. IHSP continues to respond to the ever-changing economic challenges in North-eastern Connecticut, but we can't accomplish this alone. That is why we are so grateful for our many community partners, like bankHometown. For the 14th year, bank Hometown challenged local residents and businesses to help support

local food pantries. It's a way for the bank and its customers to make a real difference in the lives of local residents. Ten food pantries in Massachusetts and Connecticut, including Daily Bread in Putnam, received generous donations. Michael D. Hewitt, President and CEO of bankHometown added that branch employee involvement in the community "is yet another example of Neighbors Helping



Neighbors." To date, more than \$142,500 has been distributed through this program.

Besides monetary donations, bankHometown participated in our Squash Hunger Challenge helping

to collect enough pasta to support Daily Bread and their clients for a whole year.

You will also find them behind the bar at The Crossings Restaurant and Brew Pub raising funds for the Annual IHSP-Diaper Bank Guest Bartender's Night.



Steve Bousquet Appliance & TV

What do refrigeration & turkeys have in common? It's Steve Bousquet Appliance & TV. They are always there for us... monetary donations, turkeys for the holidays and extra freezer space. We always need extra freez-

er space as we gear up for our Thanksgiving Basket distribution (350 turkeys can take up a lot of space). Bouquet's Appliances always comes to the rescue and lends us extra freezers for the month leading up to

Thanksgiving. Without this generous service, we would have to store turkeys at other locations, making distribution much more labor intensive. Thanks Jeff and Kailyn.

Putnam Leo's II Club



We are so blessed to have the Putnam Leo II Club as one of our partners. This remarkable group of socially conscious young people never say no. They support our efforts with tons of sweat equity. They help set up for Thanksgiving Basket distribution, assemble Summer Snak Paks for local children, brave the cold for Hugs for Hunger, set tables, ladle soup, and clean up at our annual Empty Bowls Project, and they are always up bright and early to help at the Good Friday Food Drive. They embody the motto We Serve.

IHSP-DIAPER BANK GUEST BARTENDERS NIGHT Longmeadow Auto & The Crossings Restaurant & Brew Pub

The butcher, the baker, even the candlestick maker...they all come out for our Annual Guest Bartender Night, held at the Crossings Restaurant and Brew Pub, for the IHSP Diaper Bank of NECT.

This is truly a community event. People from all walks of life, like Karyn, Event Coordinator, & Rich DiBonaventura of Longmeadow Auto, pitch in to make this night a success! Some bartend, some spectate, some help gather donations for Karyn's famous Balloon Pop Game, but they all have one thing in common, they all care about helping children.

In 2017 our partners raised \$11,007 to support our Diaper Bank and to help keep little bottoms dry and healthy. With these funds we were able to purchase 81,511 diapers through the

National Diaper Bank Network purchasing program with the manufacturer of the Huggies brand of diapers.

Operational since 2011 we presently provide more than 400 children in NECT with more than 110,000 diapers yearly.

With generous donations of adult incontinent supplies we have been able to meet the needs of several families that are faced with special circumstances at this stage of life.

In addition to providing for the basic needs of children, we also provide Potty Training Kits, 1st Time Parent Kits and Emergency Kits for our Police Departments in NECT. All of these kits are made possible with a grant from Jewett City Savings Bank and the Norwich Diocese Cradle Fund.

"I don't want to live in the kind of world where we don't look out for each other. Not just the people that are close to us, but anybody who needs a helping hand. I can't change the way anybody else thinks, or what they choose to do, but I can do my bit."
— Charles de Lint



United States Postal Service-Putnam Branch

The United States Postal Service in Putnam is helping to Stamp Out Hunger with their annual food drive in May which benefits the families and individuals served by the IHSP-Daily Bread Food Pantry.

Donations in 2017 totaled in excess of 1450 pounds of non-perishable food.



Sometimes, reaching out and taking someone's hand is the beginning of a journey; At other times, it is allowing another to take yours.

STOP N SHOP; PRICE CHOPPER; BIG Y FEEDING AMERICA

Feeding America through their MealConnect Program is working to reduce food waste. This program works to partner local supermarkets with local food pantries. **The IHSP-Daily Bread Food Pantry is receiving excess meat, fruits and vegetables from their partners Stop n Shop, Price Chopper and Big Y.** By connecting local supermarkets to local food pantries, Feeding America is finding ways to rescue more food that would have, otherwise, gone to waste.

According to Feeding America, America has more than enough food to feed everyone, but nearly

half of the food grown, processed and transported in the U.S. goes to waste.

Like these Supermarkets, you can help reduce food waste by,

- Buying what you need
- Store & eat leftovers
- Use fruits & vegetables that have blemishes, spots and wrinkles
- Understand what sell by, best by, and use by dates mean
- And even try growing your own vegetables in a pot or two.

REDUCING FOOD WASTE in AMERICA



"A dream you dream alone is only a dream. A dream you dream together is reality"

-John Lennon-

OUR VOLUNTEERS ARE PRICELESS

In 2017 David Dunham resigned as IHSP Treasurer after serving in this position for ten years. He is seen here receiving an IHSP Signature Bowl made by Sawmill Pottery and given to him at the 2017 Volunteer Recognition Dinner. As Pastor of the Moosup United Methodist Church, David, along with Cathy McNeil started the Mainly Clothes Program using the NU2U Clothing Closet as a model.

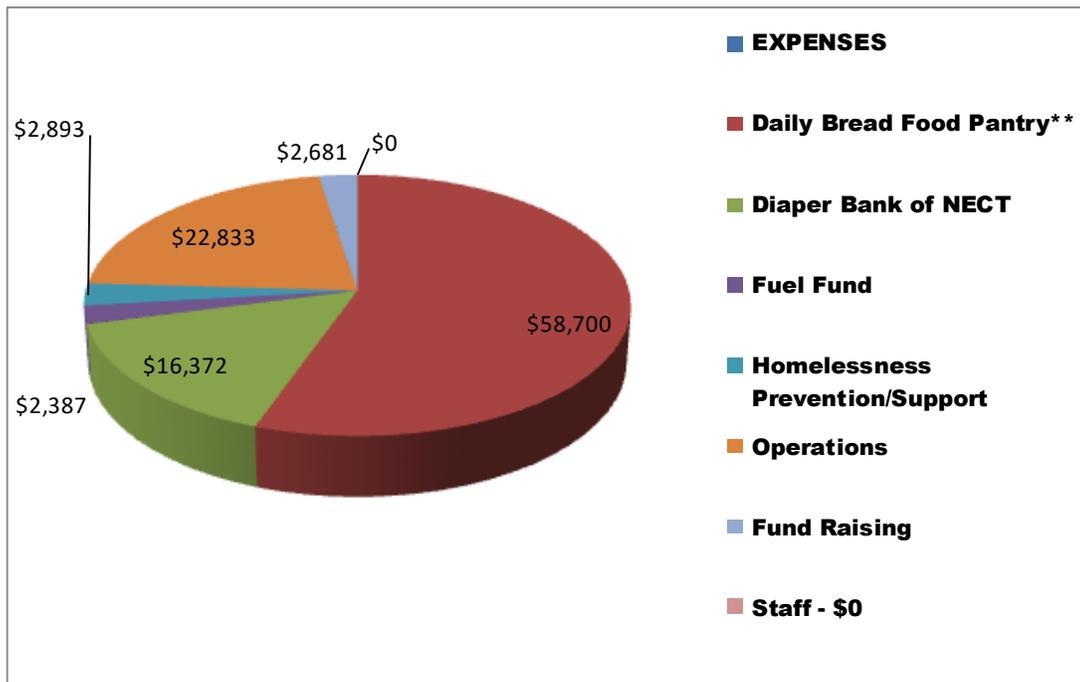
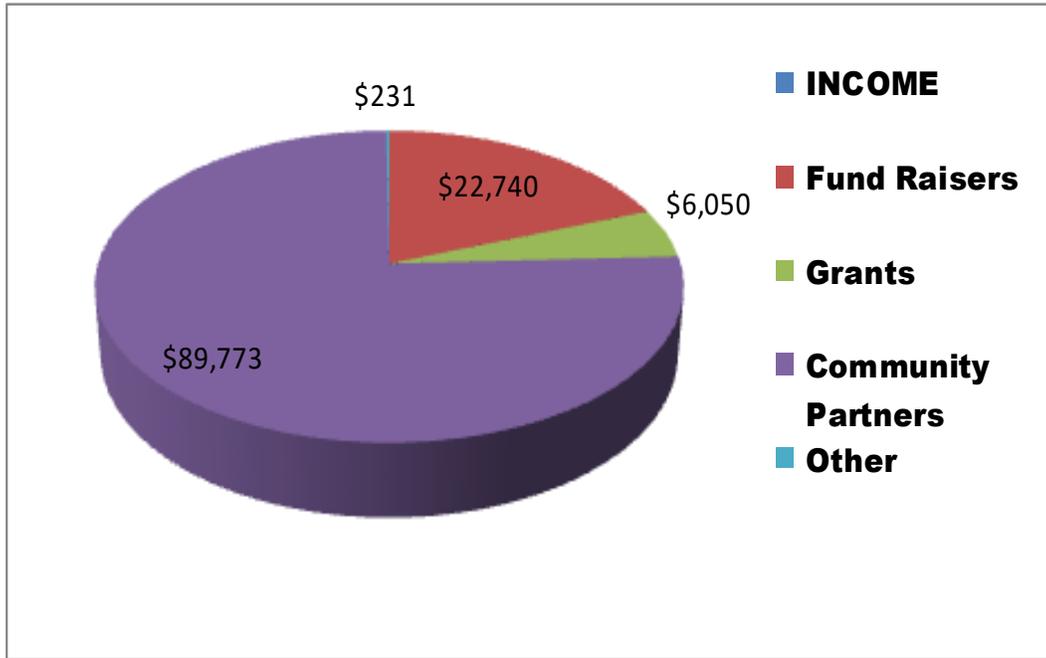
NO of VOLUNTEERS: 126

VOLUNTEER HOURS: 7,510

VALUE FOR CONNECTICUT—\$218,892.80



OUR FINANCIALS



**Includes Coupon, Summer Food & Nourishing Neighbor Programs

Interfaith Human Services of Putnam

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Learn about us on the web
at www.ihspputnam.org or
on Facebook at
[facebook.com/
putnamdailybread](https://facebook.com/putnamdailybread)

OUR MISSION

Interfaith Human Services of Putnam R.E.A.C.H.'s 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	David Dunham
Lysa Molnar	Debby King
Holly Ann Gilbert	Eileen Piotroski
Rachel Arcand Martel	Helen Ferland
Marge Guerin	Patricia Harrington

IHSP-Diaper Bank of NECT



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OUR MISSION

To provide diapers, educational opportunities, and resources for low and limited income families

ADVISORY BOARD

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Kera Morrisette, DKH WIC/Healthy Start
Melissa McDonough, Ashford Social Services
Judy Beausoleil, Plainfield Early Learning Center

Email: ihspdiaperbanknect@gmail.com

We are extremely grateful for all of our Community Connections/Partners and to everyone, Individuals, Businesses, Service Organizations and Faith Communities for their generous donations to all of the IHSP Programs. We would not be able to serve people in Northeastern Connecticut without these contributions. Thank you. IHSP Board of Directors & the IHSP Diaper Bank Advisory Board.