

2023 Annual Report



IHSP



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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Feeling the Pinch...

We have all felt the pinch at the check-out counter as the price of groceries has increased. Some of us have the resources to absorb that increase and some of us do not. Most of our guests at IHSP and the Daily Bread Food Pantry are on fixed or lower incomes and the increase in grocery prices creates a serious challenge for their household budgets. Most purchase less or go without. Some must choose between housing, prescriptions, groceries and other necessary household expenses. Rising rents, the lack of affordable housing and higher energy costs have increased food insecurity.

IHSP is also feeling the pinch. Our costs have significantly increased. We are having to purchase more food and we, too, are paying higher prices. We have seen an increase in requests for services and we are seeing more families who are not only experiencing food insecurity but housing insecurity as well.

When those in need of assistance turn to us, we turn to the community for support to help us provide food, diapers, personal care products, clothing, rental and home energy assistance. We continue to be a 100% volunteer organization. Our wonderful volunteers and generous community of givers makes it possible for IHSP to support our neighbors in need. Together we make a significant impact on our community.

Thank you,

Karen Osbrey, IHSP President

HOW YOUR DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OUR GUESTS

DAILY BREAD

EVERYONE NEEDS NUTRITIOUS FOOD TO THRIVE. THE FOOD YOU HELP TO PROVIDE WILL BE SHARED AROUND DINNER TABLES, PICKED OUT OF BUDDY BAGS — AND IT'LL BE NUTRITIOUS FOOD THAT STRENGTHENS AND NOURISHES GROWING MINDS AND BODIES.

- We are able to provide senior adults and others with nutritious foods to help them stay healthy by partnering with local farmers and supermarkets as part of our food rescue program.
- Each year our guests redeem 30,250 coupons for fresh/frozen fruits and vegetables, dairy and juice products. Our coupon program is one of a kind.
- In 2023, the Daily Bread Food Pantry provided enough food for 120,000 meals which fed over 9,200 individuals; that's 3,234 households.
- Each month, with the help of the Lions and Rotary Clubs, we deliver groceries to 75 households consisting of senior adults, individuals with disabilities and those who lack transportation.



NU2U CLOTHING CLOSET

The clothing closet provides clothes to anyone, regardless of residency location. Individuals in need can find clothes for work, interviews, daily activities, children and babies. The clothes are carefully examined to ensure they are stain-free and suitable for anyone to wear.

Daily Bread's commitment to fighting hunger and food insecurity in the local community can be seen in several ways...

PUTNAM SCHOOL SUPPORT

We partner with the Putnam School System to keep kids fueled up for learning year-round by providing healthy snacks.

We provide 248 Buddy Bags each month for weekend use by school children and their families. That's a total of 620 meals monthly!

We help to fill the Summer Nutrition Gap when kids are out of school by supporting the Putnam Summer Feeding Program so caregivers can eat as well as their children. A total of 1,053 meals were provided.



POT TO TABLE

This initiative helps provide guests of Daily Bread with not only the resources, but the know-how for growing their own vegetables. Guests are invited to come join us for dinner using vegetables we have grown at the Food Pantry while also teaching them how to plant their own small gardens that can fit outside their homes. We provide the tools and gardening lesson! At the end of the evening, they get to take home their



planted pots and new gardening skills. It's an amazing way to empower them to be able to continue to provide fresh herbs and vegetables for themselves in the future.

DIAPER BANK OF NECT

Nobody likes a wet bottom, especially a child. Each month we give out 7,475 diapers to children living in Northeastern CT.

Our Diaper Bank also gives out period supplies and adult incontinence products when they are available.

Donations are always appreciated.



OTHER SERVICES

We support the community in several other areas, including, but not limited to Fuel Assistance and

Senior Resources

As Putnam's Municipal Agent for the Elderly and Disabled, we offer assistance with food, fuel, paperwork, housing and referral to other services.

Homelessness/Rental Assistance

Since the Pandemic, the cost of living has increased exponentially. Keeping individuals and families from becoming homeless is one of the ways we are able to help. In 2023, we were able to keep 12 families and/or individuals housed.

Some homeless people have jobs but don't earn enough to maintain basic living expenses. Some suffer from mental health issues and addictions. For those who are unstably housed or living outside, we are able to provide clothing, food, personal care items, sleeping bags and other supplies.

Pathways 2 Success

We invest in the future by helping individuals improve their economic situation by providing short term certificate education support through our local community college. We also support working families who need financial support for their children to attend the Putnam Recreation Dept. PASS Program and Summer Camp.



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

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

Fuel Assistance

- Putnam Residents Only

Homelessness/Rental Assistance

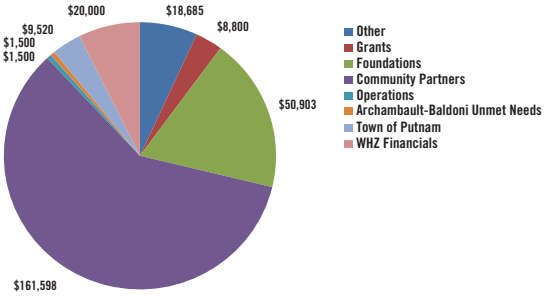
- Putnam Residents Only

Senior Resources

- Putnam Residents Only

OUR FINANCIALS

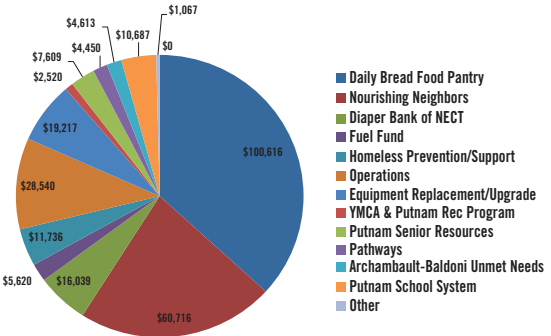
2023 INCOME \$272,506



2023 INCOME

Other.....	\$18,685
Grants.....	\$8,800
Foundations.....	\$50,903
Community Partners.....	\$161,598
Operations.....	\$1,500
Archambault-Baldoni Unmet Needs	\$1,500
Town of Putnam.....	\$9,520
WHZ Financials	\$20,000

2023 EXPENSES \$273,431



2023 EXPENSES

Daily Bread Food Pantry.....	\$100,616
Nourishing Neighbors.....	\$60,716
Diaper Bank of NECT.....	\$16,039
Fuel Fund	\$5,620
Homeless Prevention/Support.....	\$11,736
Operations.....	\$28,540
Equipment Replacement/Upgrade.....	\$19,217
YMCA & Putnam Rec Program.....	\$2,520
Putnam Senior Resources.....	\$7,609
Pathways.....	\$4,450
Archambault-Baldoni Unmet Needs	\$4,613
Putnam School System.....	\$10,687
Other.....	\$1,067
Staff.....	\$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 Carminati, Vice President

Ann Kathi Peterson, Treasurer

Jaclyn Thurlow, Secretary

Shawn Johnston, Past President

Helen Ferland, Diaper Bank Coordinator

Peter Battye

Emily Barnes

Holly Ann Gilbert

Eileen Piotroski

Marge Guerin

Patricia Harrington

Bill Guillot

Paul Pikora

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