

Pathways



Fall 2024

News for donors, volunteers, and friends of New Reach

This Winter, a Warm Home is Just the Beginning



Your Support Changes Lives

As winter draws near, many in our community face the harsh reality of homelessness. In just one week this October, 4,249 people across Connecticut were experiencing homelessness—a staggering 36% increase from the same time last year. Among them were 484 children.

At New Reach, we know that ending homelessness requires more than providing stable housing—it means creating long-term stability in every aspect of life.

Through our comprehensive network of programs, New Reach is addressing the current housing crisis with effective solutions: **preventing homelessness** before it starts, offering critical **crisis services**, and guiding families, youth, and individuals to find and **maintain secure housing**.

But we can't do it alone. Every step forward is possible because of supporters like you. **Your generosity provides more than shelter**—it offers safety, warmth, and hope to those who need it most.

This winter, your support can help us reach more families in crisis, get them off the streets, and equip them with the tools they need to rebuild their lives. Together, we can create lasting change and build a stronger, more compassionate community.

Thank you for standing with us.



Robbia William (center), Caseworker at Portsea Place (housing for youth experiencing homelessness or aged out of foster care) awarded the Community Inspiration Award at the 2024 New Reach Staff Gathering

We Couldn't Support Our Community Without You.



On September 26th, New Reach hosted the **First Annual Night of Appreciation** - an evening dedicated to recognizing the individuals, organizations, and community partners who make our mission possible.



Michael Mellen

The night was a celebration of collaboration and impact, where we proudly honored our

2024 New Reach Hero Awardees:

- Vox Church
- Rhoda Winik and Roseann Kelley
- West Haven Community House
- The Avenues Program
- Janice Jacobs & Ted Borowy
- Michael Mellen, and
- Yvonne Sourragh

We also presented the **Christian Vogt Board Member of the Year Award** to Jane Glassman for her outstanding leadership and support of our mission.



Yvonne Sourragh (on right)



CEO Kellyann Day (center) with board members Shalonta Ford, and Jane Glassman

2024 Night of Appreciation at Stoney Creek Brewery

This event showcased **the power of community in driving lasting change**. With your support, we can continue ensuring that no one is left behind. Thank you for being an essential part of this important work!

In the last three months

Your Support
enabled New Reach to

Help over **1,345 People** experiencing housing and food instability

&



Feed over **788 households** monthly in Greater New Haven who are homebound



“ Volunteering and donating to New Reach allows me to give back to the community in a way that feels deeply meaningful. It's a chance to make a real impact in the lives of those facing homelessness and housing insecurity. -Jane Glassman, 2024 Board Member of the Year ”



BUILDING HOPE, ONE FAMILY AT A TIME:

STORIES OF HOW NEW REACH TURNS UNCERTAINTY INTO STABILITY



From Crisis to Comfort

Kayla, her husband Jose and their 8-year-old son came to the U.S. from Venezuela, hoping for a better future. Eight months pregnant and speaking only Spanish, they planned to stay with a friend.

But when the friend relocated for work, everything changed. The landlord let them stay until the end of the month, but without being on the lease, they couldn't remain. With a baby on the way and nowhere to go, Kayla and Jose's family was on the brink of homelessness.

Thankfully, they connected with a Spanish-speaking caseworker from **New Reach's Diversion Team**, who acted quickly. With support, Jose found a job, secured an apartment, and with emergency funding, covered their first month's rent and security deposit. Just in time, they moved into a safe, stable home.

In only five days, a crisis was averted. Thanks to the swift work of our Diversion Team, Kayla's family never had to enter the shelter system. This is the power of diversion — preventing homelessness before it starts.

Stories like Kayla's are possible because of you. Your generosity brings stability and hope to families when they need it most. THANK YOU!

Marleni's Journey to Stability

In her late 20s, Marleni faced eviction after receiving a notice to quit—a formal warning that her landlord intended to evict her if she didn't leave. With nowhere to turn, she sought help from New Reach's **Prevention** program.

Stewart, her caseworker, immediately stepped in — advocating for her in court and securing a three-month extension. This bought Marleni crucial time to find a new home and regain her footing.



Working quickly, Stewart helped transfer her housing voucher to Bridgeport, where they found an apartment that fit her needs. But Marleni's challenges extended beyond housing — she was also battling addiction, which made it hard to maintain stability and pursue her larger goals.

Recognizing the need for holistic support, New Reach connected Marleni with addiction recovery programs to help her overcome these struggles. With both housing and health addressed, she is not only working toward a stable future but also toward regaining custody of her 3-year-old daughter.

Marleni's story shows the power of comprehensive support — made possible by donors like you. **You help New Reach provide more than just housing.**

Together, we help individuals like Marleni build a foundation for a better future.



3 Ways YOU Can Help This Season

1



TURKEY DRIVE

HELP US PROVIDE A THANKSGIVING MEAL TO OUR HOMEBOUND CLIENTS BY DONATING THE FOLLOWING...

Turkey Cranberry Sauce
Turkey or Chicken Gravy
Stuffing
Canned Collard Greens

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF UNTIL NOV. 19TH

**MONDAY - FRIDAY
9AM-4PM**

-OR-

**SPONSOR A
THANKSGIVING
DINNER AT \$30
PER FAMILY**

SCAN



2

Gift-A-Family

Bring JOY to families during the Holidays!



Sign up to be matched with a New Reach family's Gift Wish List

SCAN



or email enwagboli@newreach.org

3

Be a

Holiday

HOST For CHANGE

This season, **you can host a gathering that is more than just a celebration** — it can be a lifeline for families facing homelessness in our community.

By hosting an event that supports New Reach, you become part of the solution, helping provide shelter, stability, and hope to those in need.

FOR BUSINESSES

it's a powerful way to highlight your company's values and engage with your community while building brand goodwill.

FOR INDIVIDUALS

it's an opportunity to create meaningful memories with loved ones while coming together for a shared purpose.

Whether at your workplace, place of worship, or among your personal and professional networks, **your event can spark collective action and make a real difference.** Together, let's turn the spirit of the season into action.

Email Sheridan at srobles@newreach.org for more info.



Save the Date

June 4th
2025



Scan here to learn about sponsorship opportunities



We'd love to hear from you!

info@newreach.org