

From the Desk of the Executive Director

It is with honor and complete excitement that I accepted the role as Executive Director in January. Thank you to all that I have met for the warmest welcome, and for those of you whom I have not met, I am excited to get to know you! Coming along with me is Oakley, my 6 year old Blue Heeler (dog).

I started with North Country Ministry at the end of January and we have been in full swing ever since. As of the second week of March, our programs have been fully open and functioning. As you can see on the front page we have a new and improved location for our Furniture Program.

A little about me, I was born and raised in Chestertown, a graduate of North Warren Central School and then graduated with a bachelors degree in Business Administration from State University of New York at Potsdam. I own a home in Brant Lake, am the Secretary for Small Tales Day Care Board of Directors and the Chair of the North Warren School Community Scholarship Committee.

I have worked for non-profits my entire career; most recently I was with the Family YMCA of the Glens Falls Area as their Campaign and Events Director. For four years I coordinated multiple campaigns, golf tournaments and annual meetings. I am excited to bring my skills and expertise to the ministry. The most exciting part of becoming part of the ministry has been that I am able to give back to and serve the communities that have given me so much.

This is a very exciting time for North Country Ministry. As the world is coming out of the COVID crisis and into a new normal, NCM has taken this time to redefine itself. We have already moved our Furniture Program to the Presbyterian Manse. We continue to partner with the Ben Osborn Memorial Fund in securing hygiene products and cleaning supplies for our food pantries. Stewart's Shops have offered us egg and milk cards at reduced rates, which ensures every person that walks through our doors are provided with the most essential food items. These are all examples of the endless opportunities that NCM has been provided and different ways we can continue to expand on our programs and offerings to the communities we serve.

There has been overwhelming excitement in the re-opening of our programs by staff, board members, volunteers and our community members. Offering a "Hand of Hope" has never been more relevant than it is now.

Thank you again for your support, and I look forward to meeting you all and learning about your passion and connection to the ministry.

Gratefully,
Kayla Carlozzi



***NEW* - Online Newsletter**

NCM has begun our Online Newsletter. Those who subscribe, you will receive our quarterly newsletter in your email. To sign up, visit our website at www.NorthCountryMinistry.org. Choose Subscribe from the top menu and follow the instructions. You will receive an email confirming your subscription. Just click the link and that's it!

Note: If you have already signed up for the online newsletter and received your confirmation email, you are all set!

Have questions? Call us! (518) 623-2829



**NORTH COUNTRY
MINISTRY**

Hands of Hope

Spring 2022 Newsletter

Mailing Address: PO Box 478, Warrensburg, NY 12885
Physical Address: 3933 Main Street, Warrensburg, NY 12885
www.northcountryministry.org

Our Programs are Open!

Warrensburg Center

3933 Main Street, Warrensburg
(518)623-2829

Caseworker Outreach Services

Call to make an appointment
(518)628-2829 ex. 301

Clothing Center

Thursday's & Friday's 1 pm - 4 pm

Food Pantry

Open Wednesday's 1 pm - 3 pm

Brant Lake Food Pantry

148 Tannery Road, Brant Lake
Wednesday's 10 am - Noon

Furniture Program

NEW LOCATION

2 Stewart Farrar Ave, Warrensburg
(518)623-2829 ex. 304

We are currently closed as this location is in the process of becoming ADA complaint.



We are Accepting Donations!

Clothes & Food: Can be dropped off at the Warrensburg Center from the hours of 9am - Noon Monday and Tuesday. (Please call the office to arrange for drop off if these hours do not work.)

Accepting: Clothing (all genders and ages), linens, blankets, towels, baby formula, diapers, wipes, food (perishable and nonperishable), personal care and hygiene items.

ATTENTION: We are in need of summer clothes, towels and linens!

Furniture: Please call 518-623-2829 ex. 304 to arrange either pick up or drop off of donation.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

In today's fast paced, plugged-in, sometime impersonal world, it is necessary to find ways to feel connected to others. Sometimes, it can seem as if you are drifting through life, consumed with all that "needs to get done." A way to become more grounded is to choose something meaningful to get involved in through volunteering.

Volunteering offers vital help to people in need, worthwhile causes, and the community, but the benefits can be even greater for you. A few of the benefits are: make new friends, counteract the effect of stress, anger and anxiety, gives a sense of purpose and keeps you healthy.

At NCM our volunteers are "out of this world". The pandemic was a time of change and fear, and our volunteers came together to provide food, clothing and other significant needs during this unforeseen time. We are looking for more volunteers to add to our team. We have been blessed over the years that our volunteers have become like a giant family. Why not join our incredible fun family?! If you are interested please email us at info@northcountryministry.org

Check us out on Facebook or at www.northcountryministry.org

Written by: Laurie Bartlett

Casework Corner

Winter in the Adirondacks

Winter is the busiest season at NCM. As early as September, we see families struggling with increased heating and electric costs. Back to school and Christmas add extra stress and financial worries. There are programs that can help but they can be hard to navigate and locate. This is where the NCM casework team can assist. As of February, over 63 families have utilized our case worker's support to apply for the governmental program HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program), which helps provide financial assistance with heating costs. Case workers support families with application completion, questions, gathering documentation, and crucial follow up advocacy to help individuals who are eligible to receive assistance.

Many families reach out to NCM to inquire about assistance with covering furnace tune ups and repairs. Often they are unaware that HEAP recipients are qualified for assistance with repairs. This heating season, the casework team helped 16 families receive the funding needed to repair their heating systems.

When HEAP is not able to assist, NCM can provide financial assistance due to the generous donations from our community. This year, we financially assisted 25 families with fuel and 8 families with repairs.

For families with electric heat, our casework team are trained advocates in National Grid's Care & Share program which gives grants to families in need to assist with their electric bill costs. NCM is one of only three agencies in Warren County who can submit these applications. Caseworkers can also communicate with National Grid advocates to help arrange payment agreements to keep individuals in good standing with their electric bill.

Written by: Rebecca Bammert

LOOK WHAT WE RECEIVED!

Christ Child Society donated and dropped off baby clothes, formula, supplies and layettes.



The Ben Osborn Memorial Fund donated hygiene supplies and household cleaning items.

FUTURE MOBILE MART

North Country Ministry is excited to announce that we have received a very generous grant from the LaMancha, Inc. with a headquarters in Queensbury, NY to fund our Mobile Mart program!

LaMancha, Inc.'s mission is to focus on service projects in Chulucanas, Peru and Cuilapa, Guatemala. Over the last several years, LaMancha, Inc. has been fortunate to have outstanding support. With the inability to travel due to the pandemic their board had decided to award local service organizations, primarily focused on feeding and caring for people in their communities. That is where our "Mobile Mart" program comes in!

North Country Ministry was granted this award to purchase and outfit a van that will be used to service geographically and socially hard to reach residents in the southeastern Adirondacks. This program will allow our services that we currently provide to travel to people who are unable to come to us.

We cannot thank LaMancha, Inc. enough for their support and for helping us to get this program off and running.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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