

# *2021 Annual Report*



**NORTH COUNTRY MINISTRY**

*Offering a Hand of Hope*

Greetings Faithful Supporters,

The Ministry and our clients experienced another challenging year in 2021 – with the slow to dissipate cloud of COVID causing disruption in certain services and in the lives of our clients. However, we remained steadfast in providing continual food pantry operations and casework presence for emergency funding and other needs throughout the pandemic. We had "fits and starts" with our clothing center and furniture program operations, as the safety and welfare of our volunteers and clients were of paramount concern during times of peak community COVID spread.

Our staff – Director of Operations Laurie Bartlett, Casework Manager Rebecca Bammert, Director of Support Services Trevor Thompson, and ALU Superintendent Gary Plankster – was the glue that held our client serving operations together before and during the pandemic. Thank you!

I cannot say enough good things about our Board. Diverse in experience, each Director is actively engaged, dedicated to the mission of the Ministry, and first in line to offer a helping hand when needed. Retiring member Angela Petrone, who served for eight years, brought a consistent compassionate voice to the table. She was balanced by, soon to retire, Sherm Parker's direct matter-of-fact input over the past dozen years. Their influence, advice, perspective, and input will have a positive, lasting impact on North Country Ministry. Thank you!!

Our volunteers are the lifeblood of North Country Ministry's operations. We would not be able to serve the thousands of encounters with our clients in our clothing center, furniture program, and food pantries without their time and dedication to the service of others. Thank you!!!

When I first heard of the Ministry from Brother James Posluszny at Mass in the mid-aughts after moving to the area, I was hooked on its mission. On my first receipt of the donor listing, I was simply impressed by the sheer number of donors, not knowing any of them at the time. Becoming more involved with NCM after retirement, I have continued to be impressed by the support of donors – no more so than during the pandemic. Thank you!!!!

On a personal note, every few years as a Lenten exercise, I read through the Gospels with guidance and commentary of the likes of Bishop Robert Barron, Garry Wills, and Mary Gordon. In the noisy, complicated and often unfair world we live in today, I invariably end up boiling my faith in action inspiration down to Luke's Samaritan and Matthew's Beatitudes and "for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me ...". Even more simply, I think of Pope Francis' advice ... "We pray for the hungry, and then we feed them, that's how prayer works." This is what North Country Ministry's leadership, staff, volunteers and donors are all about.

I could not be more excited about North Country Ministry's future under the leadership of Executive Director Kayla Carlozzi. She is committed to help ameliorate and solve our area needs in basic services and breaking the cycle of poverty by providing educational pathways in collaboration with other area agencies and foundations. Kayla has hit the ground running in not only enhancing and improving on what we do, but looking for ways to expand our assistance to those in need.

Don King will be our next Board President and is eager to advance the cause of North Country Ministry. Don approached us years ago and started our Thanksgiving basket program sponsored by his company, HMA Contracting. It has been an honor and privilege for me to serve as President the past four years. I have made many new friends commonly committed to serving our under-served neighbors.

God Bless You,

Bill Powers



## Board of Directors

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# NORTH COUNTRY MINISTRY



## "Hand of Hope" Statistics for 2021

**\$45,047.31**



Assisted



**903 Families**

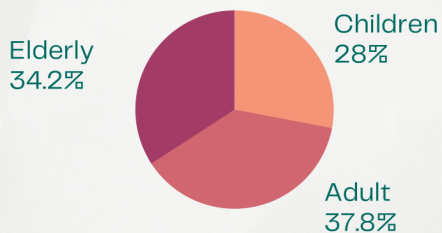
### Advocacy Throughout the Year\*

Advocated for  
**4,884 people**



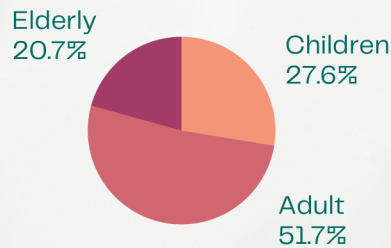
Served **131**  
First Time Clients

### Brant Lake Food Pantry Monthly Averages



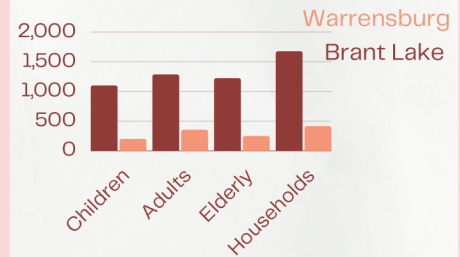
On a monthly average, the Brant Lake Food Pantry served **139** households.

### Warrensburg Food Pantry Monthly Averages



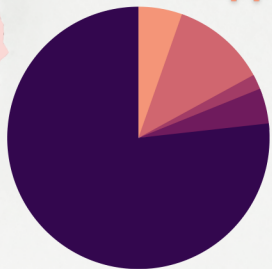
On a monthly average, the Warrensburg Food Pantry served **35** households.

### Brant Lake & Warrensburg Food Pantry Total Served



These numbers are the numbers submitted to the Regional Food Bank for services to each community.

### Support for NCM



Donations – 76.8%  
Program – 11.7%  
Fundraisers – 5.4%  
Other – 4.3%  
Non-Gov Grants – 1.8%

Through **921 donors**

### Volunteers



**96** Volunteers  
gave **2,769** hours.  
Their time is worth  
**\$79,027.26**

### Clothing Center

**13,078** lbs of clothes  
were donated



### Barrington Match

The Barrington Family Foundation offered to match up to \$40,000 if North Country Ministry could get new donors to contribute to our Emergency Financial Assistance program. A total of **\$104,495** was raised through these efforts.



### Regional Food Bank Distribution

**4,281** pounds of  
food were given  
away between  
the two pantries  
which equaled  
**3,568** meals.



### Giving Tree

**188 Children** adopted



### Thanksgiving Baskets

**200 Families** Fed

### Service Area

**34 Towns**  
**2 Counties**



\*2021 Numbers are skewed due to programs being closed from COVID for the majority of the year.

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Mr. Anthony Zazula  
Mr. Eugene Zielinski  
Ms. Lorraine Zimniewicz

## In Memory of Contributions:

Francis Buehler  
Bev Cronin  
Patrick Cunningham  
AJ & Barbara Denk  
Pat Farrell  
Barbara Friedel  
Bob Flacke  
Joan Ide  
Henrietta Martyniak  
Peggy Measeck  
John & Mary Morphis  
Margaret Mulcahy  
David Paplanus  
Stephen Parisi  
Joseph Purcell  
Kathleen Redpath  
Deb Schommer-Hoag  
Stacy Sergio  
Jane Shires  
Michael Sullivan  
Robert Weber

## In Honor of Contributions:

Jane Bachman  
Susan Butler  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Cooper  
Nora Corigan  
Pam & John Davidson  
Jo Kacymarek  
Jack & Mary Merulla  
Tricia & Brandon Meyer  
Dolores Misner  
William & Lisa Powers  
Violet Spatz  
Erica Walker  
Hilda Weiss

## Business and Foundation Support:

Adirondack Foundation  
Adirondack Outreach  
Adirondack Spirits Inc.  
ADK Catholic  
Baker Funeral Home  
Barton International  
Boats By George  
Boquet Valley Federation of Teachers  
Borgos & Del Signore, P.C.  
Brant Lake Association  
Buckmans Family Fuel  
Buhrmaster Family Foundation, Inc.  
Cafe Vero  
Caldwell Presbyterian Church  
Candy Cane Farm  
Church of St. Cecilia  
Church of the Blessed Sacrament  
Church of the Holy Cross  
Congregation of Holy Cross  
Cronin's Golf Resort  
Cunningham's Ski Barn/Hudson River  
Rafting  
Deli and Meat Store of the North  
Della Auto Group  
D'Elia Buick-GMC-Cadillac  
Desmond Media and Marketing  
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First Baptist Church Thrift Shoppe  
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Garden Time Nursery & Garden Center  
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United Way  
Vin Nic, LLC  
Waldron Works  
Warren Ford  
Windows Doors Shades & More LLC  
Woodhaven Kitchen Designs

\*We apologize for in advance for any errors or omissions.

# This is what is ahead in 2022:



Example of "Mobile Mart" Van

The LaMancha, Inc Foundation awarded North Country Ministry the funds to purchase and outfit a 2022 R2X 250 Hi Roof LWB Cargo van. This van will be transformed into a food pantry on wheels which will provide food to those who do not have transportation to visit our food pantries. The program will be called the "Mobile Mart". The vehicle will be outfitted with a freezer, cooler and shelves for dry goods. This van will also be equipped with All Wheel Drive to be able to provide the basic necessities to those who live in hard to reach homes in our service area. We have placed the order for the van and hope to have it by the end of the 2022 year to start the program in 2023.

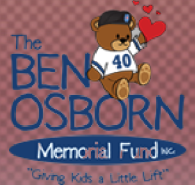


Join us for our  
**Annual Fall Classic  
Golf Tournament**  
**Monday, September 19, 2022**  
**at Cronin's Golf Resort**  
More details can be found at  
[www.northcountryministry.com/golf](http://www.northcountryministry.com/golf)



**Annual Fall Classic  
Golf Tournament**

Throughout the year, North Country Ministry had the chance to partner with towns, schools and other non-profit organizations. For the summer of 2022, we will provide the Brant Lake YMCA's "No More Learning Gap Summer Reading Program" participants with breakfast, lunch, and snacks every day and a backpack full of food to bring home on Fridays. The Ben Osborn Foundation supports us with hygiene products and cleaning supplies that we provide in our food pantries. NCM supports Warrensburg Elementary School with funding to provide all children with snacks in the morning. It had been identified that not all parents could afford to send their child to school with a mid morning snack. We continue to help support Warrensburg so all children can have a snack. Christ Child Society prepares new born layettes and donates them to NCM. These layettes can be found in the Clothing Center for new parents to grab while they are here.



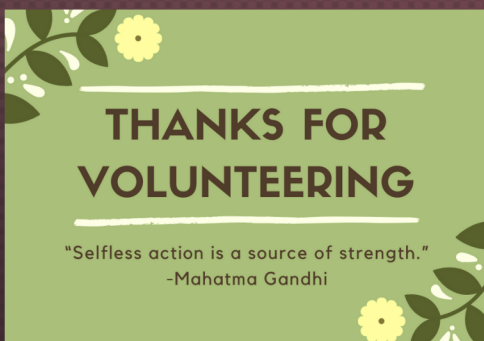
## North Country Ministry 2021 Volunteers

Karen Angleson  
Sue Atkinson  
Emma Belanger  
Diana Benedetto  
Carol Beneszewski  
David Betts  
Rick Bergeron  
Char & Gary Bivona  
Laurie Brown  
Linda Campopiano  
Lori Carpenter  
Andrew Caroso  
Bruce Carr  
Peggy Carrol  
Patricia Casabonne  
Rene Clements  
Michael & Kate Curry  
Clare Decker  
Lynda DelSignore  
Mary Devine

Judy Dutcher  
Janet Early  
Joann & Richard Flammer  
Paul Fracchia  
Jane Gibbs  
Hwee Leng Goh  
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Judy Gorton  
Faye & Mike Grazioso  
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Ann Horton  
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Gerri Howe  
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Debbie & Gary Karl  
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Joan & Dick Lomnitzer  
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Carol McNeill  
Elna Meader  
Phyllis Meader  
Marie Monaco  
Jane Morris  
Kathi Morrisseau  
Joann & Richard Nawrot  
Kathi Noble  
Kris Nolan  
Sandy Norris  
Lorry O'Connor  
Sandi Parisi  
Eve & Rick Parker  
Mary Phillips  
Deb & Red Pitkin

Susan Peryea  
Connie & Gary Pogorzelski  
Judy Polley  
Ginny Raymond  
Dottie & Bruce Rudolf  
Shiela Satterlee  
Mary & Ross Schoembs  
Donna Spacek  
Mary Sullivan  
Ann Tramontana  
Nathaniel Turner  
Joseph Vernon  
Yvonne Venum  
Cathy Vesterby  
Nancy & Claudia Wild  
Doris & Bill Wildermuth  
Eileen & Paul Whitman  
Monica Young



# History of North Country Ministry

North Country Ministry was founded in North Creek, NY in 1992 by a small group of Catholic nuns and priests. These individuals saw a great need in the area and identified a few resources that could help address these needs. Since then, NCM has become a cornerstone of the southeastern Adirondack region, providing critically needed human services.

Our programs offer a range of assistance including everyday needs such as food, clothing and furniture, to emergency assistance through our outreach services. Over the years, these programs have impacted the lives of thousands living in our extremely rural and underserved 650-square-mile service area.

Today, North Country Ministry thrives in large part due to the commitment of our 100+ volunteers. Through their generosity and dedication, our volunteers give nearly 7,000 hours each year (when not impacted by COVID) to the operation of NCM. They provide day-to-day support for our programs, organize fundraisers and events, as well as serving in specialized or advisory capacities on our Board of Directors.

North Country Ministry is a subordinate organization of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany and enjoys ecumenical collaboration with a wide variety of churches and congregations throughout our service area. Our partnership is motivated both by service to faith and a commitment to help those less fortunate.

In addition, we hold great gratitude and appreciation for our generous base of donor support. It is their consideration and contribution that helps our mission thrive so we may impact as many lives as possible.

With locations in Warrensburg, North Creek, and Brant Lake, we are able to serve the needs of our communities and assist a population living in an area with a high poverty level. It is because of our dedicated volunteers, the collaboration of our faith community, and the generosity of our donors that North Country Ministry is able to offer a Hand of Hope to those in need here in the Adirondacks.



## Message from the Executive Director

Similar to other non-profits, the year 2021 was a time of patience and transition. North Country Ministry is fortunate to have an amazing core staff that helped bring the ministry through the effects of COVID. They juggled change so fluently, continuing to find ways to provide for our clients and remained positive that one day our programs would be open to serve the community once again. Rebecca, Laurie, Trevor, and Gary, thank you for all you did in ensuring the ministry served its purpose through extremely difficult times.



Continuing on with the theme of transition, Bill Powers has been instrumental in moving the ministry in a forward direction. We are extremely lucky and thankful for his never ending service over the last four years to the organization as Board President. We will miss his leadership in the presidents seat but excited he will remain on the board.. Bill will be passing the torch to our President Elect Don King, leaving the organization in great hands. Don has proven to be a strong effective leader as he has organized the Golf Tournament and building projects for the ministry in the past.

The ministry has a solid foundation of volunteers who continually give their time and effort to create a warm and welcoming place for our communities. Their continued support cannot go unnoticed.

The hearts and genuine sense of service to our community from our donors, volunteers and staff are the heart beat to this organization.

Thank you!

Kayla Carlozzi



NORTH COUNTRY MINISTRY

PO Box 478

Warrensburg, NY 12885