

2024 NCM ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

SAVE THE DATE!!

Monday, September 16, 2024

Cronin's Golf Resort, Shot Gun Start at 1 pm

Lunch, Golf, Dinner, Games and Prizes will be provided.

Registration will open soon!

For more info visit: www.northcountryministry.org/golf

Sponsorship Opportunities are open now!

www.northcountryministry.org/golf Has more information.



NCM'S MOST SUCCESSFUL EVENT Cocktails for Charity

There were 212 people in attendance for North Country Ministry's 2024 Spring Fundraiser, Cocktails for Charity. The event raised a total of \$76,533, by far the most successful event to date for NCM. The evening was spent celebrating Phyllis Meader (pictured in red dress below). The crowd was asked to donate in honor of her dedication in supporting the north country with her service. Lynn Underhill chaired this successful event, with the help of many committee members. There were ten wonderful live auction packages from multiple supporting community businesses and incredible food and atmosphere from Fort William Henry. The need of the north country continues to grow, and this is one of the many ways that NCM can raise funds to support those needs. The funds that are collected from this event support those served by NCM with food, clothing, furniture, and Emergency Financial Assistance. The staff and volunteers of NCM offer a Hand of Hope through our programs and financial assistance, but it is not possible without the support of our generous donors. Thank you to all who made the event a tremendous success!

- Platinum Donor - Bill & Lisa Powers
- Gold Donor - Eileen & Nick Baughan
- Silver Donors - Himoff Family Charitable Foundation, Glens Falls National Bank
- Bronze Sponsors - Hudson Headwaters Health Network, Jack & Denise Rifenburg
- Entertainment Sponsor - Miller Industrial Manufacturing
- Appetizer Sponsors - Amsure Insurance, Barton International, CD Perry LLC, H. Craig & Lora Treiber, The Table Rock, and Group at Morgan Stanley
- Centerpiece Sponsors - Adirondack Dream Creation, Bernice McPhillips, Lake George RV Park, Lake Geoge Steamboat Company, Loon Lake/Schroon Lake Marina, Schutze Family Dentistry PC, Janet Early & James Ventura
- Photo-Op & Props Sponsors - Buckman's Family Fuel, Carpenter & Associates Insuring Agency LLC, CGM Construction, Gallo Realty ADK, Juan & Amie Gonzales, Oscar's Smokehouse, Rick Bergeron, Sherry Finkel Murphy, Warren Ford



Hand of Hope

Spring 2024 Newsletter

3933 Main Street
PO Box 478
Warrensburg, NY 12885
www.northcountryministry.org
518-623-2829

BECOME A SUSTAINING DONOR TODAY!

By becoming a sustaining or recurring donor, you can help make a significant difference to our organization and the lives we impact. This opportunity also makes donating to NCM so much easier! In becoming a sustaining donor, you will support our programs year-round and will be among some of our most valued donors. A recurring gift of support will provide sustainability for our existing programs and resources that benefit those we serve throughout the year.

IT'S EASY!

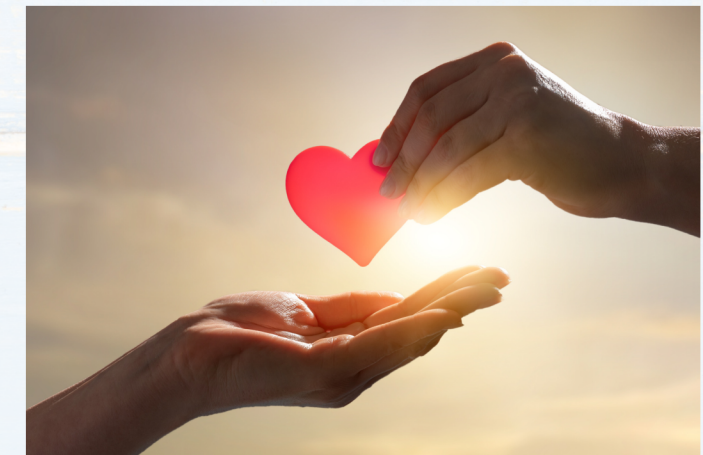
When you make your donation, included in the mailer is a form where you can choose to donate weekly, monthly, or quarterly through recurring installments. These deductions can be made through automatic payments you make by using your debit/credit card or through your bank account (ACH). You can change or adjust your gift at any time, just let us know. It is the easiest and most convenient way to make a difference at NCM.

BETTER TOGETHER

Together, we can create sustainability and continue to impact the lives of the communities we serve. Your recurring donation will provide critical stability to NCM.

LET'S GO FURTHER, TOGETHER!

If you would prefer to give smaller weekly or monthly donations over a longer period of time, rather than a single lump sum, this would be the option for you! Not only can this be an easier way to budget, but it also allows you to contribute more than you may have thought possible. For example, a gift of \$100 per month might be easier on your budget than a one-time donation of \$1,000 - AND over the course of a year, you would have increased your donation by 20%!



North Country Ministry is a non-profit organization that relies solely on donations for our programs and services. We are on track to provide more than 24,000 people with clothes, food, furniture, casework services, emergency fuel and mortgage/rent payments. Interested in donating to support our programs and services - use your cell phone camera to scan the QR Code to the right.

SCAN TO DONATE!



ANNUAL NCM VOLUNTEER TRAINING

On Thursday, May 9th, over thirty volunteers gathered at the YMCA Adirondack Center in Brant Lake for North Country Ministry's annual spring training. The purpose of the training event was to help our volunteers freshen up their roles at NCM and encourage collaboration between our programs and team members. Volunteers representing each of our programs and locations were present at the training, as well as several staff and board members.

Some of the highlights from the event included NCM Executive Director Kayla Carlozzi sharing a video on the history of North Country Ministry. The video included interviews with some of the people who were instrumental in helping NCM get to where it is today. Additionally, Kayla was able to share statistics about how the volunteers were a crucial part of helping our region over the past year.

The event also featured guest speaker Katie Boyle from the Warren County Public Health office. Katie spoke to the volunteers regarding mental health and the importance of self-care. The topic was one that NCM sees often in our community and among our client base. The session was well received by the volunteers because it helped bring awareness to the fact that everyone has seasons where they may struggle with mental health. The topic shined a light on how we as an organization can be understanding and supportive of people dealing with mental health issues.

Something new for the event this year was a fun, yet educational, round of North Country Jeopardy. The volunteers were split up into teams and were asked Jeopardy-style questions relating to the programs that they work in. The teams showcased their competitive side, as bragging rights and special prizes were on the line. It was a unique opportunity for our volunteers to sharpen their knowledge of the programs in which they serve, while also offering them a fun activity.

Following Jeopardy, the volunteers were then able to participate in breakout sessions. These small groups were designed to encourage dialogue between the volunteers serving within our programs. The clothing program volunteers formed one group, while volunteers from all our food programs formed another group. Some of the conversations centered around better communication among the volunteers, and more uniformity between our two locations.

The event concluded with lunch that was provided by Main Street Ice Cream Parlor in Chestertown. Additionally, several volunteers contributed drinks, desserts, and other goodies. Overall, the volunteers gave positive feedback about the training and their understanding of their roles within the organization at large.

Written By: Chris Jones



CASEWORKER CORNER

As the cost of living continues to rise, more families are turning to NCM for assistance. Recently, a single mother with a limited income approached us when she faced the imminent threat of losing her home. She was several months behind on rent, owed taxes, needed homeowners' insurance, and had a large outstanding utility bill.

Moreover, communication with her landlord was sporadic, exacerbating her stress and uncertainty about her family's future. Feeling defeated and unsupported, she turned to NCM for help. Our casework team immediately began collaborating with her to develop a feasible budget and connect her with legal assistance to understand her rights as a lease-to-own property holder. Through collaborative efforts and encouragement from NCM, she began to regain hope. NCM facilitated connections with external agencies such as National Grid Advocate, Legal Aid of Northeastern New York, and Social Services of Warren County. Together, we navigated complex financial and legal hurdles, empowering her to secure external funds and advocate for herself effectively.

Despite ongoing challenges, the support and guidance provided by NCM bolstered her confidence and ability to advocate for her family's future. While there is still work to be done, she is now in a much better position, thanks to the collective efforts of NCM and its partner agencies. This transformative experience underscores the importance of NCM's casework program in providing not just financial assistance, but also long-lasting empowerment and support to those in need.

Written by: Erin Fritz

WINTER MONTHS STATISTICS JAN - MAR

Brant Lake Food Pantry

Served 457 Households, 1,145 People

Warrensburg Food Pantry

Served 399 Households, 1,099 People

Mobile Mart Food Pantry

Served 113 Households, 240 People

Warrensburg & Brant Lake Clothing Center

Saw 685 visitors, which provided clothes for 2,250 People

Casework Statistics

Served 355 Unique Clients

Provided \$30,090 in Financial Assistance

Our caseworker team provided 27 homes with rental/mortgage assistance which amounted to \$12,057 in funding.

Rental/Mortgage assistance is up 27% from the winter months of 2023.

Furniture Program

82 Households received Furniture

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Riihimaki - President
Wendy Waldron - Vice President
Bill Powers - Treasurer
Gary Pogorzelski - Secretary

Elizabeth Barton-Navitsky, Eileen Morrissey-Baughan, Mark DeSignore, Curtis Dybas, Patti Hammond, Sue Himoff, Erin Maggi, Barbara Orton, and Lynn Underhill.

NCM STAFF

Kayla Carlozzi, Executive Director
Laurie Bartlett, Director of Operations
Rebecca Bammert, Director of Case Management
Erin Fritz, Community Caseworker
Christopher Jones, Volunteer & Program Coordinator
Gary Plansker, Director of Maintenance
Mike Mello, Maintenance Assistant