

HONORING OUR VOLUNTEERS

This year's Volunteer Recognition Reception was held at **The Manor at Woodside** to recognize and thank the generous efforts of Dutchess Outreach volunteers.

Kathleen Dynes and **Marie Dynes** received the **Mary Keeley Award**. Kathy and Marie, sisters, are our behind the scene volunteers - helping to move food from the Letter Carriers Food Drive, loading and unloading the coat truck, sorting and bagging thousands of coats, and moving coats to the various distribution sites. They never need to be asked. We know they will be there to help. The **Susan DeKeukelaere Caring Heart Award** was presented to **Jillian Brushini, Patrick Buddy, Michael Reap,** and **Charity Oyibl**, their job coach. Every Tuesday, they eagerly help sort and hang bags upon bags of clothing in the Children's Clothes Closet. **Divya Kumar** was recognized with the **Outstanding Youth Award**. She began volunteering in the Lunch Box ten years ago at the age of seven. Now at seventeen, Divya continues to volunteer ensuring a hot meal is served to those in need.

Community Service Awards were presented to **Arlington Reformed Church, Bangall United Methodist Church, The Buffalo Soldiers, Community Based Services, Freedom Plains Presbyterian Church, Health Quest, Hindu Samaj Youth Group, Marist Food Recovery Network, Omega Institute for Holistic Studies, The ARC of Dutchess, The Manor at Woodside, The Wellness Center.**

Special Recognition was given to **Elizabeth and Gerald DeFiglio and Renee Otero**. Life Saver Awards and Extra Mile Awards were also presented. Working together, hundreds of dedicated volunteers help the staff somehow achieve miracles everyday, and we cannot thank you enough.



Volunteers at the 2016 Volunteer Recognition Reception.

FEEDING THE HUDSON VALLEY

The First Ever 'Feeding The Hudson Valley', an event to raise awareness on the issues of **Food Waste** and **Food Insecurity**, was a great success thanks to a number of partnering Hudson Valley Organizations. During the event, which took place on the **Walkway Over the Hudson**, over 1400 meals were served from over 3,000 lbs of rescued food. THANK YOU!

TASTE AGAINST HUNGER



The inaugural **Taste Against Hunger** was a great success and a very enjoyable evening was had by all who attended! Held on Friday, October 21, in the **Aula Room at Vassar College**, we shared a wonderful and delicious array of foods from local Hudson Valley Restaurants, enjoyed the sweet a cappella sounds of musical group 'Cherished Memories', all while supporting our work and mission. We held very successful live and silent auctions and our **Community Partner Awards** were presented to **Raymour & Flanigan Furniture** and **Hannaford of LaGrange** for their extraordinary commitment to their community and our mission.

"WE HAD AN ABSOLUTE BLAST AND CANNOT WAIT UNTIL NEXT YEAR. TASTE AGAINST HUNGER WAS A GREAT EVENT BENEFITING A JUST CAUSE!" -GUEST



A huge thank you to our vendors; **Bonefish Grill, Burgerfi, Cy's Deli, Dutchess Beer, EFCO Products, Essie's Restaurant, Fireside BBQ and Grill, Giacomo's Pizza, Iron Furnace, Mill House Brewing Co., North River Pasters, Publick House, Villa Nigrelli, Durant's Party Rentals, and Harker Wines.** Thank you to our generous sponsors; **Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union, Ulster Savings Bank, IBM, Steve & Cindy Smith, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Hudson Valley Properties, Poughkeepsie Journal, Rhinebeck Bank, Dutchess Community College, MVP Healthcare, Vassar Brothers Medical Center, Central Hudson, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Marist College, Donna Gruberg, John Dyson, J.E. Heaton Jewelers, Meyer Contracting, B.N. Thakkar CPA PC, Aaron's Furniture, Dynamic Solutions, First Student, Sky High Farm, and The Chazen Companies.**

DUTCHESS OUTREACH, Inc.

**29 NORTH HAMILTON ST., SUITE 220
POUGHKEEPSIE, NY 12601**



WANT TO HELP DUTCHESS OUTREACH?

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

For more information, please visit our website at www.dutchessoutreach.org/volunteer to submit a volunteer form or call 845-454-3792.

SPONSOR A FOOD DRIVE

With your business, organization, church, or school to benefit Dutchess Outreach. Help us stock our shelves!

MAKE A MONETARY DONATION

Mail the enclosed envelope with your tax-deductible contribution to Dutchess Outreach.

DONATE ONLINE: WWW.DUTCHESSOUTREACH.ORG

DONATE THESE ITEMS

FOOD PANTRY

Canned meat – stew, hash, tuna, ham, spam, chili, Peanut butter & jelly, Canned fruit – peaches, pineapple, pears, fruit cocktail, Large canned soups – all kinds, Canned vegetables – carrots, peas, corn, green beans, Paper bags & plastic bags, Rice, Pasta- all kinds, Spaghetti sauce, Potatoes – canned or instant, Baby food, Formula

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NEWS

2015/2016



**BRIAN RIDDELL,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

And while food has become a source of recreation, hunger seems to have become a matter of fact.

The appeals in the mail are no longer only for children suffering in foreign countries but for those in our own backyard. Food pantries have come out of the closet. The problem of hunger is being highlighted almost (see below) everywhere. In our nation's schools, teachers and volunteers are filling backpacks with food for students to take home on weekends. They recognize there's a need that must be met if their students are to flourish. Food pantries are now even a part of many of this country's military bases. The Olympic Village set up their own soup kitchen for hungry people in the host city. You never saw that before.

So many people don't have enough food for themselves or their families. They can't always afford it. It's that simple.

But not a word was heard of hunger in America during the general presidential campaign. Nor since. No politician likes to use the word "poverty" either. Who knows what the November 8 results may bring, but cutting food assistance programs has always been a part of their agenda. The House Speaker's most recent budget proposal called for eliminating food assistance for people in school or in job-training classes, for example.

SIMPLICITY

However, we the people understand our fellow habitats must eat and are willing to support programs that work to ensure that poor people can nourish themselves. Around the time when housing costs were a third of a household's budget we approved spending for efforts to supplement a person's or family's food budget. Food stamps, now properly titled the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), did just that.

But now, with the cost of housing, heating and other basic necessities what SNAP supplements is meager at best and at worst, zero. Poor people are either only eating the SNAP supplement or living on a food budget that can be easily depleted with unexpected costs.

So with that, hunger here comes in many forms. At Dutchess Outreach, with the help of so many generous people, we have mounted an attack on a few fronts, to combat local hunger. Our Lunch Box program provides needed regular sustenance for between 200 and 400 people each month who either have no means or so little as to make a difference. The Beverly Closs Food Pantry is there for seven or eight hundred people a month who live on that margin between enough food and an emergency. Our after-school meal programs nourish the growing minds of elementary school age children; the unseen victims of hunger and poverty. And our latest effort, the Poughkeepsie Plenty Food Market (PPFM) is increasing the quality of healthy, fresh food available to our most vulnerable; senior citizens and women, infants and toddlers nutritionally at-risk.

We may not be able to end hunger, but with an array of efforts like these, and so many other ingenious initiatives across the County, we can impact the local problem. The idea is to think how you, we or I can reach out to ensure those within that reach get enough to eat. It's really that simple and we're here to help.



Fresh, Locally Farmed Vegetables on the Mobile Market

2015/2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY OF DEDICATED AND COMMITTED SUPPORTERS

TOTAL PEOPLE SERVED THROUGH DUTCHESS OUTREACH PROGRAMS

>10,000

38% OF THOSE LIVING IN POVERTY WITHIN DUTCHESS COUNTY (26,545 INDIVIDUALS)

32% OF THOSE CONSIDERED FOOD INSECURE WITHIN DUTCHESS COUNTY (30,890 INDIVIDUALS)

105,150 HOT MEALS FROM THE LUNCH BOX

181,092 TOTAL MEALS SERVED

75,942 FROM OUR FOOD PANTRY

7% INCREASE FROM 2015

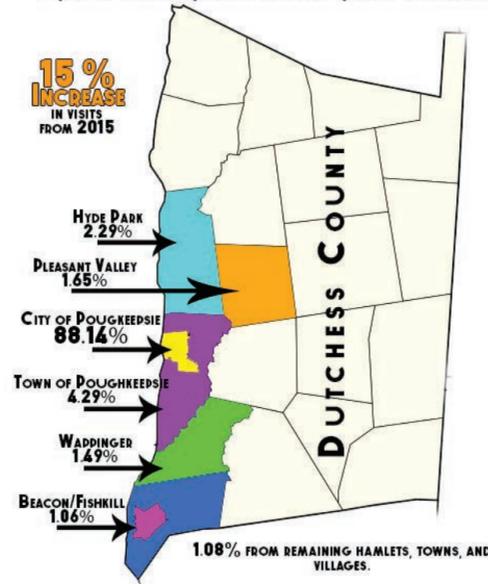
NONE OF WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT OF OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEER FORCE

>1,000 VOLUNTEERS IN 2016!

THANK YOU

TOTAL FOOD PANTRY VISITS 8,438 PEOPLE, INCLUDING 2,875 CHILDREN

15% INCREASE IN VISITS FROM 2015



MORE THAN 5,000 COATS COLLECTED AND DISTRIBUTED DURING OUR ANNUAL WINTER COAT DRIVE

THROUGH OUR EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAMS ADMINISTERING GRANTS, ADVOCACY, & REFERRAL, WE ASSISTED 510 PEOPLE IN OUR 2016 FISCAL YEAR, INCLUDING 174 CHILDREN.

TOTAL EMERGENCY FUND ASSISTANCE \$24,764



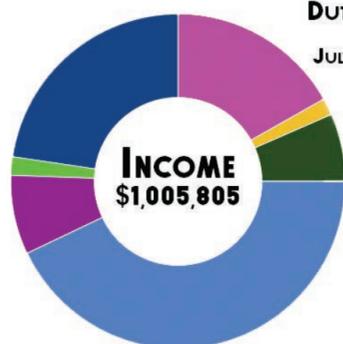
\$13,865 TO PREVENT ILLNESS



\$8,229 TO PREVENT UTILITY TERMINATION



\$2,670 TO PREVENT EVICTION/HOMELESSNESS



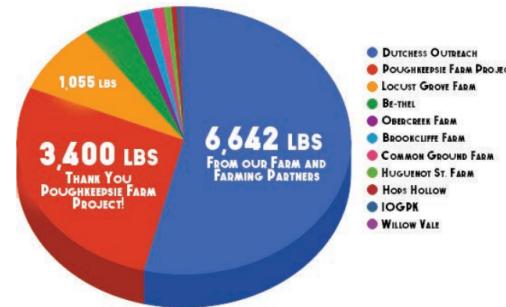
DUTCHESS OUTREACH, INC. ANNUAL REPORT JULY 1, 2015 - JUNE 30, 2016

- CONTRIBUTIONS
- UNITED WAY
- GOVERNMENT
- FOUNDATIONS/CORPS
- SPECIAL PROJECTS
- INVESTMENT INCOME
- OTHER REVENUE

TOTAL EXPENSES \$982,692

FROM THE DOUGHKEEPSIE PLENTY FRESH MARKET

PEOPLE SERVED: 1,348
96% INCREASE FROM 2015
POUNDS OF PRODUCE: 12,341.25 LBS



A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR 2016 FARMING PARTNERSHIPS

The second year of the Poughkeepsie Plenty Fresh Market has been a great whirlwind of adventure. While it is unfortunate that this program is one of the only ways that people in the Poughkeepsie area have access to real food, it's been an honor to be a part of this fresh food access movement. I joined the Dutchess Outreach team earlier this spring, and it was with the help of staff, volunteers, and our many farm partners that allowed this market season to be a success. The Mobile Market in itself has truly been a ride (pun intended). Watching the shelves of the big green trailer fill with beautiful, fresh produce every week has kept me inspired and encouraged. With the generous contributions from our many amazing farm partners, we were able to keep those shelves stocked and distribute thousands of pounds of produce to people throughout Poughkeepsie. And because of the PPFM team of volunteers, the market scene was pristine in appearance and lively in spirit. The support and assistance has been invaluable. Of course the customers tied all these strings of support together, and to them I say thank you for keeping these wheels rolling. There is so much beauty here in Poughkeepsie that continues to be uncovered. Navigating the neighborhood through the lens of this market is one way I have been exposed to such beauty. I am excited to watch the seeds of this project continue to grow and I look forward to the road ahead. -Cloud Bartoli, Mobile Market Manager

FROM THE LUNCH BOX

We reorganized the layout of the kitchen and dining areas to make the space feel more welcoming, to allow more prep area in the kitchen, and to improve the movement flow for people working in the kitchen. The biggest & most impactful change has been in staffing. Our dishwasher Rich is a hard-working, pleasant, helpful, and 100% reliable. Letitia is a true wonder - super smart, super organized, very gifted with cooking skills, delightfully positive presence and attitude with volunteers, staff, and people coming in to eat. One of the most reliable and helpful relationships that we have built is with Siennah Yang and the local chapter of Rescuing Leftover Cuisine. She organizes a huge team of volunteers to pick up leftover food from all over the Hudson Valley and distribute it to Dutchess Outreach. We have also developed a relationship with the Marist chapter of Food Recovery Network. During the school year they donate an average of 30 lbs of prepared food each week from the Dining Services of Marist to the Lunch Box. We worked with Lindsay Carille, head of solid waste management of Dutchess County, to get recycling bins for the Lunch Box and increase the number of pickups of recyclables from the PFC. We are working with Sprout Creek Farm sending them 100s of pounds of veggie scraps and old bread every week. They feed this to their pigs, thereby diverting it from the waste stream. We helped the Beacon Soup kitchen get off the ground, working with the wonderful Candi Rivera. During the first few weeks we sent prepared food, breads, and desserts down to her kitchen every week to serve to the hungry people of Beacon. We had the good fortune to work with a professional restaurant consultant, Janet Irizzary. She is working with us to update and revise the volunteer manual so that every volunteer in the Lunch box has a short but informative training before beginning work. -Margot Schulman, Lunch Box Manager

FROM OUR CASEWORKERS' NOTEBOOK

Many people think of the Lunch Box or Food Pantry when they hear "Dutchess Outreach," but our case managers see much more than people in need of food...

In my year of working at Dutchess Outreach I have seen many people in need requesting assistance paying for Rx, food, and utilities, but there is one client that stands out. Lucy, a single working mother with three small children had applied for the Home Energy Assistance Program with the Department of Social Services but was denied the assistance due to being \$2 over the required income guidelines. Lucy was already overwhelmed and stressed due to the holiday season and was behind on a payment. Her car, which was her primary source of transportation to and from her employment, had broken down and was in need of repairs. Lucy didn't want to risk not being able to make it to her job, her main source of income, so she decided to pay for the car repairs, which prevented her from being able to make her energy payment. Shortly after making this tough choice, Lucy received a notice from Central Hudson, stating that her electricity utility would be terminated due to her failure to pay. I will not easily forget the day in my office when Lucy was retelling her story to me, crying in disbelief that a mere \$2 was what was preventing her from receiving the assistance she so badly needed. I can't begin to say how elated and happy Lucy was when I mentioned we would be able to help her through Emergency Assistance Funding. We assisted with one payment to avoid shut-off and then Lucy was placed on a monthly budget plan to ensure her ability to pay off the balance. Several months later I received a card in the mail from Lucy thanking me for the help she received. It is moments like these that the reason we do the job we do shine through, and we couldn't do it without the commitment and support of our community! -Delia Vazquez-Habib, Case Manager

WELCOME

Teresa Brennan (Receptionist), Cloud Bartoli (Farm Marketing Manager), Delia Vazquez-Habib (Case Manager), and Atticus Lanigan (Administrative Assistant), Letitia Butler (Lunch Box Assistant Manager), and Kenya Grant (Lunch Box Kitchen Assistant) who all joined the Dutchess Outreach team this past year!

CONGRATULATIONS

To Tara Whalen on her promotion to Associate Director.

FAREWELL AND CONGRATULATIONS

To Kathleen O'Rourke-Murphy, who dedicated 18 years, and Carolann Beck, who dedicated 15 years, on their retirement. Thank you for your hard work and dedication towards furthering the mission of Dutchess Outreach throughout the years! Good luck!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We welcome Eileen Miller, Keri I. Peterson, Todd Bender, and Peter F. Doro to our Board of Directors while Joseph Conti, and Becky Markle-Scribner wrapped up their remarkable service. Hearty thanks go to all for your unparalleled contributions to our organization!

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS THANKSGIVING APPEAL SPONSORS MARY WESTERMANN AND J.P. WOODS INC.

OUR MISSION:

DUTCHESS OUTREACH ACTS AS A CATALYST FOR COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION AND EXISTS IN DUTCHESS COUNTY AS AN ADVOCATE AND PROVIDER OF HUNGER AND RELIEF SERVICES IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT EVERYONE, REGARDLESS OF INCOME, HAS ACCESS TO FRESH, HEALTHY FOOD, AND THE SUPPORT THEY NEED.

BEVERLY CLOSS FOOD PANTRY

PROVIDES FOOD FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

CHILDREN'S CLOTHES CLOSET

PROVIDES FREE, GENTLY USED CLOTHES FOR CHILDREN

DOUGHKEEPSIE PLENTY FRESH MARKET

DISTRIBUTES LOCAL SUSTAINABLE FARM FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLE TO THE COMMUNITY

ACTS OF KINDNESS

WORKS WITH SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES TO PROVIDE CLIENTS WITH HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

THE LUNCH BOX

SERVES FREE, MIDDAY AND EVENING MEALS SIX DAYS A WEEK

SUSAN DEKEUKELAERE MEMORIAL COAT DRIVE

COLLECTS AND DISTRIBUTES THOUSANDS OF WARM WINTER COATS TO THOSE IN NEED IN DUTCHESS COUNTY

THE GIFTS PROGRAM

PROVIDES FREE, HOME DELIVERED MEALS FOR QUALIFIED DUTCHESS COUNTY RESIDENTS LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS



STAFF

Brian Riddell
Executive Director

Tara Whalen
Associate Director

Cloud Bartoli
Mobile Market Manager

Carol Beck
Volunteer Administrator

Teresa Brennan
Receptionist

Letitia Butler
Lunch Box Assistant Manager

Kenya Grant
Lunch Box Kitchen Assistant

Atticus Lanigan
Administrative Assistant

Richard Oszip
Lunch Box Assistant

Sarah A. Salem
Development Associate

Margot Schulman
Lunch Box Manager

Delia Vazquez-Habib
Case Manager

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Thank You