Community Contents





OUR MISSION:

The North East Community Center seeks to build a healthy, caring, responsive and welcoming community for all who live and visit here. It is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to strengthen community through social service, educational, cultural and recreational programs for toddlers through seniors.

For more information please visit: www.neccmillerton.org or contact: North East Community Center, 51 South Center Street, P.O. Box 35, Millerton, NY 12546. 518-789-4259.





ON THE COVER:

Jillian and Will Allyn, past camp scholarship recipients, playing together on the Harlem Valley Rail Trail behind NECC. Photo: Suzanne Stevens.

Design: Thorunn Designs, LLC. Printing: Moore & More Printing

April 2019



Dear Friends and Supporters,

Each year our annual report allows us to look back with pride on our accomplishments achieved and challenges overcome. In the 2018 fiscal year, the North East Community Center (NECC) experienced new board and staff leadership changes and came out even stronger. When NECC's long-time Executive Director, Jenny Hansell, left to head a nonprofit in Massachusetts, Jennifer Dowley, widely known for her work at the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, provided seasoned guidance as our Interim Executive Director.

Last September, Christine Sergent became our permanent Executive Director, joining us as the current fiscal year began. We want to give special thanks to our dedicated staff, which kept our programs and the organization running smoothly during the management transition

Once again, our primary fundraising event – the expanded and sold out Chef & Farmer Brunch at Hotchkiss' Fairfield Farm – surpassed all expectations in attendance and donor generosity. The spirit of the day under perfect summer skies, was a celebration of NECC, and the result was a record amount of contributions so essential to funding our organization. This key event strengthened our organization financially and enabled us to support our many activities.

NECC programs have continued to succeed and excel. We have reached thousands of households, serving families and individuals from toddlers through seniors. We highlight some of these successes on the following pages.

In July, we held a ribbon cutting ceremony for our new playground that adjoins our South Center Street headquarters in Millerton. Due to the generosity and commitment of many community volunteers, a greener, cleaner, safer – and just as importantly – more enjoyable space was made available in the Village of Millerton. Open from dawn until dusk, parents are often seen juggling cups of coffee and children on swings early in the morning.

Our Board of Directors also changed leadership when Christine Bates succeeded Sherrell Andrews as NECC Board Chair. We further strengthened organizational governance and formally adopted our new Strategic Plan, laying the groundwork for a strong today and an even stronger tomorrow.

With increased activity and more staff, the need for a larger NECC facility has become even more apparent. At the end of the year, our program staff relocated from rented office space on Main Street to a larger, leased space in a building adjacent to 51 South Center Street. The move did not decrease our need for additional program space, but it improved our ability to communicate and work together.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the hardworking, hands-on volunteers, including members of the Board of Directors and many community residents, who managed key events like the Chef & Farmer Brunch; volunteered for tasks like moving, painting, and addressing envelopes; and provided expertise such as; tutoring students, assisting with client tax returns and driving seniors to medical appointments. We could not thrive without them!

Our thanks go out to all of you who make NECC the energized, caring organization that it is. We are successful because we do it together: volunteers, staff, donors, funders, collaborators, local businesses, clients and the community. It is with pride that we are able to boast that the North East Community Center is highly regarded by other communities and organizations. We are something of a phenomenon in our corner of Dutchess County, and we will continue to respond to the changing needs of our community.

With sincere gratitude,

Christine Sergent Executive Director Christine Bates,

Chair, Board of Directors

Meet some of our Community Heroes:



Kim Hausner & Marilyn Gross

"We both feel that we get so much more than we give at NECC; where else could we get so much satisfaction from working with great people and seeing the good things being accomplished - right here where we live!"



Frank & Katherine Martucci

"NECC supports so many in so many ways and they are always working hard to enhance and expand their services to benefit the welfare of others. They have become a vital part of our community and their outreach is extraordinary."



Edith Greenwood

"A free tax preparation service meets a need in our community. Thanks to both the IRS and AARP Foundation, the volunteers are well trained and our procedures are rigorous. I enjoy helping both new and returning clients."



Bianca Martin

"NECC is a wonderful organization that I am proud to volunteer for. They have done wonders for the community and offer everything from after school programs to Northeast Dutchess Transit to lending a hand filing taxes. Not only are the staff friendly, but what they do is beyond compare. These are just a few reasons I support the NECC."



Eleanor Nurzia, NECC Board Member, Chef & Farmer Brunch Chair. "It is a privilege and a joy to be part of an organization that embraces a community in the way NECC does."

The many ways that we help the community...

In 2018, the North East Community Center:



Toddlers playing outside during Monday Mornings Out with our Toddler Program Coordinator, Sheila DePaola. Photo: Amy Truax.

Monday Mornings Out & Growing Together:

Provided a place for 20 toddlers from nine surrounding towns to come to the Community Center twice a week in order to build language and literacy skills through cooperative and imaginative play.



The After-School Connection program engages Kindergarten — 8th graders in homework help, arts and crafts, community services projects, field trips and sports. The first graders spent weeks creating this amazing dragon and treated the rest of the After School students to a parade. Photo: Sheila DePaola.

After School Connection:

Worked with 54 children from 46 Webutuck families in our After School Connections Program, which provided a safe, healthy, and creative environment to learn and play.

Community Support Services:

Helped 114 families with gas cards, grocery cards, back rent payments to avoid eviction, financial assistance to prevent utility shut off, job searches, housing placement, budgeting, counseling and helped with applications for social services. We also provided referrals to resources including legal aid, health care services and immigration services.



Children engaged in creative play at NECC during our Growing Together Program with Sheila DePaola. Photo: John Dolan.



The Senior Exercise Program meets at NECC each Tuesday and Thursday morning for low-impact strengthening and stretching. Photo:Suzanne Stevens.

Community Support Services:

Organized a drive which raised \$2,800 worth of school supplies for 75 students and donated the extras to teachers in the Webutuck School District.

Teen Jobs Program:

Paid \$58,000 to 35 teenagers from Webutuck School to work with local businesses, learn professional skills, and save money for college.

FOR INFORMATION
ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS
YEAR-ROUND, VISIT
OUR WEBSITE AT
NECCMILLERTON.ORG
AND SIGN UP FOR
OUR MONTHLY ENEWS.







Planting fresh organic produce in one of two community gardens to be used in the Webutuck Schools, the Lunch Box Program and for Village Residents. Photo: Amy Truax.

Fresh Food Pantry:

Purchased 8,000 pounds of fruit and vegetables, 560 dozen eggs and 280 gallons of milk from local farms to distribute to four area food pantries.



NECC sponsors the Millerton Farmers Market which runs yearround in the village, weekly Memorial Day through October and bi-weekly during the Winter. The market focuses on local and organic food and products. Photo: John Nowak.

Tax Aide **Program:**

Prepared 384 tax returns at no cost and secured over \$500,000 in federal refunds and nearly \$120,000 in state refunds for community residents.





Northeast Dutchess Transit provides rides to residents of North East, Pine Plains, Stanford, Dover, Amenia and Washington. Primarily for seniors and residents with disabilities for medical appointments and shopping. This was a special day shopping for these ladies.

Northeast Dutchess Transit:

Drove 210 seniors and people with disabilities 3.380 times over 87,000 miles to medical appointments.

Community Support Services:

>> Helped an additional 30 families with a Holiday Helping Hands Grant with utility vouchers for a \$50 credit on their electric bill.

>> Provided 48 children in the Webutuck School District with summer camp scholarships, providing them with a total of 133 weeks of camp experience.



Mark Stonehill, Junior High H.E.Y. Program Assistant introduces two students from Webutuck Schools to his draft horse at Full Circus Farm during a program field trip. Photo: Alyson Halpert



Day trip to The Sylvia Center in Columbia County for students working in the Teen Farm Education Program.

Teen Team Leadership Program:

Distributed 146 coats as well as snow pants, hats, and gloves to those in need in our community.

Summer Lunch Box:

The Summer Lunch Box program prepared 3200 free breakfasts and lunches for children from the Webutuck School District during July and August

Thank you to our donors: October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018

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Finances: October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018

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Vanderbilt Foundation

Advantage After-School Program Child and Adult Care Food Program

Dutchess County Department of Planning and Development **Dutchess County Division of Youth**

Dutchess County Office for the

Aaina **Dutchess County Workforce** Investment Board

New York State Department of Transportation Sisters of Charity of New York Town of Amenia

Town of Dover Town of North East Town of Pine Plains Village of Millbrook

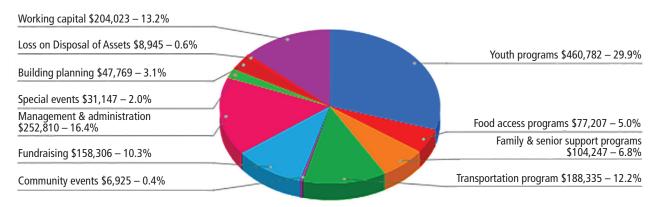
OTHER:

Arts Mid-Hudson Eastern Dutchess Rural Health Network United Way of the Durchess-Orange Region

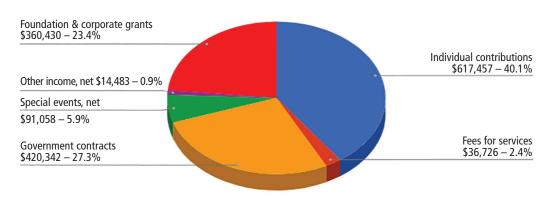
Millbrook Garden Club

NOTE: We have made every effort to ensure this list is complete and accurate. Please bring any mistakes or omissions to our attention. Send to tiffany@neccmillerton.org.

GRANTS AND FOUNDATIONS: Total Expenses – \$1,540,496



Total Revenue – \$1,540,496



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