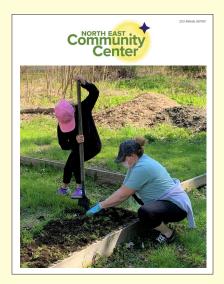




OUR MISSION:

The North East Community Center seeks to build a healthy, caring, responsive and welcoming community for all who live and visit here. NECC acts as a catalyst for that community vision through its partnerships with other organizations and by offering social, educational, recreational and cultural programs and services to help meet community needs.

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:

Jennifer Hengen and her daughter, Molly Hengen-Chasen, pitch in during the NECC Spring Clean Up.

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



Dear Friends,

In February of 2020, we redesigned the logo for NECC and adopted the phrase "**Thriving Together**." This phrase represents how NECC views our community and the work we do. Little did we know that by mid-March we would see it put to the test in every way: as the world became more distant, we found new ways to thrive "together."

Although working remotely, our staff and volunteers continued to work together in teams to serve local children, youth, families, and seniors as they, too, were forced to make one adjustment after another, some in increasing isolation.

And for our clients, we learned to be "together" by:

- placing Care Calls regularly just to check in and find out what was needed,
- delivering fun, educational, and supportive virtual programs to help the young feel connected to their friends and caring adults, while staying current with their learning,
- creating a food and supply pantry to safely deliver food, prescriptions, and supplies to households,
- safely delivering breakfast and lunch to children in struggling households all summer long,
- transporting those with essential needs to the pharmacy, chemotherapy, dialysis, COVID testing, and COVID vaccination appointments, and
- helping individuals and families sign up for unemployment, obtain human services, pay critical expenses, and find mental health support during trying times.

We could not be prouder of the work of our staff and our volunteers as well as the kindness of our donors.

As we ease our way back into "normality," NECC is poised more than ever to continue to offer impactful levels of social, educational, recreational, and cultural programs and services so that we might continue to thrive together.

Thank you for your support,

Christine Sugent

Christine Sergent Executive Director Nancy Elting

Chair, Board of Directors

Nancy Elding

YOUTH PROGRAMS



Kathryn Atkins, Youth Program Director

The After School Connection Program opened our first YouTube channel – creating 60 videos to help children stay active and engaged. We completed 500 "Care Calls" to check on NECC clients' wellbeing and suggest activities to keep their children engaged. We also coordinated the delivery of free art supply packs so children could continue to be creative at home!

We began **live**, **virtual programming** – giving the children a chance to "see" each other socially and support their social-emotional growth and provide fun engagement in literacy, math, and science. We even had children read stories to us!

In the Fall, we offered **Wednesday Walks**, encouraging students to enjoy walks on the Harlem Valley Rail Trail. Our annual **Gingerbread Decorating Party** became an at-home virtual party!



The Summer **Enrichment** Program offered four weeks of free, virtual programs for upper elementary-aged students, including Paper Mache, Fiber Arts, Computer Coding, and Geocaching explorations. Free supply kits were delivered to households, and each week ended with an outdoor activity to cap off the week's theme. Students gained independence as the weeks progressed, and literacy, math, and cultural understanding were woven into every lesson.





Through the **Teen Jobs Program**, students from Webutuck School District worked with local businesses and farms to learn professional skills including how to budget money for college and other future endeavors. 26 teens earned \$53,799. Teen Jobs staff also developed a "Virtual Work Readiness" program that provided students 25 hours of work in the summer attending virtual workshops via Zoom. They learned about time management, communication skills, résumé writing, building cover letters, workplace safety, financial literacy, and public speaking.



Jackie Osnato, Teen Program Manager

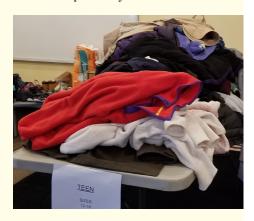
Teen Team Leadership Program participants dedicated 319 community service hours to support and connect with their surrounding communities, including:

- baking and distributing 57 pumpkin pies for the Miller-ton Food Pantry
- picking up 8 large bags of trash during the Rail Trail Clean Up
- gathering virtually for 85 hours of **recreational and educational activities** helping them to maintain social connections.

FAMILY

Jessica Raymond, Family Program Director

NECC helped 140 individuals apply for housing, utility, and other benefits in 2020. Since these services often benefit an entire household, 450 individuals were impacted. Residents were assisted with unemployment applications, tax-prep assistance, parenting education, clothing and coats, and access to food and other essentials. We also provided direct financial assistance to 30 households that did not qualify for government Economic Impact Payments.





Jordan Schmidt, Food Program Director

The pandemic exacerbated food insecurity in 2020. NECC met the challenge, expanding our focus on providing access to nourishing, fresh, and culturally appropriate food.

The **Fresh Food Pantry** works with regional farmers to supply fresh produce, milk, and eggs to food pantries. Rock Steady Farm, Feather Ridge Farm, and Hudson Valley Fresh provided products to pantries in Amenia, Pine Plains, and Dover Plains. NECC provided fresh food for Thanksgiving baskets at the Millerton Presbyterian Church. Traditional Christmas holiday baskets at the Church were replaced by grocery cards to abide by social distancing requirements.

FOOD



Emily Eder volunteers at food pickup.

A weekly **Food and Supply Pantry** was initiated as a small pilot program serving homebound seniors. A community crisis fund allowed the project to expand in response to the pandemic. NECC volunteers delivered nutritious five-day food kits to 20-30 households, with an additional 15-20 household picking up food at the NECC office.

NECC delivered 6,692 meals to Webutuck School District students during summer break 2020.Lenny Sutton and teens from the **NECC Summer Youth Employment Program** prepared breakfasts and lunches that volunteers delivered to households twice weekly.

Webutuck teenagers in our **Farm and Food Education Program** worked at the McEnroe Discovery Garden, Rock Steady Farm, and the NECC and Webutuck community gardens as well as helping with the weekly food pantry.

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



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



John Nowak, Farmers Market Manager

The NECC-managed **Millerton Farmers Market** offered produce, pasture-raised meat, fruit, cheese, baked goods, and prepared food from local farmers and producers who use sustainable, chemical/pesticide free, organic, and ethical growing practices. Two teen interns received paid training on how to work with customers, set up/break down the market, and assist vendors. We had an estimated 7,056 visitors for an average of 282 visitors per day.

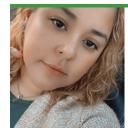
A Holiday Craft Fair was held in December under Covid safety protocols at the Millerton United Methodist Church. Local artisans presented their wares, while musicians played holiday music in a socially distanced, heated tent.





Transportation Program patrons

The service is equipped with a wheelchair-transport minibus and a small fleet of vans. Our part-time driver corps is supported by NECC Transportation Coordinator, Raquel Echevarria. **This year saw 1,867 rides**, of which 1,450 were for people over 60 years old. Rides per community were: Amenia - 205, Dover - 452, Millbrook - 201, Millerton - 358, Pine Plains - 143, Stanfordville - 183. Many of our current trips are for Covid vaccination appointments.



Raquel Echevarria, Transportation Coordinator

NECC facilitates the **Tri-Town Coalition** (TTC), which examines the issue of **affordable housing** in Pine Plains, Amenia, and Millerton. The TTC hosted a virtual forum for 100

participants in September entitled "The Impact of COVID-19 on Rural Housing." NECC, Hudson River Housing in Poughkeepsie, and Grace Episcopal Church in Millbrook are also members.



Nathan Briggs, Community Programs Director

The NECC Transportation Program provides free transportation primarily to senior residents of Pine Plains, Stanford, Washington, Dover Plains, Amenia, and North East - areas where public transportation options are

not available. The program helps riders access vital services, especially medical appointments and food shopping.



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October 1, 2019 - September 30, 2020

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New York State Department of Transportation

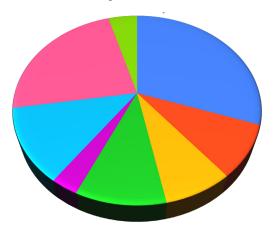
Town of Amenia

Town of Dover Town of North East

OTHER:

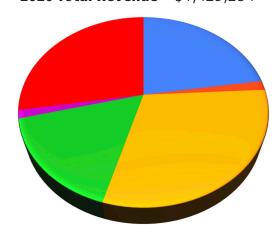
Adopt-A-Family of Millerton The Millbrook Garden Club Millbrook Rotaru Club Millerton Lion's Club Millbrook Tribute Garden

2020 Total Expenses – \$1,429,254



- Youth Programs \$432,855
- Food Access Programs \$126,504
- Family and Senior Support Programs \$109,695
- Transportation Program \$143,334
- Community Events \$43,865
- Fundraising \$179,785
- Management and Administration \$309,268
- Working Capital \$63,566





- Individual Contributions \$332,330
- Fees for Services \$22,707
- Government Contracts \$432,988
- Special Events, Net \$237,363
- Other Income, \$19,564
- Foundation and Corporate Grants \$394,302

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