



ANNUAL REPORT 2022



“NECC is committed to helping those in need and to finding ways to bring people of all ages and backgrounds together.”

Christine Sergent
Executive Director



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.

SCAN HERE
TO DONATE



THE CHALLENGE

As much as we love what living in Dutchess County affords us — beautiful, serene views, walkable downtowns, wonderful farmers markets — it’s impossible not to acknowledge the challenge many in our community face in accessing critical resources. The rural character that draws so many of us to this area also creates several overlapping and interconnected deserts. At North East Community Center, we have identified “Five Deserts” of urgent need: **transportation, food access, housing, childcare, and mental health.** Improving access to services in these areas is vital to creating a functional, healthy community ecosystem. With the help of our supporters, NECC works to face these challenges head-on by building partnerships and embracing innovation.

THE SOLUTION

Over the course of 2022, NECC has made great strides in bridging gaps in access for so many residents who have been isolated by these deserts of scarcity. Consider, for example, the issue of food access. The proximity of our clients to grocery stores or farmers markets impacts how well or even whether a family eats. Not only does NECC provide transportation to food access points, but we also operate a food pantry that includes fresh, nutritious, and local food. For residents in need of additional help, food delivery is available. NECC’s Food Programs are just one part of our wholistic approach to creating a healthy, thriving community. Read through the pages of this report to learn about how we have expanded program offerings to create more opportunities. While there is still much work to do, our momentum is undeniable. We are excited every day by the possibilities at hand — with your continued support we can become still more impactful. The bright future of our community relies on the paths we are forging together.

TOGETHER, WE THRIVE



FOOD PROGRAMS

91,000
Meals
Served

In 2022, the NECC **Food and Supply Pantry** provided groceries to 955 unduplicated adults, seniors, and children, more than doubling our service from 2021. The NECC Food Program distributed groceries for more than 91,000 meals to local residents, including more than 45,000 lbs of fresh produce. NECC was selected as a regional fresh food access hub as part of the Glynwood Center's Food Sovereignty Fund, which supports local farmers growing food for meal programs and food pantries. NECC receives fresh food from partner farms and distributes fresh produce through our own food pantry as well as neighboring pantries in Pine Plains, Amenia, and Dover. In August, the food pantry received a mobile walk-in cooler to increase capacity as a regional fresh food access hub moving into the 2023 growing season.

From June through November, the **Fresh Food Pantry** distributed 440 fresh vegetable boxes, 300 half-gallons of milk, and 300 dozen eggs to partner food pantries in Pine Plains, Amenia, and Dover Plains. NECC provided free nourishing breakfasts and lunches to Webutuck students throughout the summer break. In July and August the **Summer Meals** program served 2,500 meals to youth at a Webutuck Elementary School site and at the NorthEast-Millerton Library. Our **Food Futures** program, with help from Dutchess County SYEP, worked with eight Webutuck students growing food at community gardens and local farms, preparing meals from scratch for our Summer Meals program, and supporting the NECC Food Pantry in distributing fresh groceries to households in need.

NECC Food Programs staff also participated in several regional organizing efforts focused on increasing food security, including the first meeting of the Tri-Corner Nutrition Security Coalition. In October, the USDA awarded NECC a Local Food Promotions Program Planning Grant to conduct a regional assessment aimed at increasing access to fresh local food for low- and middle-income residents.



100%
of Families
Reported Growth
in Literacy

YOUTH PROGRAMS

The NECC **Out-of-School-Time** program (OSTP) operated from January-June for the 2021-2022 school year and September-December for the 2022-2023 school year. For the 2021-2022 school year, OSTP operated two classrooms, Kindergarten-1st grade and 2nd-3rd grade, at Webutuck Elementary School. During this time we served 22 students. For the 2022-2023 school year, we expanded our program by opening a 4th-6th grade classroom at the Eugene Brooks Intermediate School, increasing the population we served to 31 total students. Activities explored concepts of literacy, science, mathematics, health and wellness, and art during different days of the week. The children enjoyed a healthy snack funded through CACFP (Child and Adult Care Food Program) each day. Nearly 80% were enrolled for more than four days per week.

The 2022 **Summer Enrichment** program ran for 5 weeks from July 11 through August 12. We provided full-day programming for 12 students entering grades K-6, of which nearly 80% attended four weeks or more. More than 90% of the Summer Enrichment families enrolled in the NECC OSTP for the upcoming school year.

The NECC **Early Learning Program** — a New York State Office of Children and Family Services licensed daycare center — opened officially on October 17th, 2022. Upon opening, the Early Learning Program served 15 families in the toddler and preschool age groups. Among the 15 families there were: four children in the 18-month to less-than-two-year age range; six children in the two- to three-year range; and five children in the four- to five-year age range. NECC Early Learning Program also participated in CACFP (Child and Adult Care Food Program). We served all enrolled children breakfast, lunch, and an afternoon snack.



TEEN PROGRAMS

Teen Team youth completed a collective 167 hours in service to our local community, including supporting the NECC food pantry, creating valentines for residents at Noble Horizons, promoting mental health awareness, and volunteering at the NECC winter coat giveaway. Teen Team partnered with several community organizations for our educational and recreational events, including the Ancram Opera House, the Wassaic Project, the Four Brothers Drive In Theater, NAMI-Mid Hudson, and Sky High Farms.

In 2022 the NECC **Teen Jobs** program, consisting of 26 high schoolers, collectively completed 2,870 hours of experience across 14 local worksites. The teens attended a training on public speaking hosted by the Ancram Opera House, as well as a resume writing workshop hosted by our partners at Northeast Dutchess Immigrant Services.





18,835
Miles Travelled
in Rides
for Seniors

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

NECC partnered with the Town of North East to secure grant funding from the Foundation for Community Health for the creation of a Housing Toolkit to facilitate housing discussions and decision making at the local community level.

For Earth Day 2022, community volunteers came together with NECC staff members for a Community Clean Up Day at the Center that resulted in a more inviting community space in the playground, backyard, and along the Rail Trail. The Hispanic Heritage Festival in September was again held in the Community Center's backyard and had an increase in attendance of 33% from 2021.

The **Transportation** program added two brand new minivans to the fleet and for the first time added full-time driver positions. Despite continuing to restrict passenger capacities to protect the safety of our clients, the NECC Transportation Program increased year-over-year service by 11.2% in 2022.

The NECC **Farmers Market** partnered with Berkshire Agricultural Ventures to increase the SNAP/EBT matching program to \$30 per transaction, which led to significantly increased use for the second half of the year. Local community organizations utilizing the Community Table market space included the NorthEast-Millerton Library, Project Hope, Sunday in the Country Food Drive, Webutuck High School, Indian Rock Schoolhouse, NR Broadband Access, and Grow Against Poverty. Finally, the Market continued to employ market interns from NECC's Community Partnership with Schools and Business Program.



FAMILY PROGRAMS

\$291,103
in Total Income
Tax Returns

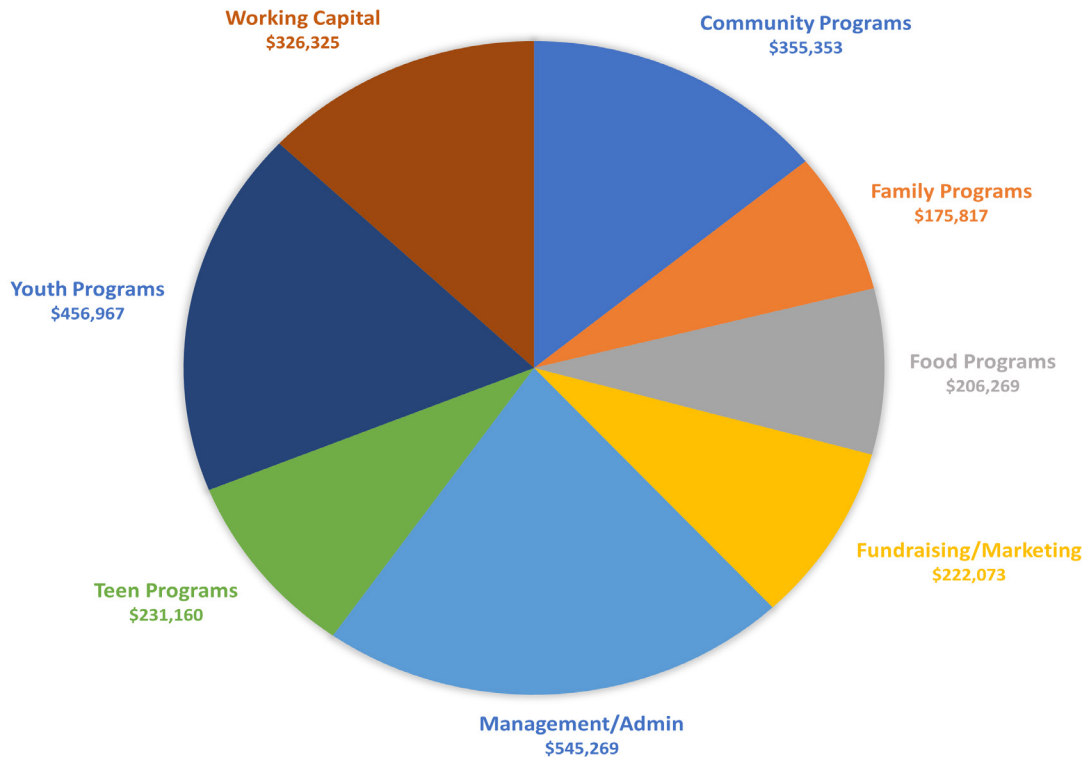
NECC's **NED Corps** program served 140 households in 2022, helping more than 40 households with eviction prevention services, rental arrears payments, tenants' rights education, and legal service referrals. NED Corps expanded its services with the addition of a Family Resource Assistant. We now offer bilingual case management services and provide services at the Pine Plains Library and Amenia Town Hall.

Our **School Supply Drive** collected \$2,500 worth of supplies and distributed them to students and staff in the Webutuck and Pine Plains school districts. We also awarded 35 summer camp scholarships to children for an enriching summer experience and to aid in making childcare affordable for families. Our **Annual Coat Giveaway** provided 250 coats (100 more coats than last year), 50 hat and mittens sets, and more than 30 snow pants free to the community. We also opened a **Medical Loan Closet** with generous donations from the Presbyterian Church of Millerton. We now offer medical equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, grabbers, and a hospital bed to community members in need.

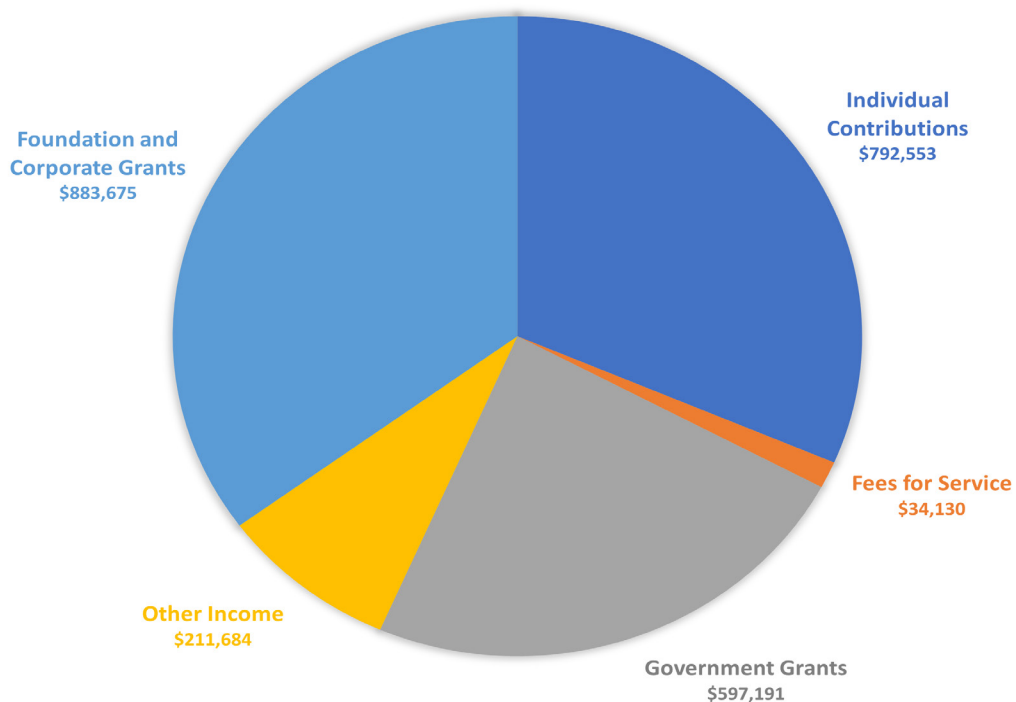
In partnership with the United Way of the Dutchess-Orange region, we awarded 30 households a \$50 credit on their utility account. NECC was once again an **AARP Tax Site** in 2022. One hundred thirty-one tax returns were completed for a total combined refund of \$291,103.

FINANCIALS

2022 EXPENSES



2022 REVENUES



Total 2022 Budget (Provisional) - \$2,519,233

PARTNERSHIPS & GROWTH

\$550,000

Individual Giving

These significant contributions included donations and auction items from the 2022 Chef and Farmer Brunch as well as donor contributions to the 2022 Annual Appeal.

\$102,000

In Kind Gifts

2022 In Kind Gifts included refrigeration units for the Food Pantry, books for the 4th - 6th grade Out-of-School-Time Program, and hundreds of new shoes for area families.

\$200,000


Estate of Nancy Perkins


An unexpected but extremely important bequest helped to ensure the North East Community Center could weather changing funding sources during a year when we were needed more than ever.

Social Media

We have reached more clients, families, and donors than ever before.

 **51,664**
Social Media Reach
+681.2%

 **222,809**
Impressions from Ads
+772.5%

 **5,226**
Unique Profile Visits
+309.1%

P.O. Box 35 | 51 South Center Street
Millerton, NY 12546 | (518) 789-4259

Address Service Requested



PLEASE SUPPORT NECC

A gift to North East Community Center supports the programs and services highlighted in this report. Your contribution will strengthen the community in which we live and help support those who rely on our services.

To make a tax-deductible donation, please go to:

www.neccmillerton.org/donate

Thank you!