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New Ground Staff

Shannon Boyle, LCSW	Executive Director
Evol Sweeney, M.A.	Associate Program Director
Jemma R Binder, LMSW	Social Worker
Salina Barnao, LMSW	Social Worker
Mohanne Charles, MSW	Social Worker
Cynthia Panzarella	Resource & Internal Operations Coordinator
Jo-Ann Hertzman B.A., B.F.A.	Senior Grant Specialist & Community Affairs Liaison
Brianna Schiotis	Office Assistant

Donations

Thank you to the following corporations and foundations for your support:

Long Island Elite	Tutoring Program
Astoria Federal Savings	Reading All-Stars
Capital One N.A.	Special Memories Program
Bar Association of Nassau County (WE CARE Fund)	Tutoring Program
Turnaround Management Association	General Support
The Slomo and Cindy Silvan Foundation, Inc.	Reading All-Stars
Newsday Charities, a McCormick Foundation fund	Reading All-Stars
Horace and Amy Hagedorn Fund	General Support

New Ground Receives Grant from the Slomo and Cindy Silvan Foundation, Inc.

New Ground recently received a grant of \$8,300 from the Slomo and Cindy Silvan Foundation, Inc. This is the second year in which the Silvan Foundation is supporting our Reading All-Stars Program.

Newsday Charities, a McCormick Foundation Fund, Awards Grant to New Ground



New Ground was awarded a \$25,000 grant through Newsday Charities, a McCormick Foundation fund. This grant is in support of our Reading All-Stars Program. Photo taken at Newsday Charities Grant Reception. From left to right: Shannon Boyle, Executive Director, New Ground; Jo-Ann Hertzman, Senior Grants Specialist & Community Affairs Liaison, New Ground; Dale Cole, Community Affairs Project Manager, Newsday; and Paul Fleishman, VP of Public Affairs, Newsday.

Astoria Federal Savings 14th Annual Kids Tools For School Program



New Ground received over a hundred backpacks and much-needed school supplies thanks to Astoria Federal Savings' 14th Annual Kids Tools for School program. The supplies helped children and adults in our program be better prepared for the academic year. Packing school supplies at Astoria Federal's Supply Drive, left to right: Nassau County Girl Scout volunteers, Jo-Ann Hertzman, Senior Grants Specialist & Community Affairs Liaison, New Ground and Rebecca Martinez, Assistant Community Relations Manager, Astoria Federal Savings.

Special Memories Acknowledgement

New Ground would like to thank the following supporters for their contribution to our Special Memories, Adopt a Family Holiday program:

Addie Hampton	Carmela and Sal Villani
Doe Club of New Hyde Park	United Church of RVC
Dorothy & Garret Zizzo	Total Restoration (Dennis Lombardi)
St. Aidan's Church	Narayana & Kathleen Byagari
Emmett Agoglia	Ed & Mary Thomas
Jim & Mary Jo Cowan	The Baydala Families

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NEW GROUND INC. 211 FULTON AVENUE, HEMPSTEAD NY, 11550



Message from Executive Director Shannon Boyle



Just as there is a cycle of homelessness and poverty, we have a cycle here at New Ground. While one of our current families prepares to graduate from the Long Term Housing Program and move into independent housing, we have already started to review candidates for this apartment. Those who are currently being assessed for approval have been on our wait list anxiously awaiting the opportunity to put their lives on track once and for all.

There are many families and veterans on Long Island who find themselves homeless and in need of assistance. Reasons for their current homelessness may include minimal income due to a lack of education, financial hardship caused by illness or other setback and a lack of a support network. They apply to New Ground knowing that with our comprehensive services they can make permanent and lasting changes to keep themselves and their family from ever having to be homeless again. Through our intensive Social Work services and Education Programs our families and veterans overcome the many barriers that previously hindered them from living successfully and independently. This has led them to achieving higher education, securing significantly better salaries, paying down their debt and increasing their credit score. All this is accomplished while ensuring that their children are doing well academically to prevent them from repeating their parents' cycle of homelessness.

The families and veterans of New Ground experience every possible emotion as they progress through the program: joy when they take steps toward their goals, frustration when they experience a setback and anticipation as they approach the ultimate success of independent housing. All involved with New Ground celebrate the triumphs of every family and veteran. But before the dust even settles from the outgoing successful resident, we must shift focus to the family or veteran next in line. We must select a new family/veteran with their own goals for future self-sufficiency as well as the motivation necessary to succeed with our help. So, the cycle of New Ground continues, a cycle of life-changing opportunities and success stories. With your help our positive outcomes are a reality.

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF HOMELESSNESS FOR OVER 20 YEARS

The 19th Annual New Ground Golf Outing and Dinner



Mitchell Pally
Chief Executive Officer
Long Island Builders
Institute

New Ground will host its 19th Annual Golf Outing and Dinner on Monday, May 19 at the Cherry Valley Club, located in Garden City. This year's honoree is Stony Brook resident, Mitchell Pally, who serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the Long Island Builders Institute (LIBI). LIBI is the largest home building trade association in New York State, representing all parts of the home construction industry. Mr. Pally is also the Suffolk County representative to the Board of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority and is an adjunct professor of Political Science at Suffolk County Community College. He currently serves as the president of the Three Villages Soccer Club and was instrumental in the development of the Three Village Soccer Park on the Stony Brook University Campus; the finest club operated facility on Long Island. New Ground will recognize Mr. Pally for his ongoing efforts to make Long Island a better place to work and live. The event will be co-chaired by Larry Davis and Ira Prager, from Davis & Prager, P.C. in Patchogue. The day includes brunch, golf, competitions on the course, cocktail hour, Chinese auction and dinner. Your participation will help to raise much needed funds which will benefit the homeless families and veterans in New Ground's Program.

For information on golf registration, dinner attendance, grand raffle (1 week stay in a 2 bedroom condo at the Legends Golf and Resort in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina with round trip airfare for 2) and sponsorship opportunities, please call 516-564-4764 ext. 125.

We Need Your Help



To assist our families and veterans in achieving their goals, you can make a difference in the lives of those we serve:

- ◆ **Organize a drive:** decide on the type of drive you would like to host; food pantry items, hygiene items, or household cleaning supplies. Coordinate with your classmates, coworkers, neighbors and family to collect items to benefit New Ground children, parents and veterans.
- ◆ **Support an Event:** participate in our golf outing or one of our upcoming events to help raise much needed funds to support our critical programs and services.
- ◆ **Volunteer:** get involved by joining one of our committees or our Young Professionals Board. There are opportunities for all ages.
- ◆ **Adopt a Family:** whether for the year, one season, or the holidays, we have many families and veterans that can use your support. We will provide you with specific wish lists for your family or veteran and updates on how they are doing in the program.

For further information on fundraising, volunteering, supporting any of our programs or to help New Ground protect the environment by receiving this newsletter in electronic format please contact: Cpanzarella@newground.org.

Save the Date

New Ground 14th Annual
Groundbreakers' Celebration

Thursday, November 20, 2014
6:30 PM

Carlyle on the Green Bethpage State Park



Mission Statement

We maintain that the key to eliminating the problem of homelessness is not only to provide short-term assistance to homeless families and veterans, but to work at eliminating its root causes so these individuals can become, and remain, self-supporting. We identify, and then respond to, those-at-risk with programs that provide educational, technical, and emotional support. This empowers these families and veterans to function independently. Working in collaboration with institutions in the public and private sector, NEW GROUND is able to involve existing agencies to better respond to the growing needs and challenges of Long Island's homeless population.

Associate Program Director Evol Sweeney

Evol Sweeney started at New Ground seven years ago as our Education Coordinator. In this role Evol coordinated all of our Education Programs: Reading All-Stars, Tutoring, Education Assistance, Education Advocacy and Academic Scholarships. Evol oversees all Reading Program and subject specific tutors. She attends school meetings alongside parents to advocate for all New Ground children as well as for any homeless child in four neighboring school districts. Ms. Sweeney's role has continued to expand beyond our education-related programs to now include the supervision of the application and screening process and case management services to our JumpStart Program (JSP) families. The JSP offers similar education and social work services to families on the wait list for the Long Term Housing Program, allowing them to begin to work on their goals before moving into a LTHP unit.

To reflect the scope of all she does, Evol was recently promoted to the position of New Ground's Associate Program Director. Evol is committed to seeing every child and adult at New Ground succeed. By continually attending training and workshops she is able to provide the residents of New Ground with the most current and relevant resources available to assist them in achieving their goals.

Education programs at New Ground include:

- ◆ **Reading All-Stars Program:** New Ground offers one-on-one tutorial assistance in reading and writing. A personal computer program is developed for each student to enhance their fluency, comprehension, vocabulary and phonetic awareness. The program is staffed by a master's level reading specialist, licensed teachers and tutors. To address the literacy needs of families residing in Long Term Housing units located in neighboring towns the Reading All-Stars program takes place at our office in Hempstead. For those living in Long Term Housing units farther away, the At Home Computer Enhanced Reading All-Stars Program was developed.
- ◆ **Tutoring Program:** This service is provided to any child, parent or veteran needing assistance in a particular subject. Tutoring may take place in the family's home, at a local library or at the New Ground office. New Ground staff members ensure coordination of tutor efforts with the teachers and other school personnel already working with the student to ensure the best possible outcome.
- ◆ **Education Assistance:** This program provides the necessary ancillary items our children require to be as well prepared throughout the school year as their permanently housed peers. Items include but are not limited to: school supplies, uniforms, after-school activity fees, SAT study courses and college application expenses, musical instrument rental and fees for school trips and sports.
- ◆ **Education Advocacy:** Ms. Sweeney, along with the social work staff, assists our residents and homeless parents in neighboring districts to navigate the school system to secure assistance and services under the McKinney-Vento Law. The McKinney-Vento Law protects the education rights of homeless students. Additionally, they accompany parents to school meetings, draft letters on their behalf and place calls to school administration whenever necessary.
- ◆ **Academic Scholarship:** This program provides tuition assistance for high school students living in underserved school districts to attend academically proficient schools, helping to ensure that they will graduate and pursue college and other higher education options. As financial aid does not always cover the full costs of higher education we also provide tuition assistance when needed to assist our adults pursuing vocational training and college degrees.



Left to right: Salina Barnao, New Ground Social Worker; Mohanne Charles, New Ground Social Worker; Evol Sweeney, Associate Program Director; Jemma Binder, New Ground Social Worker