

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

There are many ways in which you can help change the lives of homeless Veterans and families struggling on Long Island. Please consider the following options if you would like to make a lasting impact:

- Make a Donation today
- Increase my gift through my company's matching gift program
- Volunteer
- Make a Stock/ Investment transfer
- Host a food, clothing, or supply drive
- Make a gift in honor or memory of a loved one
- Include New Ground in my estate planning
- Gifts of Appreciated Securities
- Make a restricted gift to a specific project or program
- Donate a vehicle
- Donate a property
- Naming rights opportunities
- Gifts of Life Insurance
- Corporate sponsorships for New Ground special events

Call for more information and help change lives now and for generations to come!
(516) 564-4764

or visit our website at www.newground.org

Are you looking for ways to give back this Thanksgiving and Holiday Season? Adopt a New Ground family and make the Season brighter for a family in need.

ADOPT A FAMILY

THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



Thanksgiving: donations may include turkeys, roasts, hams, fresh produce and gift cards to local supermarkets.

Holiday Season: Let us know what size family you are interested in adopting and we will send you a wish list complete with their age, size, gender and wishes.

For more information, contact:
(516) 564-4764 x125 or
info@newground.org

DONATIONS

Special thanks to the following corporations, organizations and foundations for their support

Capital One	Veterans Program
Jericho – Brookville Lions Club	Tutoring Program
Natalie Bailey & Herbert J. Kirschner Foundation	Education Programs
Nursing Sisters of the Sick & Poor	Education Programs
Pine Hollow Country Club	General Support
Saint Aidan Parish, Williston Park	Back to School Support
United Church of Rockville Centre	Holiday Support
Valley National Bank	Education Programs
Veterans Support Foundation	Veterans Program

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STAFF

Shannon Boyle, LCSW	Executive Director	Salina Barnao, LMSW	Social Worker
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Diane Serenita	Director of Development & Events	Glenis Larios	Office Assistant

SAVE THE DATE

Heroes for the Homeless 5K Walk/Run	November 4, 2018
18th Annual Groundbreakers' Celebration Gala	November 8, 2018

NEWs from the GROUND

Fall 2018 Newsletter



New Ground Inc.
70 Acorn Lane
Levittown, NY 11756
www.NewGround.org

“Compañeros take heart - though your roots be torn, they will grow again in NEW GROUND...”
Sanctuary: The Spirit of Harriet Tubman



FABULOUS HANDBAGS + SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY = GREAT SUCCESS!

With over 250 guests in attendance, our 5th Annual Designer Handbag Bingo was an incredible evening raising over \$25,000 to support New Ground's Veterans and families. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to event Co-Chairs, Sheila McDougal and Jenny Tzakas-Polizotto as well as all the volunteers and supporters who helped to make the event a huge success. We also could not have raised such significant funds without the support of our generous sponsors: Marianne Maresca Finn, Kenneth Rice, Pamela Rice, and Safe Care Home Care Agency. We hope to see you all again next year!



MISSION STATEMENT

We maintain that the key to breaking the cycle 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.

NEW GROUND INC. ANNOUNCES GROUNDBREAKERS' CELEBRATION HONOREES



Joseph Burns, VP, Valley National Bank



Kay McKiernan



John P. Clarke, Esq.

New Ground will host their Annual Groundbreakers' Celebration Gala on Thursday, November 8, 2018 at the Garden City Hotel in Garden City, NY. Currently in its 18th year, the Groundbreakers' Celebration is the agency's largest fundraising event and has raised over \$2 million since its inception. The evening begins with a cocktail hour at 6:30 PM followed by dinner with silent auction, grand raffle and raffle baskets throughout the evening. A Color Guard presentation will be made by the Marine Corp. and there will be a special performance by the Freeport High School Choir. This year, New Ground will present awards to three honorees.

Valley National Bank and Joseph Burns, Senior Vice President will receive the Groundbreakers' Award for their ongoing commitment to see our Veterans and families succeed. Valley National Bank has over 230 branch locations and is committed to providing the most convenient service, the latest in product innovations and an experienced and knowledgeable staff with a high priority on friendly customer service. Joseph Burns is a 29-year veteran of the banking industry and currently serves as Senior Vice President and Commercial Banking Division Head at Valley National Bank managing the bank's commercial banking operation in Brooklyn, Queens, Nassau, and Suffolk counties. In addition to serving on the Board of Directors at New Ground, Joe was also a past Board Member for the Real Estate Practitioners Institute; Robert Morris Associates; Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Youth Organization; and Malverne Little League. Joe Burns along with Valley National Bank have demonstrated great dedication to New Ground's mission, assisting with our organizational growth, which allows us to serve an even greater number of Veteran and family households.

Kay McKiernan, New Ground Advisory Board Member and resident of Garden City will receive the Máiréad M. Barrett Founder's Award. This award is presented to individuals who have given their time, talent and/or expertise to benefit New Ground residents. With her background in education as the former Assistant Principal at Maria Regina High School (now Kellenberg Memorial) and Mathematics Professor at Nassau Community College, Kay has been a volunteer tutor to the children in New Ground's Reading Program since 2010. She has also helped to foster a strong partnership between New Ground and Habitat for Humanity Nassau County during her time there as Board President and Chairperson for the Family Selection Committee from 1990 - 2010.

Williston Park resident, **John (Jack) P. Clarke, Esq.** will receive the Thomas Whalen Memorial Award for exemplifying a similar spirit and passion for New Ground as Tom Whalen had done for so many years. Jack has had a lifelong career with St. John's University, teaching Law and serving as the Chair of the Department of Law at The Peter J. Tobin College of Business. Now an Advisory Board Member, his journey with New Ground began in 2006 and he served on the Board of Directors from 2007 through December 2018. During his extensive history with New Ground, Jack has been a longtime advocate and supporter of the Veterans and families participating in the agency's programs.

Co-Chairs of the Gala include Matt & Marguerita DeLuca, Advisory Board Members and residents of Lloyd Neck as well as Board Member and Bayville resident, Chris Salute.

"Our Veterans and families are blessed to have these three individuals in their corner as they work so hard to achieve their goals and secure a brighter future," said Shannon Boyle, Executive Director. "It is through their generosity and support that we can continue to battle the issue of homelessness on Long Island. We are thrilled to celebrate their tremendous efforts to help those most in need at our Groundbreakers' Gala on November 8th. We hope you will consider joining us and recognize such special individuals."

For information about event tickets or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Diane Serenita, Director of Development & Events at (516) 564-4764 ext. 125 or events@newground.org.

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHANNON BOYLE

The past months have been busy for us at New Ground, starting with the opening of our first residential property following renovations in Huntington, housing two homeless Veteran families who are participating in all program services as part of our Long Term Housing Program. We held a well-attended Ribbon Cutting event for the home in May, welcoming many of our supporters, as well as volunteers and donors who helped renovate the property, and local politicians.



L to R: Grant Havasy of Blue & Gold Homes, Congressman Thomas Suozzi, Town of Huntington Supervisor Chad Lupinacci, New Ground Executive Director Shannon Boyle, and Town of Hempstead Councilman Dennis Dunne (center) cut the official ribbon for New Ground's home for homeless Veteran families surrounded by various community and business partners, volunteers and donors.

New Ground has secured grant funding through New York State to assist with covering the costs of our services to the two Veteran families in Huntington. This five-year Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI) grant is the first direct state funding for our organization. As we work to expand and continue to serve homeless families through our very successful Long Term Housing Program, we are now focused on a single family home in Nassau County that was recently donated to us for this purpose. This summer we applied again for an ESSHI grant and just received approval for this support to homeless families that will reside in the home. We have also applied to New York State for funding to conduct renovations on the home to be handicapped accessible and meet current housing codes. As we await word, we will be utilizing groups of volunteers as we did in Huntington to ready this property for the renovations to come.

We are also pursuing other housing prospects to help more of those in need on Long Island. With the escalating price of rental housing and limited units available, working families and Veterans simply cannot afford to live here, and the slightest issue or challenge can send them into homelessness. We are seeking additional properties where our families can reside as they participate in our programs and services to rebuild their lives and secure future stable housing. We ask for your assistance with this! Please contact us at 516-564-4764 with any housing opportunities you know of that may match our model and help us to break the cycle of homelessness and poverty for an ever-expanding number of families and Veterans.

BOOK DRIVE BY SUFFOLK SOUTH SHORE LIONS CLUB

Critical for our students to succeed is to remain on top of their academics during the long Summer break. Our Reading All-Stars Program operated one evening a week for a 7-week summer session once again this year, providing individual tutoring and the online reading program. Students took home age-appropriate summer reading materials thanks to a large donation of books provided by **Suffolk South Shore Lions Club**.

(Pictured L to R:) Joe Burns, Senior Vice President, Division Head Commercial Lending, Valley National Bank; Bonnie Dougherty, Senior Vice President, Senior Credit Officer, Valley National Bank; Shannon Boyle, Executive Director of New Ground



HEROES FOR THE HOMELESS 5K WALK/RUN

Join us at New Ground's 1st Annual Heroes for the Homeless 5K Walk/Run. The event will take place on November 4, 2018 in Eisenhower Park. Check-in is at 7:30 am and the walk/run will begin at 9:00 am.

The event features a professional pre-race warm-up & stretch, a professional announcer, live DJ, one of a kind New Ground event gear, and just an amazing time with friends, family, neighbors, co-workers and other charitable individuals like yourself. So, grab a friend, join a team, or make your own team and get ready to put the FUN in fundraising!

For more information, contact: (516) 564-4764 x125 or events@newground.org
To register or donate, visit: <https://newground5k.greatfeats.com>

** Reminder: November 4th is Daylight Savings Time**



NEW GROUND STUDENTS ARE BACK TO SCHOOL!

The beginning of September saw our students returning to school with excitement and fully prepared to tackle their new classes and grades. We extend our appreciation to the many friends of New Ground who provided the much needed school supplies ensuring every child entered their school this year with a new backpack filled with all the items requested by their teacher. Thank you Capital One Bank, St. Aidan Parish, and Nassau BOCES for contributing these essential items for this school year!

To kick off the summer break, we celebrated many successes in June with 100% of our school age children graduating or moving up to the next grade level. We hosted our first 'End of School Year Barbeque' at our Levittown office, taking full advantage of our new space and proximity to a park and green space for games and activities. Parents and children from our Long Term Housing, JumpStart and Veterans Programs participating in our afterschool Reading All-Stars Program attended and enjoyed hamburgers, hotdogs, salads, ice-cream treats and a celebratory cake recognizing our graduating students from high school, middle school and elementary school.

With education being a critical piece of our work to break the cycle of homelessness, we are looking forward to all that is still to come for the new school year. We have parents attending GED and College Programs accompanying their children to our afterschool Reading All-Stars Program to receive tutoring of their own so they too can advance their education and generate new career opportunities for a brighter future.

NEW GROUND ATTENDS CHARITY BREAKFAST AT PINE HOLLOW COUNTRY CLUB

Pine Hollow Country Club in East Norwich, NY recently selected New Ground as one of the charity recipients at their annual breakfast event, receiving a donation of \$2,000. Each charity recipient had the chance to share their stories and impact on the Long Island community and network together to share resources and information. New Ground was honored to be part of such a special event and is grateful to the Pine Hollow Country Club, members and the Charity Committee for this generous donation in support of the Veterans and families we serve.

