

NEWS from the GROUND

Spring 2024 Newsletter



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

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF
HOMELESSNESS

*we educate.
we empower.*

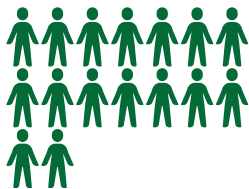
Empowering Long Island's Veterans and families to function independently for generations to come.



MISSION STATEMENT:

We maintain that the key to breaking the cycle of homelessness is not only to provide short-term assistance to homeless Veterans and families, 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.

OUR 2023 IMPACT AND RESULTS



16 VETERANS & FAMILIES

moved into stable, permanent housing and successfully ended homelessness



22 HOUSEHOLDS

maintained stable housing despite significant challenges that threatened a return to homelessness



561

individuals served



252

households served



\$45K+

total debts paid off

28TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT & DINNER

Monday May 20, 2024 | Cherry Valley Club: 28 Rockaway Avenue Garden City, NY



Breaking the Cycle of Homelessness for Veterans and Families on Long Island for over 33 Years

New Ground will host its 28th Annual Golf Tournament & Dinner on Monday, May 20, 2024, at Cherry Valley Club in Garden City, NY. Participants can look forward to a day of fundraising, food, and friendly competition while supporting New Ground's Veterans and families. The day kicks off with registration and brunch at 10:30am, shotgun start at 12:30pm, and cocktail hour, dinner, and raffle prizes in the evening.



PROUDLY HONORING: Michael Farrell, LDI Connect

Michael Farrell boasts over three decades of dedicated service with the LDI Connect team, where he spearheads innovative office technology solutions nationwide. At the heart of LDI Connect's corporate mission lies a commitment to nurturing strong relationships and actively supporting local communities. Michael exemplifies this mission through his unwavering support for Veterans and their families as well as other community involvement. We hope you will consider joining us in recognizing Michael for his enduring dedication and compassion.

WAYS TO PARTICIPATE



BECOME A SPONSOR

Gain exposure for your company while knowing you are helping Veterans and families in need.



JOIN US FOR DINNER

Enjoy cocktails, dinner, raffles, auction prizes, and more with us in person on May 20.



TAKE A TOURNAMENT BOOKLET AD

Share a congratulatory message or simply spread the word about your business!



ENTER TO WIN OUR GRAND RAFFLE

Enter for a chance to win roundtrip airline tickets with JetBlue!

Scan the QR code above, or visit bit.ly/nggolf24 for event information and registration.

DESIGNER HANDBAG



WE HAD A "BINGO" BALL!

Over 250 guests gathered in April for an unforgettable evening at New Ground's 9th Annual Designer Handbag Bingo! The event was a mix of laughter, delectable food, refreshing drinks, coveted designer handbags, lively balloon pops, and exciting raffles. A heartfelt thank you goes out to our enthusiastic bingo players, generous sponsors, kind-hearted donors, and our dedicated event chairs, Sheila McDougal from Rockville Centre and Jenny Tzakas-Polizotto from Garden City, for their invaluable contributions to the evening's success. We promise that next year's event will be even more spectacular! Stay tuned for updates on our 10th Annual Designer Handbag Bingo in spring 2025 by visiting newground.org and subscribing to our email list.

COMMUNITY GIVING ACROSS ALL SEASONS!

Splashes of Hope



New Ground's conference room received a major make-over from our friends at Splashes of Hope! A multi-purpose space hosting board and committee meetings, twice weekly afterschool Reading Program, client interviews, and more, our conference room has never been more welcoming. We are proud to be the recipient of such a wonderful and interactive piece of art. This custom I-Spy Mural truly adds a "Splash of Hope" for our Veterans, parents, and children who enter the space.

"THANK YOU Splashes of Hope! Having a warm, inviting space is critical for our Veterans, parents, and children coming from difficult circumstances, staying in shelters, and struggling with homelessness." - Shannon Boyle, Executive Director

Slice Out Hunger



New Ground's Reading & Tutoring Program celebrated National Pizza day in style! Slice Out Hunger partnered with Vincenzo's Pizzeria of Levittown to provide 30 pizza pies for our students and parents. After a Pizza Party Celebration in our office, families were sent home with their own personal pies! It was a day filled with not just pizza, but also with love, laughter, and a shared appreciation for the simple joys that bring us all together. It is always an honor to be supported by the generous business owners in our own backyard. Thank you for providing our children with a delicious hot meal and an opportunity to enjoy it with their tutors and New Ground staff.

Nerds That Care



New York-based IT experts and cyber specialists, Nerds That Care, recently organized a tremendous Easter Basket Drive showcasing their commitment to supporting the local community. Employees dedicated their efforts to collecting items and assembling over 60 Easter Baskets, filled with joy and holiday essentials for New Ground's children. This initiative not only spread the spirit of Spring, but also brought pleasure to many who often do not receive such holiday treats because of tight budgets. We are so grateful to Nerds That Care for your dedication to making a difference! Your thoughtfulness embodies the true essence of compassion and generosity.

New Ground Named Bronze Level Partner of the 2024 TCS New York City Marathon

26.2 Miles. 5 Boroughs. 1 Finish Line.

New Ground is taking the city by storm once again! We are honored to continue our partnership with the New York Road Runners, and are excited to embark on the 26.2 mile journey for a second year. Team New Ground consists of a dynamic group of individuals all dedicated to breaking the cycle of homelessness...one mile at a time.

"Imagine the difference we can make together, assisting, providing a safe place to call home, and the resources needed to get back on their feet. Your contribution could be the lifeline that a Veteran or a local family desperately needs."
- Gustavo Marval, Team New Ground Athlete



OFFICIAL
CHARITY PARTNER

tcs
**NEW YORK CITY
MARATHON**

Interested in supporting our runners on their race to the finish line?
Visit fundraise.givesmart.com/vf/Run4NG or scan the QR code to donate today.



A Special Message from Executive Director, Shannon Boyle, LCSW

NEW GROUND'S EXPANSION CONTINUES!

We remain dedicated to helping as many struggling Long Islanders as possible. This spring New Ground is growing our team to ensure the JumpStart Program consistently serves **over 50 households at a time**.

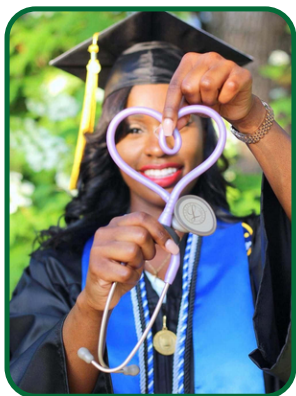
Earlier this year, New Ground received higher than expected income from our affordable housing development in Patchogue. We instantly knew we wanted to put this toward helping more of our neighbors most in need. Thus we are utilizing this to fund another fulltime Social Worker. As more Veterans and families grapple with homelessness, we have added more than 55 households to our waitlist for this program in just six months. Another Social Worker allows more of these waiting children, parents and Veterans to immediately access our **life-changing services** to overcome the barriers preventing them from securing and maintaining stable housing.

Long Island's homeless are unique- they are often invisible, residing temporarily in shelters and motels, camping in wooded areas, or doubled up with friends and family. A primary reason for this housing instability is a lack of rental housing, and specifically affordable units for households earning lower incomes.

Did you know that many of Long Island's homeless are working? They have income to cover some expenses but even at \$20 - \$25/ hour, they do not earn enough to meet the high rent costs here. And after many years of struggling to get by, many have poor credit scores negatively impacting their chances with landlords. New Ground's services address all of these areas – providing our clients with a hand up instead of a hand out to help create their lasting success. There are many like Ivy, whose story appears below, that deserve the opportunity to utilize all New Ground has to offer to achieve their hopes and dreams.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our work and made these successes possible!

CONGRATULATIONS IVY FOR ACHIEVING ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS!



Ivy* is a single mother working with New Ground for several years. She developed a passion for nursing when her son, James*, was born; inspired by a particular nurse. She saw nursing as a means of providing for herself and her child as well as caring for others. After learning she was pregnant, Ivy became homeless when her family put her out. With New Ground's help, she first completed a Certified Nursing Assistant program and then graduated from Nassau Community College with an Associate Degree, all while working two jobs to provide for her son. Despite working, she did not earn enough to afford rent. She began a Bachelor of Science Nursing program at a Long Island college and has successfully maintained grades above 3.2. In addition to her educational success, Ivy has diligently addressed James' academics especially when learning challenges were diagnosed. He attends New Ground's Reading & Tutoring Program and was named student of the month twice already this year. Ivy graduates this Spring and after years of hard work, she will command a salary that will allow her to afford a new life and a safe, stable home for her and her son.

**Names have been changed to protect client confidentiality*

"I am truly in awe of Ivy's progress over the years. Her dedication and drive to succeed is an inspiration for us all, and I am lucky to have been a witness to her journey. All of us here at New Ground can't wait to see what she accomplishes next."
- Evol Sweeney, New Ground Associate Program Director

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*Past President

YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR IMPACT.

LEARN HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED.



TRADITIONAL GIFTS

Make a donation to support a specific program that is meaningful to you, or donate in honor of a loved one.



BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

Increase your impact on New Ground's Veterans and families for as little as the cost of your morning coffee.



HOST YOUR OWN FUNRAISER

Create your own fundraiser with New Ground's Peer-to-Peer fundraising page, or collect in-kind donations.

Visit newground.org/ways-to-give to learn more about how you can support Veterans and families experiencing homelessness on Long Island.

PLANNED GIVING

Create a meaningful way to honor your relationship with New Ground that will yield significant tax advantages and financial rewards. By making a bequest through your will or trust, or naming New Ground as a beneficiary of other assets, you will make a lasting impact on Veterans and families in need and create your own legacy of support. A consultation with an attorney and/ or tax advisor is typically required.



RETIREMENT PLANS



WILLS OR LIVING TRUSTS



STOCKS



REAL ESTATE

If you are interested in supporting New Ground, contact us at 516-564-4764 x125 or visit newground.org

STAY TUNED FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

May 20, 2024: 28th Annual Golf Tournament & Dinner

August 2024: Rob's Ride - 24 on the Boards

November 14, 2024: 24th Annual Groundbreakers Gala

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR UPDATES AND MORE



@NewGroundInc

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Join us in welcoming the newest members of the New Ground Board of Directors, Julie Signorille-Browne of Flagstar, and Michael Webb, Esq. of Farrell Fritz, PC!



Julie Signorille-Browne
Flagstar

With more than 30 years of experience in financial services and M&A integration, Julie joined New York Community Bank (now Flagstar) in 2021, and serves as Senior Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. In this role, she is responsible for all areas of operations, including Retail/Commercial Deposit and Lending, Corporate Real Estate, Sourcing and Vendor Management, Technology and Human Resources along with the Enterprise Program Management Office. She is active in the Long Island community, serving on the Ladies Auxiliary group for the Wilson Ritch Post 432 of the American Legion and as an honorary member of the Setauket Fire Department. Julie is the executive sponsor of the Veterans ERG at Flagstar.



Michael Webb, Esq.
Farrell Fritz, PC

Michael is a real estate lawyer representing clients in a broad array of commercial transactions, including acquisitions, dispositions, 1031 exchanges, financings, economic development, and contract and lease negotiations. Michael's practice encompasses all stages of the deal cycle - including structuring, negotiating, and documenting commercial real estate and finance transactions, as well as diligence review of commercial leases, commercial real estate titles, and surveys. In addition to his work with New Ground, Michael is involved in Half Hollow Hills Little League, and has numerous accolades, including ProBono Partnership Outstanding Volunteer 2017 and New York Real Estate Journal Ones to Watch, Community Work 2022.



Devin Kulka, CEO
The Kulka Group

SAVE THE DATE: 24TH ANNUAL GROUNDBREAKERS GALA

Join us on Thursday, November 14th, at the Garden City Hotel for an evening of celebration as we mark the 24th Annual Groundbreakers Gala hosted by New Ground. This year, we are honored to present the prestigious Groundbreakers Award to Devin Kulka, CEO of The Kulka Group. Devin and his dedicated team are pivotal partners in New Ground's first major development project, the Grove in Patchogue, and he is committed to expanding access to affordable housing across Long Island. Since taking over the family business at the young age of 26, Devin set a tone of integrity and growth for the next 50 Years of the Kulka Group. His vision will transform 5 decades of construction experience into a full service real estate consortium.

GRATEFUL FOR GRANT SUPPORT

Bank of America, Neighborhood Builders Award for Capacity Building & Leadership Development

BankUnited
The Congregational Church of Manhasset
Long Island Community Chest
National Grid Foundation
NBCUniversal
Sterling Foundation Management
Waldorf Family Foundation

General Support
Veterans Program
Education Programs
Education Programs
General Support
Veterans Program
General Support