

Stronger Together

2024 Annual Report



Strengthening Families Since 1987

Serving Eastern Connecticut





Greetings Friends and Supporters of Madonna Place

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support and commitment to our mission - which has profoundly impacted the communities we serve. Support from our federal and state funders, local foundations and businesses, community partners, donors, Board members, volunteers and employees helped us reach more families.

Last year (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024) our four programs expanded services and supported 26% more families in Eastern CT. A total of 851 families were served (1,454 children and 934 adults) compared to 678 families served the prior fiscal year.

Our outreach efforts are provided in 3 languages: English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole. Our cultural sensitivity provides essential services to more families in need. These efforts have helped us reach more individuals in need and fostered a sense of

hope and empowerment within our community.

The Family Support Center increased food, diapers and baby formula distribution, and supported families with ESL classes and child development screenings. Our Fatherhood Initiative Program successfully received re-certification from the Department of Social Services (the only certified Fatherhood program in Eastern CT), and services expanded to support previously incarcerated fathers. Great Beginnings increased the number of families served and almost doubled the number of home visits provided in Eastern CT. COPE built collaborative relationships with partnering agencies and supported some of our highest-need clients (substance use, mental health diagnoses, domestic violence, and/or homelessness).

Madonna Place strengthened our relationships with several agencies that provided services at our facility: Norwich Adult Education, OIC, Career Resources, the Jewish Federation of Eastern CT, UCFS, and Generations.

**85 cents
of each dollar
received goes
directly to supporting
children and their
families**

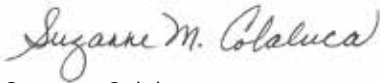
Our Board of Directors has also grown significantly, a testament to the increasing recognition of our mission. We welcomed forward-thinking members from various fields of interest: culinary, small business owners, mental health, education, and finance/banking.

Together, we are stronger. Your support and commitment to our mission has made a profound impact on the communities we serve. We want to assure you that we remain steadfast in our mission and we're so grateful to have you as a partner on this journey.

With true appreciation,



Claire Silva
Executive Director



Suzanne Colaluca
Board President

2,388
unduplicated
parents & children
were served by
Madonna Place
last year

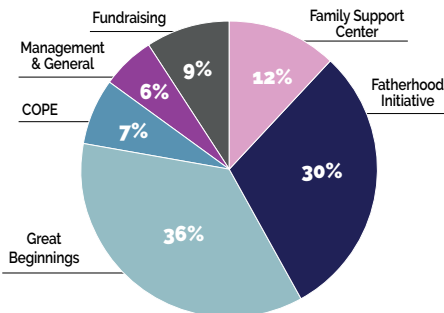


Claire Silva,
Executive Director
and Suzanne Colaluca,
Board President

37 years of strengthening families

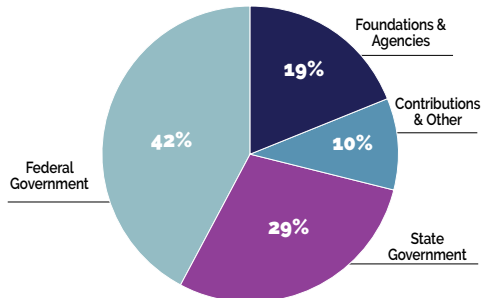
Expense Allocation

\$1,685,432 (PRE-AUDIT FIGURES)



Support & Income Funding Sources

\$1,647,174 (PRE-AUDIT FIGURES)





Great Beginnings

Great Beginnings (GB) is a weekly home visiting program for caregivers who are expecting or have a baby within their first three months of age. The program provides parent education in child development utilizing the *Parents as Teachers* curriculum and the *Healthy Families America* national model. We support families in navigating stressors and accessing necessary resources so they can focus on raising healthy children. GB is a true early intervention-based child abuse and neglect prevention program. Weekly home visits are conducted, and learning materials, books, formula, diapers, and other support resources are made available to empower families and improve access to care. Services are available in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole.

Great Beginnings:

298 parents and children were served

1,479 home visits were completed

100% of families enrolled had no new substantiated cases of child abuse or neglect

100% of babies born during the program were healthy and full term

13 events were provided to support parent education



Community Outreach Plus Education

Community Outreach Plus Education (COPE) is a community outreach and drop-in service program that includes assessments, case management, and referrals for mental health, substance use disorders, basic needs, educational programs, and other emergency supports. Care is provided with a trauma-informed focus for mental health, substance use, and domestic violence issues. COPE provides a proactive approach of early intervention to help prevent crisis situations from escalating.

Community Outreach Plus Education:

243 parents and children in crisis were connected to services

26 families were screened for substance use or mental health issues

19% of heads of households served struggle with substance use

65% of heads of households served struggle with mental health issues

23% of the families served needed food

26% of families served suffered from domestic violence



Family Support Center

The **Family Support Center (FSC)** is a unique drop-in center that provides basic needs items such as diapers, baby formula, food, school supplies, toiletries, books, educational toys and resources. We offer informal counseling and parent education including ESL classes, Family-Group Connections events and Summer Connections for students. Services are offered in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Cape Verdean Creole. The FSC helps families to reduce risk factors and build protective factors which can strengthen families, improve outcomes, and prevent child abuse and neglect.

Family Support Center:

- 1,954** parents and children were served
- 369** families received emergency diapers.
- 9,174** meals were served, which was 37,981 pounds of food
- 205** families received emergency cans of formula
- 143** children were assessed for developmental delays and referred for necessary services
- 156** ESL classes were provided for parents

Fatherhood Initiative

The purpose of the **Fatherhood Initiative Program (FIP)** is to increase positive involvement and interaction between fathers and their children. Services that we offer include the 12-week *24/7 Dad* and *InsideOut Dad* Fatherhood classes, individualized case management, support around court processes, facilitating groups with fathers currently incarcerated, and support for fathers who are involved with DCF. Case managers work with fathers to help them achieve their personal goals of increasing parenting time, modifying or establishing visitation or custody, gaining or increasing employment, and increasing parenting skills. We can also help with child support arrearage adjustment and establishing paternity. Currently Madonna Place's Fatherhood Program is the only state certified fatherhood program in Eastern CT.

Fatherhood Initiative:

- 298** parents and children were served
- 60%** increased time with their children
- 86%** of fathers served maintained employment for at least 90 days
- 51%** of fathers increased parenting knowledge through *24/7 Dad* classes
- 65** fathers who were previously incarcerated received support



Ensuring Family Strength Through Collaboration

We all do better when families in our community are succeeding. But when times get tough, where do families turn for assistance? The non-profit community is always here to help. But not one agency or program alone can meet all the needs exhibited in the community. Together with our funders and volunteers, non-profits rally to provide programs which strengthen the safety net that has been created community-wide for supporting families and helping communities thrive. Madonna Place has worked hard this past year to increase and strengthen collaboration across all sectors

with partners offering family support, including areas like housing, parenting education, home visiting, fatherhood, economic self-sufficiency, transportation, food security, mental health, basic needs, domestic violence, employment, and more. We created new shared initiatives and outreach opportunities on-site with our partners which have transformed our collective work to allow for more holistic services and eliminated duplication. We value this work and will continue enriching these partnerships which include collaborating with



organizations like Reliance Health, OIC, Norwich Adult Education, UCFS, Safe Futures, Hartford Health Care, Generations Mobile Health Hub, Eastern CT Health Collaborative, TVCCA, SCADD, United Way of SECT, Career Resources, the Jewish Federation of Eastern CT, Always Home, Community of Hope, and more. Without these collaborative efforts we would not have been able to offer the full slate of wrap-around services that our diverse families require to improve their overall life situations. We thank all our funders, volunteers, and agency partners for their collaborative support last year

and look forward to expanding our work together in the coming year.

It is hard to know what the next year will bring, but one thing we can be sure of: as a community, we are always *“Stronger Together.”*

“*Together, we are making a difference. Your generosity and belief in our mission empower us to create lasting change.*”

*~Claire Silva,
Executive Director*

Thank You to our Contributors

July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024

SUSTAINING PARTNERS

\$100,000 and up

Connecticut Department of Children and Families
Connecticut Department of Social Services
Connecticut Office of Early Childhood
United Way of Southeastern Connecticut

PATRONS

\$10,000 - \$99,999

City of Norwich Community Development Block Grant and ARPA
Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut
Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Connecticut Office of Minority Health
Connecticut Social Equity Council - through Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut
Favolise Family Fund
Frank Loomis Palmer Fund
Greater Horizons
Hillery Company
Mathieu Family Fund at Seattle Foundation
Nordson Corporation Foundation
Norwich Roman Catholic Diocese
The Edward and Mary Lord Foundation
The Salmon Foundation

SPONSORS

\$2,500 - \$9,999

Anderson-Paffard Foundation
Anonymous
Berkshire Bank Foundation
Bob's Discount Furniture Charitable Foundation
Centreville Bank Charitable Foundation
Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut Foundation
Charles B. Allyn Foundation
Charter Oak Federal Credit Union
Chelsea Groton Bank
Chelsea Groton Bank Foundation
Connecticut Association for Community Action
Dime Bank Foundation
Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation
Dunkin' Joy in Childhood Foundation
Elsie A. Brown Fund
Emergency Food and Shelter Program
George A. and Grace L. Long Foundation
Hartford Healthcare - Backus Hospital
Liberty Bank Foundation
Made and Taylored
Petit Family Foundation
Pfizer Foundation
Ray and Pauline Sullivan Foundation
T-Mobile
Verizon Foundation

FRIENDS

\$500 - \$2,499

A/Z Corporation
Accounting Resources Inc.
Acme Wire Products Company
AHEPA Norwich Foundation
Altrusa International
Northeastern Connecticut Foundation
Anonymous
Austin & Macione CPAs
Bodenwein Public Benevolent Foundation
Joan Butler
Centreville Bank
Suzanne M. Colaluca
Colchester Federated Church
Community Health Network of Connecticut Foundation
Susan and Lance Corrice
Dime Bank
Eastern Connecticut Association of Realtors
Eastern Connecticut Savings Bank
Eastern Connecticut Savings Bank Foundation
Edwin R. Muenzner CPA
Elizabeth Newell Butler Gregory Fund - through Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut
First Baptist Church of Norwich
Foxwoods Resort Casino and Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation
Friends of Maria - Maria's Treasures
General Dynamics Electric Boat - Employee Association

Nancy and Robert Gentes
Nancy and Andy Grant
Greater Norwich Area Chamber
of Commerce
Leonard and Joan Greene
Griswold Elementary School/
Board of Education
Peter Heard
IM-Technology
Kiwanis Club of New London
Lord Family
Mohegan Sun - The Mohegan
Tribe
Mutual of America Life
Insurance Company
Mystic Congregational Church
Mission Committee
Mystic Congregational Church
Women's Fellowship
Mystic Woman's Club
Norwich Public Utilities
Norwich Rotary Club
Foundation
Kathleen Peters
Rooney Insurance Agency
Rotary Club of Mystic
Southeastern Regional Action
Council - SERAC
Tidal River Clothing Company
Town Fair Tire Foundation
Dave and Lauren Waldo
Jeanne Wezner
Yale New Haven Health -
Lawrence + Memorial Hospital

CONTRIBUTORS

\$100 - \$499

Muhammad and Brenda Alrijleh
Donald and Ada Amaro
Anderson Trial Lawyers
Marietta Anderson
Democles Angelopoulos
Patricia Angelopoulos
Anonymous

JoAnn Beguhl
Alan and Judith Bennett
Big Y
Bill's Auto
Wayne Boettner
Diana and Richard Boisclair
Boluch Living Trust - Gregory
Boluch
William Bradbury
Marcia Brennan
Nancy and David Burnett
Robert Burnside
Katharine Butler
Chrissy and Tim Caplet
Jon Carr
Dorothy Chappell
John A. Chunis
Citizens Charitable Foundation
Match
Michael Colaluca
Patrick and Kathleen Coleman
Patrice Coletti
Danielle Cook
Deborah Cooper
Renee Cooper
Michele and James Cronin
Gerald Daigle
Franklin DeFiore
Barbara Deindorfer - DIG &
Mystical Giving Garden
Doreen's Pantry
James Dreitlein
Michael and Mary Driscoll
Sandra Eichelberg
Chris Elomaa
Donna Eurbin
Lynne Ferrari
First Baptist Church of Norwich
Kimberly Fischburg
Mary and Thomas Fitzgerald
Judith and Francis Foley
Eric Friedman
Theresa and Steven Friedman

Nancy Gentes Fund through
the Community Foundation of
Eastern Connecticut
Eileen and Brian Godburn
Michael and Rosa Goldblatt
David Goldstein
Michael F. Gouthro
John Graves
Lisa Griffin
Patricia Gulley
Pamela Haggett
Jessica Henley
Harlan Hyde
J. Rose & Company
John and Patricia James
Paula Jello
Daphanie Jewett
Kelly Middle School
Lori King
Frank and Janet Kraemer
Nancy Kurek
Lady of Perpetual Help
Deborah Lychack
Ellen and Mark Maloney
Jessica and Paul Mancarella
Steven C. Martin
Irene Matulis
Linda McCall
Maggie McDonough
Clarence and Judith Merrill
Merrill Lynch
MJ Sullivan Automotive Corner
Muenzner Payroll Solutions
Fred Neff
Jennifer Nicholas
Olivia Nordstrom
Norwich Firefighters Local 892
Christopher O'Connell
Barbara O'Neill
Denise T. K. Ogden
Overhead Door Company of
Norwich
Joan Pappas

Jean Patsiga
PayPal Giving Fund
Planeta Family Fund
Nancy Podurgiel
Preston City Congregational Church
Kenneth Przybysz
Quiet Corner BNI
John and Marsha Quinn
Paulette Retsinas
Dominique Roe-Sepowitz
Rotary Club of Norwich
St. Joseph Church, Occum
Sacred Heart School Association
Mission Club - Sister Mary Cabrini
Bryan and Robin Sanchi
Michele Santoro
Bart A. Sayet
SCADD
Sharon Scarpa
Charles and Susan Seeman
Thomas D. Shipp
Robert Sidman
Claire Silva
Sandra and James Sinkowski
Brenee Stanavage
Patricia Stephen
Stop and Shop Community Program
Dee Sullivan
Alan and Tanya Sylvestre
Nurie Testagrossa
James Todd
Kathryn and Bill Tracey
Susanne Tracey
Pat and Mac Turner - McCullough Trust
UCFS Healthcare
United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley
United Way of Rhode Island
Maxine Varney

Vision Government Solutions
Wallingford Meeting
Warren Weigel
Maureen Westbrook
Ericka Winstead
Walmart Store #2200
Woman's City Club of Norwich
Westerly Tax Group

SUPPORTERS

\$50 - \$99

Madeline and Richard Abate
Living Trust
Anonymous
Monique Armstrong
LaNae Atkinson
Cindy Beauregard
Patricia Berthiaume
Susan Bourbeau
Maryellen Brousseau
Wendy Brown
Anni Burbank
Pamela Byrnes
Angelo Callis
Brian Charette
Robert and Mary Cikat
Kristen Clark
Dave Coleman
Danielle Cook
Renee Cooper
Richard Costantino
Helen D'Alessio
Joan Defanti
Greg Duba
Aimee Estelle
Donna Fallon
Edmond Ferland
Jo-el Fernandez
Kenneth and Kimberly Fischburg
Brian Gardner
Hilary P. Gaudreau
Mara Gutt
Cindi Hand
Jacqueline Harvey

Kimberly Holt
Scot Hougrand
Daphanie Jewett
Gale Hunt
JMK Band
Eric Kanter
Susan Kilgore
Megan Kirby
Madeline Kollegger
Cheryl LaCava
Michaela Lamb
Sherry Lang
Gayle McCall
Laurence McHugh
Nadene Mills
Christina Morgan
Lelsie Mueller
Belinda Murano
Katharine Newell
Jennifer Nichols
Lisa Ann OBriskie
Russ Ohaver
Sandra Owens
Heidi Palma
Personal Needs and Support
John Rascius
Reposition
Jacqueline and Frank Ricci
Michelle Roise
Daniel Ruffo
Michele Santoro
Karen and Jerry Sas
Mary Shearer
Stephen Spiegel
Patricia Stephen
Tammy Stephen
Fran Stevens
Michelle Stolaronek
Dee Sullivan
Anne Tarryk
Deb Tavernier
Jayna Terris
Donna Thompson
Lynn Wallace

Lisa Wilson
Susan F. Wilson
Charlene Woodcock
Gary and Romer Young
Anthony Zambrello

IN HONOR OF

Katie and Nathan Beit 40th
Anniversary
Simie Beit and Pauline Israelite
Delphine Bourbeau
Joan Butler
Nancy Gentes
Geneva Harvey
Joyce Ann Hyde
Madonna Place staff
Heidi Santiago
Wayne Wojcik
Tim Wojcik

IN MEMORY OF

Paul A. Abate
Susan Atwater
Delphine Bourbeau
Deb Burnside
Marjory Dilworth Gouthro
P. Michael Lahan
Deb Marmaud
Doreen Newman - Doreen's
Pantry
Kelli Porter
Keith Ripley
June and Joe Sinkowski
Helen H. Todd

*All cash contributions \$50
and above are included.
Thank you to all Madonna
Place Board Members, staff,
businesses, Ambassadors, and
community members for their
in-kind donations in 2023-2024
benefiting our families, programs,
and events. We apologize for any
errors or omissions.*



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Suzanne Colaluca
Lisa Griffin

VICE PRESIDENT

Kathryn Tracey
Michael L. Anderson

SECRETARY

Mandy Crispim
Suzanne Colaluca

TREASURER

Paul Mancarella
Chrissy Caplet

Cindy Beauregard
Elaine Bentley Baughn
Uduak Enyiema
Angelina Gardner
Tamara Gloster
Katherine Kobyluck
Dana Ladyga
Denise T. K. Ogden

STAFF DIRECTORY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Claire Silva

HR MANAGER

Deborah Gamache

FUND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Susan Corrice, MS

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Lori King

FINANCE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Dedra Ravenelle

CLINICAL SUPERVISOR

Lauren Gorgone, LCSW, PMH-C

FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER PROGRAM MANAGER

Luan Cadahia

PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Sonia DeAndrade

BILINGUAL COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER

Lesly Luciano Hernandez, CHW

FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE PROGRAM MANAGER

Jason Malcolm, M.Ed.

CASE MANAGERS

Ismael Carrasquillo-DeLeón
Randolph Flythe, Jr.
Bryan Geyer
William Marquez
Joseph Ortiz, Jr.†

GREAT BEGINNINGS PROGRAM MANAGER

Lauren Gorgone, LCSW, PMH-C

FAMILY SUPPORT SPECIALISTS

MaryAnn Coleda, CHW
Teresa Diaz
Rosa M. Hernández Veléz, CHW
Myra King
Ferna Lewellen, CHW
Brian Parkhurst
Marsha Quinn

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PLUS EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER

Robin Vilchez, CHW

† In recognition of our valued
Fatherhood Initiative Program
colleague who passed away
unexpectedly in October 2024



Our Mission

Madonna Place strengthens families to prevent child abuse and neglect through our comprehensive services of education, advocacy, and community collaboration.

We offer four programs that help parents to build strong support systems in their lives.



Madonna Place, Inc.

240 Main Street
Norwich, CT 06360

Phone (860) 886-6600

Fax (860) 892-5411

contact@madonnaplace.org

www.madonnaplace.org

