



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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“Neighbor Brigade has been a blessing to me. All of the coordinators who set up the transportation and the drivers are such amazing people to work with and the support is so greatly appreciated! Thank you so much for all you do for others!”

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A LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR



Marcy Eckel
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"Your support gave me hope when I was feeling at my lowest."

We rise to meet our neighbor's challenges, helping those in crisis to recover and rebuild their lives. We believe in community and the power of a helping hand. For more than a decade, we have held steady in our response, supporting our clients in all the ways Pam imagined we would. We remain in awe of our volunteers and grateful for every bit of support that comes our way.

Here's to another year of service where "help is next door".

On behalf of the board and staff, thank you for joining us on this journey.

WORDS OF SUPPORT

"Too often we do not know when our neighbors are going through something difficult, and when they are Neighbor Brigade steps in with stunning efficiency to provide the love and the care that these individuals and families need to get to the other side of the crisis." It is our honor to support Neighbor Brigade." -DONORS, S. & B. Parente

MEET OUR STAFF & BOARD MEMBERS



Marcy Eckel
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR



Mark Murphy
DIRECTOR OF
DEVELOPMENT



Rose Cornet
PROGRAM
DIRECTOR



Tim Cardona
DIRECTOR
OF IT

Thank you to all of our volunteers, donors, partnering organizations, sponsors, and grant and foundation supporters. We are where we are due to your commitment to our organization.



Colin Coleman
PRESIDENT



Mark Corner
TREASURER



Matthew Hayes
DIRECTOR



Paul Manikas
DIRECTOR



Amy Mason
DIRECTOR



Catrina Damrell
DIRECTOR

OUR CHAPTERS AT-A-GLANCE



MA Chapters

Acton/Boxborough

Ashland

Bedford

Billerica

Braintree

Concord/Carlisle

Dedham

Easton

Franklin

Lexington

Maynard

Medway

Mendon

Natick

Needham

North Attleboro

Northborough/Southborough

Randolph

Stow

Sudbury

Wayland

West Bridgewater



NJ Chapter

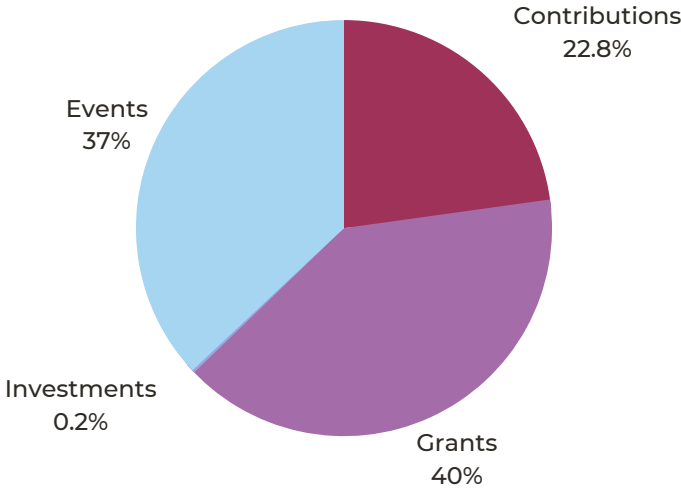
West Essex, New Jersey



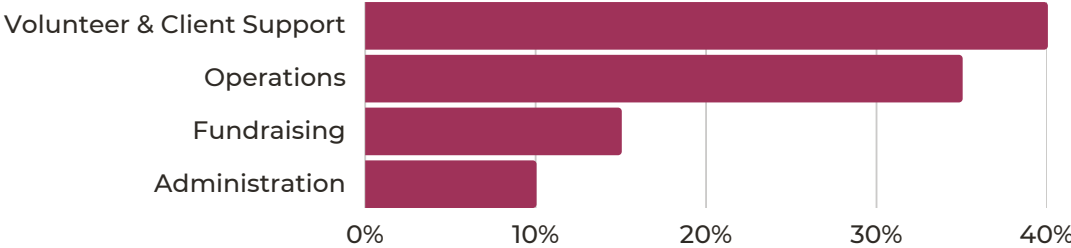
2022 FINANCIALS

Annual Donations

Our budget comes from a variety of year-round fundraising efforts, including individual donations, corporate sponsorships, grant funding, events and in-kind donations. Funds raised go directly toward essential operating expenses such as insurance to cover our volunteers, background checks, volunteer and client management software, multi-lingual brochures for our clients, and more.



Annual Expenses



MAKE A GIFT NOW →



We need your support more than ever to help us fill the gap. The pandemic has changed the landscape of our organization and challenged our traditional methods of raising funds to support our clients. Donations, of all sizes, make a significant impact. Thank you.

2022 GRANT SUMMARY

Our Generous Grant Supporters

At Neighbor Brigade we are very grateful to receive annual grants that help us fulfill our mission of establishing community-specific networks of volunteers to offer free services for residents who are facing crises. The following organizations and foundations generously supported Neighbor Brigade with grant funding in 2022:

Beth Israel Deaconess Needham

The Cummings Foundation

The Dana Home Foundation

The TJX Companies, Inc.

Our Generous Chapter Sponsors:

A business can become a true Neighbor Brigade partner by choosing one of our packages. In exchange, they receive year-round partnership opportunities with a Chapter, engagement for their clients and employees, and promotion, visibility, and marketing for their company. Corporate sponsors are promoted to 3,500 caring volunteers and over 7,500 followers on our social media platforms.

Emerson Hospital, Sponsor for Sudbury, MA Chapter

First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell, Sponsor for West Essex, NJ Chapter

Maynard Community Chest

WAYS TO SUPPORT US:

1. Donate your time as a volunteer
2. Suggest a local business to us for outreach about becoming a sponsor (info@neighborbrigade.org)
3. Make a monthly recurring donation
4. Attend one of our events
5. Be an ambassador and start a fundraising campaign on social media

Where does my donation go?



Your generosity fuels our organization:

FREE CLIENT SERVICES

FUND NEW CHAPTERS

OPERATIONS & SOFTWARE

ONGOING TRAINING

LANGUAGE TRANSLATION

COMMUNITY EMERGENCIES

MARKETING & PROMOTION

LIABILITY INSURANCE

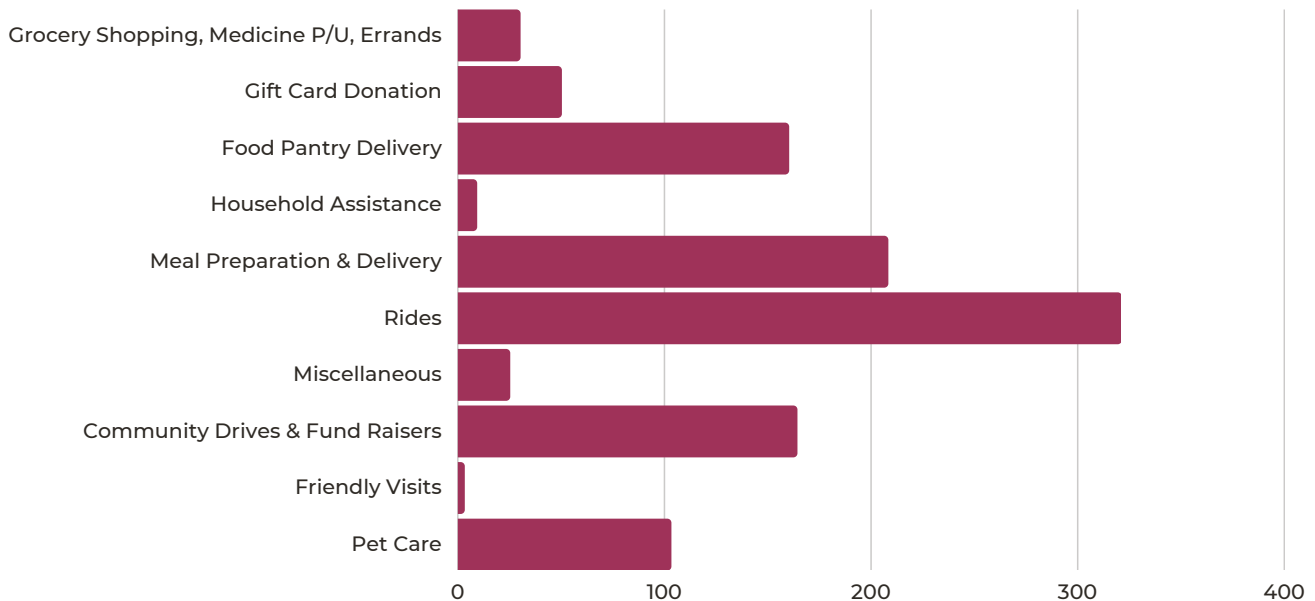
SPECIAL EVENTS

2022

VOLUNTEER IMPACT

2022 Client Crises Supported

Driven by our mission to support neighbors in need regardless of economic standing, we continue to support individuals and families experiencing a temporary crisis. In 2022, our caring volunteers provided free and temporary services to support those facing COVID, cancer, accident recovery, surgery, fire, recent family deaths, complicated pregnancies, and many other challenges.



THANK YOU

Sending Gratitude to ALL of Our Supporting Community Members

Last year, thousands of volunteers, businesses, families, individuals, grant makers and foundations showed up to make a difference for a neighbor in need. Thank you to our community of supporters!

WHY I VOLUNTEER

Lisa from the Maynard Chapter



1. Tell us a little about yourself. How long have you been volunteering with Neighbor Brigade?

I was born and raised in Littleton. I went to college at Framingham State University and graduated in 2000 with a bachelor's degree in Psychology. My husband and I met in college and got married in September 2005. We bought our house on Field Street in Maynard in November of 2006 and have 3 kids and a dog. I have been volunteering for Neighbor Brigade for about a year and a half now.

2. How did you get started volunteering with Neighbor Brigade?

Truthfully, the pandemic had me thinking a lot and that was what really inspired me to want to do it. I would get myself mentally worked up hearing different stories relating to the pandemic and the crisis situations it had caused. Stories about some elderly people with no family around and not wanting to leave their house in fear of exposing themselves to germs. Thus, many are stuck in their houses with little to no human interaction, struggling with meals and keeping up with daily tasks. So I researched different local charities and Neighbor Brigade really spoke to me!

3. What motivates you to give back to the community with Neighbor Brigade?

When I was a young kid, my brother was in a terrible accident while riding his bike (he was hit by a truck). This left him in a coma for a week plus many developmental changes due to the brain injury. Although my parents were offered and received help from family and friends with food, people to look after my other brother and I, laundry etc., they would have benefited well with an organization like Neighbor Brigade.

4. What's your favorite thing about volunteering with Neighbor Brigade?

Knowing that a little time out of my day can go so far in someone else's.

5. What would you say to someone who's thinking of volunteering with Neighbor Brigade?

Do it! It may end up being one of the most meaningful and rewarding life paths that you take.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS



“

Working with Neighbor Brigade is a simple way to help my community. I know there are people out there struggling and I truly want to help.”
- Volunteer

CHAPTER LEADERS

We are looking for Chapter Leaders in Ashland, Billerica, Concord, Maynard and Braintree.

Chapter Leaders are the lifeblood of our organization. These passionate and hard-working volunteers oversee their community Chapter, recruit volunteers, engage with clients and oversee activity sign-ups.

TO LEARN MORE:



Contact Marcy Eckel
marcy@neighborbrigade.org

ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

The "No-Show" Spring Giving Celebration

We tried something new this year! Neighbor Brigade's first annual "No-Show" Spring Giving Celebration was a success thanks to your generosity. For anyone who missed it: a non-event fundraiser is an event that raises money but doesn't have to really exist. Stay tuned for a comeback of more in-person events this year.

Our New Teen Advisory Council

We are pleased to announce our new TAC!

The Teen Advisory Council provides teenagers an opportunity to learn about our mission to assist those experiencing a temporary crisis that is not financially based (illness, cancer, death in the family, mental health event, fire, etc.). Members of our TAC engage in direct and indirect service to those in need which allows them to develop leadership skills and gain a behind-the-scenes understanding of non-profit work. The goal is that participation in the program will foster a sense of compassion for our neighbors in need as the students learn to influence their communities in positive and meaningful ways.

We currently have students from Acton/Boxborough, Bedford, Lincoln/Sudbury and Wayland.

Have a project in your community for these teens to tackle? Send us a note at info@neighborbrigade.org.

A special thank you to Emily Hayes, our Sudbury Chapter Leader, for spearheading this new initiative.



ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS



Special Trainings for Chapter Leaders

We were thrilled to work with Health Resources in Action this year to offer two special trainings for our Chapter Leaders.

Unpacking Our Biases in September: This training helped to equip participants with the knowledge and skills to be able to recognize their own biases, what their biases are rooted in, and how they can overcome them.

Volunteer Engagement in October focused on exploring strategies to keep volunteers engaged in community and non-profit organizations over time. Evidence points to stronger, more resilient communities when volunteers are involved in programs that serve them or serve other community members.

ONLINE

We launched an updated website in December! If you have not seen it, move on over to NeighborBrigade.org to check it out. A special thanks to Morgatize LLC for getting this done on time and on budget.





BACK IN STRIDE TOGETHER

10th Annual Pam's Run: 5k Walk/Run, 10k Run

On October 16, 2022, Pam's Run celebrated its 10th Anniversary and first in-person run in 3 years. The weather was perfect, and hundreds of runners, volunteers, friends, and supporters joined our community in stride to make it a fun and successful day. All proceeds from Pam's Run support Neighbor Brigade's work of fostering hope for families impacted by sudden crises. As we have witnessed over the last few years, Neighbor Brigade is needed now more than ever. We are thankful to our partners, volunteers, and the tireless work of our race committee in ensuring that we could raise significant funds in support of Neighbor Brigade. We are also grateful to these, our sponsors, for their support:

IN KIND SPONSORS: Fran's Flowers, My Gym, Samantha Melanson Photography, Wayland Daddios



PRESENTING SPONSOR:

Waldron Civic Fund

COMMUNITY ANGEL SPONSOR:

Lynch Landscape & Tree Service

GOLD SPONSORS:

Perkin Elmer
Washkek Electric

HELPING HAND SPONSORS:

Charles River Insurance
Joint Ventures Physical Therapy and Fitness
Partridge, Snow & Hahn LLP
Middlesex Savings Bank
The Village Bank

DIFFERENCE MAKER SPONSORS:

Ameriprise Financial in Wayland –
Adrienne Snapp CFP
Avidia Bank
Carriage House Independent Living
Judy Boyle, Realtor, RE/MAX
Executive Realty
Mom Bombs
Liquid Ice
Performance Health Center

DONATION IMPACT

Your donation is MORE than money.

It's HOPE for hundreds of neighbors. Every dollar given is valued and supports our mission of neighbors helping neighbors facing sudden crises. Charitable contributions empower our community of staff and volunteers to DO MORE. We provide free client services and rely on your generosity for all we have done and all we will continue to do.

Top 10 Ways Donations Support Neighbor Brigade

01 FREE SERVICES

All services offered to clients are free of charge... and could not exist without the support of our generous supporters. Ride support, for example, can only be supported by a handful of volunteers and must be supplemented with paid rides to meet the demand of those in need.



02 NEW CHAPTERS

The start-up expense of a new chapter is about \$5,000 (materials, training, etc.). Donations support the inception of new chapters in new communities. In recent years, fiscal restraints have held us back from expanding and more help is needed.

03 SOFTWARE

Developing and customizing a software management program for our 3,000+ volunteer base is an immense expense. Funds support these costs and ensure we can mobilize thousands of volunteers to support our clients.



04 TRAINING

Nurturing and empowering our staff and volunteers with professional development and training is made possible with your financial support. Donation funds ensure we are able to provide continuing education.

05 TRANSLATION

Having a website that is accessible and readable in 11 different languages in addition to brochures and other print materials produced in multiple languages is a direct result of donations received.

06 UNEXPECTED EVENTS

Funding empowers us to expand services in extreme times of mass crisis, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the last three years, we've supported town-wide aid efforts while fostering a safe environment and ensuring our existing chapters were equipped to serve their communities.

07 MARKETING

Outreach efforts and promotion help us extend our reach and impact to even more communities and individuals in need of our services. We can do this only to the extent that we have funds available to spread the good news about our work.



08 OPERATIONS

Recruiting and retaining a talented, professional, and capable staff that can manage the day-to-day operations and effectively grow Neighbor Brigade's reach is only made possible when we have operational supports in place to offer competitive wages and certain benefits.

09 INSURANCE

Donations help us cover important expenses, such as the cost of liability insurance. Liability insurance is essential for our staff and volunteers to successfully carry out services while being adequately protected.

10 SPECIAL EVENTS

We are fortunate to have events throughout the year that bring our staff, board, and friends together. These can only happen with the generous donors who support our mission.

MAKE A GIFT TODAY

Make a difference in a neighbor's tomorrow.



“

"Thank you to all the amazing volunteers who have helped me over these past five weeks. I don't know what I would have done without the help and support of such caring individuals! Please let them all know how thankful we are for all they've done. Take care and when I'm back to 100% I'd like to help out with volunteering with Neighbor Brigade!"

Neighbor Brigade
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neighborbrigade.org

