

New Milford Social Services

September~October 2022

Greetings from New Milford Social Services,

Hello everyone and Happy Fall! I find something special about the Fall that feels rejuvenating. Maybe it's the change to cooler weather, the transformation of our beautiful trees with an array of colors, or maybe it's watching our children start a new school year. Whatever the reason, it feels very much like a good time to reset, restart and re-evaluate what we are doing, experiencing or planning. New Year's is typically a time reserved to set new goals and revisit old ones but when you are still recovering from the Holidays that time can overwhelm our motivation to plan anew. Spring is also a good time to reset but if you missed it, Fall is yet another chance, especially before the demands of Winter and holiday season come around again.

In some ways, a theme of this newsletter is about setting or re-evaluating your plans as 2022 closes out in the next few months. This newsletter identifies various financial programs that can help you catch up, stretch your budget or increase life skills and improve career opportunities. One very important program is the CT Energy Program. Now is the time to take action to address the increased expenses of filling an oil tank or paying a higher electric bill. The application process is open, so contact us soon! Another, is joining us for a new Financial Education series focusing on 4 main topics: budgeting, savings, investing, & credit. Participating in these classes can regenerate your relationship with your money, just in time for the Holiday spending season. Speaking of the holidays, registration is open for Thanksgiving 🍂 & Santa Fund 🎁! And there are other opportunities within this newsletter that can help you catch up with a financial set back, COVID relief through ARPA funding, job skill/career opportunities, or the opportunity to plan to be a 1st time homeowner. You will also see the many options of food resources within our community. Many of these organizations, including our very own New Milford Food Bank, are working together to fill meal gaps for any New Milford family fighting food insecurity and the rising cost of this essential need. We identify ourselves as NMFIT (food insecurity team) and we hope to continue to help our neighbors fight this challenging economy, together.

Lastly, we want to share some excellent news with you all. We have also spent time re-evaluating how we can improve our community response to your needs. And we are excited to introduce Wanda Fyler as our new Volunteer and Program Coordinator. Wanda will be fully committed to the food bank as well as the many important programs we offer throughout the year! By including Wanda, this has given our social workers a better opportunity to enhance the care we provide the many people who come to us in crisis.

Please join us in welcoming Wanda, who some of you may recognize as a long-time and beloved volunteer and SNAP @ the Farmers Market worker on Saturday mornings, with Alli.

Welcome Wanda! 😊



Our Staff:

Monika Roberts, Office Coordinator

Wanda Fyler, Volunteer & Program Coordinator

Maria De Oliveira, Social Worker & Diverse Community Advocate.

[Maria habla español y fala português]

Lauren Haire, Social Worker & Crisis Navigator

Ivana Butera, Director

The mission of New Milford Social Services is to offer resources and programs to enhance the well-being and self-sustainability of New Milford residents experiencing financial hardship by addressing basic needs including food and household self-sufficiency.

We support our community through empowerment, advocacy, compassion and connection to opportunities to increase the resilience of our residents in need.

Programs

*(**Please note that some programs do have participatory income limits)*

New Milford Food Bank-for households experiencing food insecurity

***Energy (Heating) Assistance*

***Emergency Financial Assistance [limited funding]*

& re: Rent/Mortgage

Home bills

Child Expenses

Medical Bills

Transportation Costs

Food & Clothing

***Basic Need Assistance*

Consultive Counseling, Crisis Intervention & Need Navigation

Financial Literacy Education

***Information, Referral, & Assistance with Local, State, Federal resources and entitlement programs*

***Renter's Rebate for disabled renters under age 60.*

***Family Programs:*

Baby Bundle Registration

Camp and Enrichment Activity Scholarships for Children [limited funding]

Back to School Program Registration [seasonal]

Winter Holiday Gifts Children [seasonal]

[Funding sources for all programs are based on State grants or community donations]



2 Pickett District Rd.

New Milford, CT 06776

(P) 860-355-6079

(F) 860-355-6019

Email: socialservices@newmilford.org

Website: www.newmilford.org

 New Milford Social Services

We welcome and respect the diversity of all who enter our office.





PROGRAM UPDATES:

HEATING (ENERGY) and UTILITY ASSISTANCE:

New Milford Social Services is the local intake site for New Milford residents under the age of 60 seeking to apply for the following heating and energy assistance programs. *Please contact our office for more information and guidelines to apply. [If you are over the age of 60 please contact the New Milford Senior Center]*

- **CT Energy Assistance Program (CEAP)** Early application are now being taken for the upcoming winter season, prioritizing people with deliverable fuels or those with electric heat on a budget plan. *Please call us for an in-person appointment or an application packet to fill out and send back to us.* You will need to include all required income and relevant documentation with your application or in preparation for your appointment. An incomplete application can slow down the process.
- **The first day for fuel deliveries is November 1, 2022** and a delay in completing your application can delay the certification process with our local community action agency (CAAWC).
- The State income guidelines for this program are:

60% SMI- CEAP income guidelines: based on Family size

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
\$ 39,761	\$ 51,996	\$ 64,230	\$ 76,465	\$ 88,699	\$ 100,933	\$ 103,227

- All **electric heated households** who completed the Matching Payment program last year will be automatically re-enrolled onto Eversource’s MPP. **Remember that you still need to re-apply for Energy Assistance through our office every year!** Eversource will send you a letter in November stating your NEW monthly budget payment. All payments need to be in by the end of each month, and *your first* six payments must be received by April 30th in order to get a “match”. If Eversource raises your budget, pay the new amount if you can. If you cannot, pay the old amount and be sure to discuss this with us at the time of your application, you may qualify for a budget adjustment.
- **Winter Protection Program** helps protect your Eversource account from being shut off while you work on getting on and following through with a payment plan like NewStart or Matching Payment Program. Please call our office and we can code your account through this program. Eversource requires an income review to qualify for this program.
- **Operation Fuel** Winter/Spring program starting date will be announced in couple of months. Their Summer/Fall program is currently open to apply for Utility help, as long as funding is available. Remember, Operation Fuel’s income guidelines go up to 75% of the State Median Income. Please call our office with inquiries.
- The **Community Fuel Bank** is also available for an emergency assist. Exploring the above programs is part of the process before CFB is accessible.



Sign Up OPEN: HOLIDAY PROGRAMS!

We are now accepting registration for Thanksgiving, Santa Fund and Disabled Adult gift programs. See the registration form on page 5 of this newsletter or pick one up at our office. Thanksgiving distribution will be Monday, Nov. 21st, time TBA. Disabled Adult program will be Thursday, Dec. 22nd during food bank. Distribution date for Santa Fund will be announced in our next newsletter.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS NOV. 5th. Proof of income and residency is required for these programs. If you have not shared your 2022 income with our office, now is the time to do it.



We have ARPA funds to help assist persons with a financial need with rent, mortgage, utilities, medical-related, child-related or other household expenses. Need to demonstrate how COVID affected you financially anytime since 3/2020. Contact us for an application or find it on our website @ www.newmilford.org. *The town of NM also offers other APRA assistance for specific childcare and certain home rehabilitation needs.



FINANCIAL EDUCATIONS CLASSES ARE BACK!

Email us at socialservices@newmilford.org with your class choices and we’ll forward you an online registration form. You can sign up for one or more classes. Total class time is 4 hours (6 hours for credit course). **FREE-VIRTUAL** from the comfort of your own home!



NEW MILFORD FINANCIAL EDUCATION CLASSES

COMING THIS FALL! Virtual Evening Classes 6 P.M. - 7 P.M.

Register online @ NMFinEd.Registration.FormFall2022
Or email us at socialservices@newmilford.org or go through our webpage, if you have trouble opening the link

• Attend all 4 topics and receive a Certificate of Completion and links to saving programs! 😊

BUDGETING

Part 1-4
TBA- OCTOBER 2022

Part 1: How Do I Budget- A case study
Part 2: Budget 101
Part 3: Creating a Salary-Based Budget
Part 4: Budgeting of a Roommate,

SAVINGS

Part 1-4
TBA- OCTOBER 2022

Part 1-Savings Early & Often
Part 2-Challenges to Savings
Part 3-Strategies to Save
Part 4-Where to Save

INVESTING

Part 1-4
TBA- NOVEMBER 2022

Part 1- Investing Basics
Part 2- Stocks, Bonds, & Mutual Funds
Part 3- Index Funds & Target Date Funds (TDFs)

CREDIT MANGAGEMENT

Part 1-6
TBA- JANUARY 2023

Part 1-Intro to Credit
Part 2- How Credit Cards Work
Part 3-Loan Fundamentals
Part 4-Your Credit History
Part 5-Road to Credit Report
Part 6-Intro to Credit Scores & Why They Matter

Important Notice about School Breakfast & Lunch



Parents: By now you realize NMPS are able to provide Free breakfast and lunch to all public school students. However, most likely this will end in a few months. **The schools strongly recommend to apply now for Free/Reduced Lunch program, <https://www.newmilfordps.org/foodandnutrition>** so there will not be any delays when the funds run out and school food will need to be paid for again. You can apply on at . If you need help accessing a computer or navigating the online application, please contact us.

FREE COATS

Community Coat Giveaway

Winter is coming!! Stop by St John's Episcopal Church for **free** children and adult coats, jackets, hats, gloves, etc.

October 8th, 9AM – 12PM
front lawn
7 Whittlesey Avenue,
New Milford, CT



Gently used and new!



Call us to connect with a Career Navigator who can connect you to job trainings available through the Dept. of Labor and American Job Center.

<< **SAVE THE DATE** >>

“BECOME AN APPRENTICE FOR THE DAY”

Touch-a-Trade presents an event for youth and adults to safely participate in trades, crafts and self-sufficiency skills using their own hands. Activities include carpentry, woodworking, masonry, welding, plumbing, electrical wiring, and planting a garden, along with various arts & crafts for younger attendees.

**Saturday, October 22, 2022 10am-4pm
At CAMA- The CT Antique Machinery Assoc.**

31 Kent Cornwall Rd, Kent CT



Turn Your Dreams Into Reality



The Older Worker Virtual Job Training Program is designed to provide people ages 55 and older, who are unemployed, and low-income, access to job skills training online.

Candidates should have basic computer skills, a desire to train and learn!
Program slots are limited, so sign up today!



Contact: Jane O'Grady
Email: Jane.O'Grady@nrwib.org
Website: [Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board nrwib.org](http://NorthwestRegionalWorkforceInvestmentBoard.nrwib.org)
Programs: Older Worker Virtual Training Program
NRWIB Text (203) 510-3372

The total cost of the 30-month Connecticut Older Worker Virtual Training grant is \$889,286. 100 percent is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration.

Town of New Milford Presents:

**#NMKIND
EVENT ON
THE GREEN**

Puppet Show,
Stories, Games,
Crafts & More

October 15, 2022
10 AM - 12 PM

Kindness is caring for others, even when they may not care for you.

Free Event, All Are Welcome!

newmilfordct.myrec.com

FREE

Habitat for Humanity

1ST TIME HOMEBUYER WORKSHOP

Looking to become a homeowner but don't know where to start? Join Housatonic Habitat for Humanity and the New Milford Housing Partnership to learn how you can purchase a home with **NO DOWN PAYMENT** and a subsidized mortgage. With our affordable homeownership plan, you can own for less than the cost to rent! Join us for this **FREE** event.

You will learn:

- Ways to improve your credit score
- How to figure out what you can afford
- How to prepare to apply for a mortgage
- What you can expect during the home buying process
- How Habitat for Humanity offers a hand up to working families and more!

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 6-8pm
John Pettibone Community Center
2 Pickett District Rd., New Milford

This is a free event brought to you by Housatonic Habitat and our partners:

Newtown Savings Bank **New Milford Housing Partnership**

www.housatonic Habitat.org | 203-744-1340

Very Important Messages from New Milford Food Bank

Food Bank days for distribution:



HOURS
Thursdays: 9 a.m. -4 p.m.
 @ New Milford Social Services
 2 Pickett District Road

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

SEPTEMBER 2022						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

*Choice pantry for persons experiencing food insecurity

*Please bring your own bags

*Sign up in our office.

OCTOBER 2022						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

EXTENDED THRU
 NOVEMBER!!!



SNAP \$\$ at the FARMERS MARKET

Remember, we are still at the New Milford Farmers Market on Saturday's from 9am-12pm. Stop by and have \$15 SNAP dollars DOUBLED for delicious fruit and vegetables! Other coins can be purchased for other foods that the Market has to offer such as dairy, meat and bakery!

We have extended our stay until Saturday, Nov. 19th!!

Other Community Food Programs

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY- In NEW MILFORD on the 3rd Wednesday of Every Month!

DATE CHANGE:
 Wednesday,
 Oct 19th @ 4:30pm



Where: Faith Church, 600 Danbury Rd #1, New Milford, CT 06776

Description: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the format of our food distribution at our Mobile Pantry sites will change to keep volunteers and shoppers safe. Most sites are now drive-thru or a take-away, pre-packaged supply of food. Each site is staffed by a host organization that determines a safe distribution format based on its location and staffing. For more information, contact the food bank at 203-469-5000. Our full schedule of Mobile Pantry locations and links to more food resources are at www.ctfoodbank.org/gethelp. Please note that our Mobile Pantry schedule is always subject to change, so check back regularly.

OUR DAILY BREAD FOOD PANTRY



Thursdays, 2pm-6pm

Drive up Service
 Upper Level of
 New Milford United Methodist Church
 68 Danbury Road



Provides all children in New Milford year-round access to food. Sign up on their website at Camella's Cupboard.

Food distribution is every Friday, late afternoon.



"LOAVES AND FISHES HAS RESUMED DINING ROOM MEALS DAILY"!



The dining room is open and dinner is served **daily from 4:30 – 5:30 P.M.** at the Richmond Center, 40 Main Street. Guests will receive bag lunches after the meal. Masks and social distancing are required at this time for entry. There are some masks available for guests.



¡Pregunta a nuestros Trabajadores Sociales cómo inscribirte!

Want \$10 a week
FREE
 for fresh fruits and vegetables?



Quiere \$10 GRATIS cada semana para frutas y verduras frescas?

ASK US HOW!

Ask our Social Workers how to sign up!

¡PREGÚNTANOS CÓMO!



NEW MILFORD
FIT
 Food Insecurity Team



A supportive team of emergency food pantries and meal providers collaborating to respond to the food insecurity needs of New Milford residents.

INSERT REGISTRATION FORM



*A Special Message to our Diverse Community from our Social Worker:
Maria De Oliveira*

*Un mensaje especial a nuestra diversa comunidad de nuestro trabajador social:
Uma mensagem especial para nossa comunidade diversificada de nosso assistente social:
María De Oliveira [Habla español] [fala português]*

¡HOLA A TODOS Y BIENVENIDOS DE NUEVO A NUESTRO BOLETÍN DE OTOÑO!

Tómese un momento para leer nuestro boletín para conocer los excelentes programas que están abiertos para los residentes de New Milford.

- Nuestro banco de alimentos es los jueves:
- 9am -4PM @ Servicios Sociales de New Milford
- Programa de Asistencia de Energía de CT (CEAP)
- Ahora se están tomando solicitudes anticipadas para la próxima temporada de invierno,
- **AVISO IMPORTANTE** sobre desayuno
- y almuerzo escolar

Padres: A estas alturas se dan cuenta de que NMPS puede proporcionar desayuno y almuerzo gratis a todos estudiantes de escuelas públicas. Sin embargo, lo más probable es que esto terminará en unos meses. Las escuelas fuertemente recomiendan a solicitar ahora el almuerzo gratis o a precio reducido

programa, <https://www.newmilfordps.org/foodandnutrition>

- **REGISTRATION ESTÁ ABIERTA:**

¡programas de fiesta !

registro para acción de gracias, santa

Programas de obsequios de fondos y adultos discapacitados.

fecha de cierre es 5 de Noviembre

Se requiere prueba de ingresos y residencia para estos Programas

- **ABRIGOS DE INVIERNO GRATIS**
8 de octubre de 9 a 12 hs.
A las 7 Whittlesey
frente del edificio
- ¡OFRECEMOS VUELVEN LAS
- **CLASES DE EDUCACIÓN FINANCIERA!**
- Tenemos fondos ARPA para ayudar a las personas que se vieron afectadas financieramente por Covid.
- **PROGRAMA AHORRO EN SALUD OFRECER**
- \$10 semanales para comprar frutas y verduras

OLÁ A TODOS E BEM-VINDOS DE VOLTA A NOSSA NEWSLETTER DE OUTONO!

Por favor, reserve um momento para ler nosso boletim informativo para saber mais sobre os grandes programas que estão abertos para os residentes de New Milford.

- Nosso Banco de Alimentos é às quintas-feiras: das 9h às 16h @ New Milford Social Services
- CT Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) As inscrições antecipadas estão sendo feitas para a próxima temporada de inverno,
- **AVISO IMPORTANTE** sobre café da manhã e almoço escolar

País: Agora você percebe que as escolas de NM fornecer café da manhã e almoço gratuitos para todos alunos de escolas públicas. No entanto, é mais provável que Isso vai acabar em alguns meses. As escolas fortemente recomendo inscrever-se agora para almoço gratuito ou com preço reduzido

programa, <https://www.newmilfordps.org/foodandnutrition>

- **AS INSCRIÇÕES ESTÃO ABERTAS:**

programas de festa!

inscrição para a ação de graças santa

Adultos com deficiência e programas de doação de fundos.

data de encerramento é 5 de novembro

É necessário comprovante de renda e residência para esses programas

- CASACOS DE INVIERNO GRÁTIS**

8 de outubro das 9h às 12h

Às 7 Whittlesey

frente do prédio

OFERECEMOS AULAS DE EDUCAÇÃO FINANCEIRA DE VOLTA!

-Temos fundos do ARPA para ajudar as pessoas que foram afetadas financeiramente pelo Covid.

- OFERTA DO PROGRAMA DE ECONOMIA DE SAÚDE**

\$ 10 por semana para comprar frutas e legumes

BREAKING NEWS! GOOD NEWS!
Gov. Lamont has announced an increase in SNAP benefits and an increase in qualifying income- up to 200%. If you have been denied in the past for being a bit over income, try to apply again. Current SNAP households should soon see an increase in their monthly benefits soon. These changes will take effect OCT. 1, 2022.

Apply here after October 1st: <https://www.connect.ct.gov/access/jsp/access/Home.jsp>

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PERMIT NO. 10
NEW MILFORD CT 06776
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PRESORT STANDARD



NEW MILFORD SOCIAL SERVICES
2 PICKETT DISTRICT RD
NEW MILFORD CT. 06776
860-355-6079
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED