



HOUSING • OUTREACH • MULTIFAITH • EMPOWERMENT

# APRIL NEWSLETTER

## Volunteer Appreciation Month: Celebrating the Heart of HOME

April's Volunteer Appreciation Month gave us the perfect moment to honor the people who make HOME's mission possible every single day. In 2025, more than 1,480 volunteers powered our work and showed up with compassion, dedication, and heart when families needed it most.

From preparing meals in our Emergency Shelter, to organizing donations, supporting events, mentoring clients, and lending expertise behind the scenes, volunteers strengthened every corner of our agency. Your service continues to help families across Somerset County move toward stability, dignity, and hope.

Every hour matters. Every act of kindness matters. Every person who chooses to make a difference helps create a stronger, more connected community.

To all of our volunteers: thank you for being the backbone of HOME. Your commitment fuels our mission, uplifts our families, and gives us hope for a bright tomorrow. ✨

## 2025 Annual Report Highlights Momentum Toward Stronger Futures

Our 2025 Annual Report reflects a year of meaningful progress made possible by the strength of our community. Together, we supported 49 families on their path toward stability. We provided 11,700 meals, 1,450 nights of shelter, and volunteers contributed more than 4,000 hours, powering every corner of our mission.



We also marked major movement on Project HOMEbase, our vision for an enhanced office and welcome center that will mirror the work that we do together. With community partners and supporters behind us, the project continues to move from planning to reality. Check out the button below to learn more.

We also celebrated the personal achievements of clients like Ariel. Her determination and support from HOME helped her continue her journey towards a nursing degree. Her success embodies the hope and possibility at the heart of our work.

These numbers tell a powerful story, but the true impact lies in the lives changed, the stability restored, and the futures rebuilt.

## Thank You

A huge thank-you to Pat Mannion and the entire Mannion's crew for hosting our April 10 dine-to-donate. And thank you to everyone who came out to dine in or take out — together, you helped raise over \$700 simply by enjoying a great meal.



## Upcoming Events

### 2026 Hunterdon Polo Classic



We're excited to once again take part in the Hunterdon Polo Classic — a wonderful day in the country supporting local nonprofits, including HOME. The event flyer and link are attached for easy sharing and ticket purchase.

**Saturday, June 13, 2026**

(Rain date: Sunday, June 14)

Gates open at 12PM • Match begins at 2PM  
Fieldview Farm  
342 Quakertown Road, Pittstown, NJ

To purchase tickets, call HOME at 908-704-1920 or email Karen@homescnj.org.

**Only tickets purchased through HOME directly will benefit our programs.**

### HOME Selected for Stop & Shop's Community Bag Program in May

We're excited to share that Stop & Shop has selected HOME as the beneficiary of its Community Bag Program throughout May. This initiative makes it easy for shoppers to support local nonprofits while choosing a more sustainable way to shop.

For every \$2.50 reusable Community Bag purchased at the **Stop & Shop located at 553 South Finley Avenue, Basking Ridge, NJ**, \$1 will be donated to HOME. Each bag purchased helps broaden awareness of our mission and directly supports the families we serve.

This is a simple way to make a meaningful impact — and we'd love your help spreading the word.

Light up your community with this bag.



**STOP&SHOP**

One Bag = One Dollar Donation!

During our benefiting month, every time this \$2.50 reusable Community Bag is purchased at our selected Stop & Shop location, our organization will receive a \$1 donation that goes directly toward our mission!

## Board Highlight



Neil Mahoney

I first became aware of HOME when the director and president came to present to the Knights of Columbus in Somerville in 2024 to explain their mission which supports families in need in the local area. During their visit I showed them the work I had done at the Hall to upgrade it and they asked if I could help once they purchased a new building. That eventually led to my being asked to join the board to act as a liaison between contractors and the Director once the new building was purchased.

Once I joined the board, I was impressed by the commitment of the staff of HOME as well as the board members who give so much time and effort to support the HOME mission. I was requested this year to spearhead the current strategic planning process based on my long career in planning. I am currently in the process of this project which is allowing me to learn more about the financing of the organization and the challenges it faces in providing such needed services to families in the area. It is not just financial support that the families need but help in navigating the social network systems to help them obtain housing and other necessities to be able to live with dignity.

So far, my involvement with being a board member has been a challenging experience that is allowing me to continue to grow as a volunteer and a person. It is not always enough just to contribute money to an organization as it takes human effort and commitment to execute the vision and mission of the organization. I can only hope that more people will commit their unique talents and time to such organizations.