LAUNDRY LOVE OF GREATER DANBURY



Impact Report

2025–2026

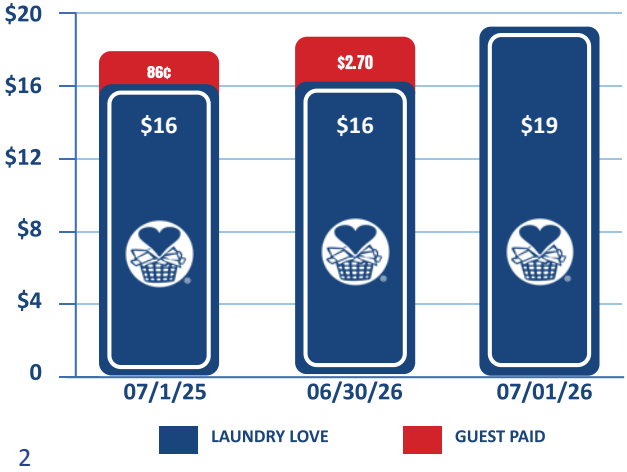
Heavy-Duty Cycles

There's a reason washing machines have heavy-duty settings. Sometimes, the loads are more than a normal cycle can bear. This has been one of those times for our LLGD community.

The majority of our guests are struggling to afford the basics for themselves and their families. Although they work as child care providers, housekeepers, cooks, landscapers, delivery drivers, and more, they regularly face impossible choices, like deciding whether to buy food or fill a prescription. And, they have been disproportionately hit by cuts to social service programs along with rising food and fuel prices.

Impact of Rising Laundromat Prices

White Street Wash prices increased twice last year. The cost for doing just one large and one medium load of laundry increased from about $16 to almost $19, and our guests were bearing more of the cost.



In response to rising prices, we raised the value of each card to $19. To fund that increase, the board made the difficult decision to reduce the number of cards we distribute each month from a high of 380 to 325.

You Are the Brightening Agent

Like brightening agents in detergents, your donations help lift heavy burdens in cycles like these. With your continued support, we hope to return to distributing 350 cards each month. With increased donations, we might even be able to raise the value of the laundry card to cover two large loads of laundry. As the folks at national Laundry Love remind us, "Love never ends. Neither does laundry."

> *We have only one income and eight people. We can hardly make ends meet.*

4350 Laundry Cards

Laundry Events

Your donation funded 12 laundry events and helped build community at White Street Wash in downtown Danbury. On the second Wednesday of every month, between 9 AM and 4 PM, our volunteers distributed an average of 100 pre-paid laundry cards along with detergent to those in need. People have come to rely on our warm welcome and consistent presence.

We are grateful to White Street Wash owner Charlie Docktor and manager Ruth Villaviencio. We see their laundromat as a place where strangers become friends, people are known by name, and the worth of every human being is acknowledged and celebrated.

> *I work in landscaping. These cards help immensely as gas has gone up so much we need to cut back.*



Community Partners

Our community partners help get the laundry cards into the hands of those who need them most. These valued partners distribute over 200 cards each month and reach people who cannot come to monthly events:

- Apex Community Care
- Catholic Charities
- CIFC Health Regional Danbury Program (WIC)
- Community Action Agency of Western Connecticut (CAAWC):
  - Community Food Rescue
  - DanburyWORKS
  - Danbury Farmers Market Community Collaborative
- Daily Bread Food Pantry
- Dorothy Day Hospitality House
- Elm Street Danbury City Shelter
- Family Network of Western CT
- Family Resource Center at Morris St. Elementary School
- Grass Roots Academy
- Interfaith Early Learning Center
- Jericho Partnership Food Pantry
- New Street Danbury City Shelter
- Renewal House
- Salt & Light Ministries

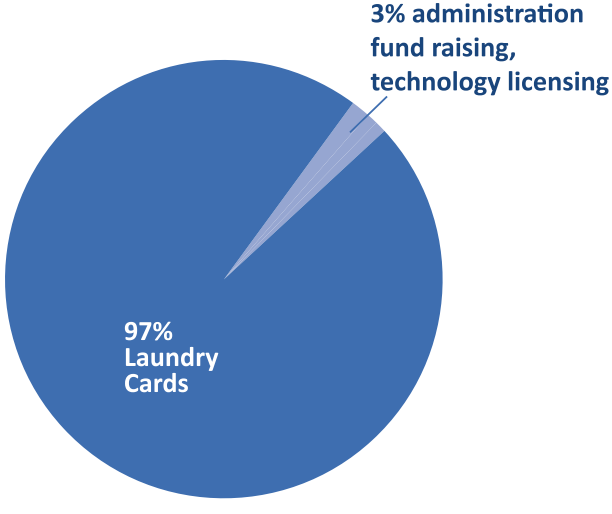
Financials (as of June 30, 2026)

Income	
Pledging Organizations	$ 13,192
Granting Organizations	$ 25,903
Individuals	$ 8,238
Total	**$ 47,333**





Expenses	
Laundry Cards	$ 43,032
Administration	$ 615
Fund Raising	$ 405
Technology Licensing	$ 277
Total	**$ 44,329**



Donors *(Pledging organizations in bold)*

LLGD is grateful for the steadfast support of its pledging organizations, and for the generous grants and donations from the following community-minded philanthropies, businesses, organizations and individuals.

$5000 or more

Dorothy Day Hospitality House
The Ridgefield Thrift Shop
RobyDodd Family Charitable Foundation

$3000 to $4999

The Albert Wadsworth and Helen Clark Meserve Memorial Fund
Sr. Joan's Honorary Fund, St. Mary RC Church, Ridgefield

$2000 to $2999

Jesse Lee Memorial United Methodist Church, Ridgefield
Frances and Chris Kimball
Savings Bank of Danbury Foundation

$1,000 to $1,999

Congregational Church of New Fairfield
First Congregational Church, Ridgefield
Susanne and Stan Galanski
Goldstone Family Foundation, *in honor of Laurie Christiansen*
Newtown Savings Bank
Darleen and Scott Senete
St. James' Episcopal Church, Danbury
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Ridgefield
Sunrise Investment Group
Temple B'nai Chaim, Georgetown
Trinity Episcopal Church, Newtown
Wadsworth Russell Lewis Trust Fund

$500 to $999

Anonymous
Carol and Larry Bigman
Caraluzzi's Markets
Laurie and Chris Christiansen
Christ Church Parish, Redding
First Presbyterian Church of Stamford
HomeVision Team Keller Williams Realty
Ladies Ancient Order of Hiberians, Div 58
United Jewish Center, Danbury
Woman's Club of Danbury and New Fairfield

$100 to $499

Bethel Light, Scalzo Real Estate Group
BG and Dale Brown
Frank Brill
Becky and Bruce Burdumy
Cornelia and Gerard Costello
Linda and Chip Gliedman
Joan and Peter Mitchell, *in honor of Carole and Peter Stathis*
Mary and Edward Moore
Theresa Bearden-Rettger and Michael Rettger
Taylor Zemo Foundation
United Church of Christ, Southbury

Up to $99

Joan Bielizna
Susan and Michael Cragin
Kit Dougherty
Janet and Richard English
Gunilla and Albert Horrocks
Teddy Jameson
Norma Rohde
Margaret Thompson

> The people that give me the cards are the most wonderful people on this earth."

Threads



Literacy

Because the majority of LLGD guests do not speak English, we are happy to promote the services of Literacy Volunteers on the Green (LVG) at our laundry events. LVG provides free English language literacy tutoring to adult learners.

Each month, LVG brings a box of children's books for our volunteers to distribute along with bi-lingual bookmarks that describe its tutoring services. The books are helpful for adults who are learning English as well as for children whose families are doing laundry.

By introducing our many Spanish-speaking guests to LVG services, you are helping to promote English literacy, which can help break the cycle of poverty for those who have immigrated to our country.

Earth Breeze Detergent

Your donation to LLGD makes a load of difference to both people and our planet. Through a collaboration between Laundry Love and Earth Breeze, our volunteers distribute Earth Breeze detergent sheets along with prepaid cards at our laundromat events. In addition to being eco-friendly detergent, the sheets are packaged in bulk in recyclable envelopes instead of a single-use plastic jug. So, your gift spares people the cost of both machines and detergent in a more sustainable way for our planet.

> I have two kids, ages 3 and 1. All of my income from cleaning houses goes to babysitting and gas. Keeping up is a struggle because of higher and higher costs.

About LLGD

Fiscal Sponsor

LLGD operates as a not-for-profit through our fiscal sponsor:

First Congregational Church of Ridgefield (FCC)
103 Main Street
Ridgefield, CT, 06877

All checks are made out to FCC and directed to Laundry Love of Greater Danbury.

We are grateful to the First Congregational Church for helping us administer our financial transactions. That keeps our costs down and helps ensure that almost every donated dollar directly funds laundry cards.

Board and Volunteers

LLGD is run completely by over 30 volunteers, who plan and staff our monthly events. Their dedication, selflessness, and skills are the reason we can direct 97 cents of every dollar we collect directly to laundry cards. By acknowledging the dignity and worth of every person, they bring the love to Laundry Love.

Overseeing operations and planning for LLGD's future is a five-person executive board:

Laurie Christiansen, Chair
Carol Bigman, Vice-Chair
Becky Burdumy, Treasurer
Frances Kimball, Member at Large
Susanne Galanski, Secretary

Dignity Nationwide

There are currently over 300 Laundry Love locations across the U.S; LLGD is one of four in Connecticut. Collectively since its inception, Laundry Love has washed over 4 million loads of Laundry and served over 3 million people.



> Food and gas have strained making ends meet. I had to drop out of school to help my family.

Love, Dignity and Detergent

Mission

As a chapter of the national non-profit Laundry Love, LLGD funds the washing of clothes and bedding of low/no-income families and individuals in Danbury. We brighten the lives of hundreds of people through love, dignity, and detergent by partnering with community agencies and a local laundromat.

The Back Story

The story of Laundry Love began with T-Bone (Eric), a houseless gentleman living in Ventura, California. In one particular conversation, a question was asked of him: “How can we come alongside your life in a meaningful way?” His response was honest and practical:

> *If I had clean clothes, I think people would treat me like a human being.*



In-kind graphic design by Nancy Cole Studio
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laundrylove.org

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