



## Welcome to our community newsletter!

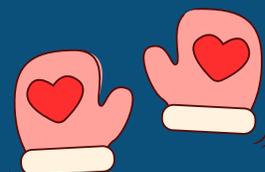
We are very excited to showcase some of the incredible work and resources within and beyond our Continuum of Care.

Please note that by featuring an organization or individual in our newsletter, the Homeless Alliance does not endorse any religious or political beliefs/stances of these individuals or organizations.

## In This Issue



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## IN THIS CHRONICLE



**This issue highlights the momentum building across Western New York** — from major housing investments and lifesaving warming initiatives to powerful nonprofit partnerships and media coverage amplifying our region's work.

You'll see how collaboration, innovation, and even touchdowns on the field are turning into real impact for neighbors experiencing homelessness.

**WNY is stepping up — and this edition captures it all.**

## WNY PROJECTS INCLUDED IN \$240M STATE HOUSING INVESTMENT

Western New York is set to benefit from a major round of state housing funding aimed at increasing the supply of affordable homes across New York.

Gov. Kathy Hochul announced more than **\$240 million** in tax credits and subsidy financing that will help create or preserve approximately **1,800 affordable homes statewide**. Several of those projects are located right here in Western New York.

### **What This Means for the Region**

Among the local developments receiving support:

- **McCoy-Young Commons (Buffalo):** Planned for the former McCoy Convention Center site, this project will bring dozens of new affordable apartments and townhomes to the city, adding density and revitalization near downtown.
- **Blooming Gardens (Jamestown):** A mix of preservation and new construction delivering affordable and supportive housing in Chautauqua County.
- **Sanborn Square (Lewiston):** A 50-unit garden-style community expanding affordable options in Niagara County.

These projects are designed to serve working families, seniors, and residents who need stable, long-term housing options.

With rising rents and limited inventory continuing to pressure the Buffalo market, even modest additions to the housing supply are significant for neighborhood stability and long-term affordability. Leaders say these investments not only expand housing supply but also support broader economic development efforts across the region.

**“The housing crisis won’t solve itself. If we want New York to remain a place people can afford to call home, we have to act with urgency,” Hochul said in a statement. “That means building more housing in every region and making targeted investments to expand affordable homes for people of all ages and phases of life, including working families, seniors and people living with disabilities.”**

### **The Statewide Picture**

The funding combines federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits with state subsidies and is expected to leverage roughly \$1 billion in total investment once private funding is included. This round of awards is part of the governor’s broader \$25 billion, five-year housing plan, which aims to create or preserve 100,000 affordable homes across New York.

### **Bottom Line for WNY**

Affordable housing remains one of the most pressing issues locally. This funding won’t solve the shortage overnight, but it represents concrete movement on projects that will add units, preserve existing housing stock, and invest in communities across Buffalo and the broader WNY region.

## A CLOSER LOOK AT THE WNY PROJECTS

Here's a closer, more detailed look at the Buffalo and Western New York developments moving forward with this latest round of state funding — two already advancing through planning, with the third gaining momentum thanks to this new support.



**McCoy-Young Commons (Buffalo):** Belmont Housing Resources for WNY is partnering with Church of God in Christ WNY Jurisdiction #2 to develop a **three-building, 53-unit affordable housing project in downtown Buffalo**. Plans include a **three-story, 43-unit apartment** building on Clinton Street and **10 two-story townhomes** along Adams Street.



**Blooming Gardens (Jamestown):** A joint effort by Citizens Opportunity for Development and Equality Inc. and Southern Tier Environments for Living will bring a **34-unit affordable and supportive housing development** to the area, serving individuals with mental illness and those who have experienced long-term homelessness.



**Sanborn Square (Lewiston):** A proposed **50-unit garden-style affordable housing development** in the Town of Lewiston. The project is currently in early planning stages following state funding approval, with additional details expected as development moves forward.

Make sure to follow along in future newsletters as we keep the community up-to-date on this exciting development!

## THE HOMELESS ALLIANCE JOINS STATEWIDE ADVOCACY EFFORT AT SHNNY'S CAPITOL LOBBY DAY



Advocates from across New York State, including multiple representatives from the Homeless Alliance of Western New York, gathered at the State Capitol on Thursday for the Supportive Housing Network of New York's 2026 State Lobby Day to advocate for budgetary and legislative priorities to advance supportive housing.

The day created an opportunity for both housing and homelessness advocates as well as supportive housing tenants to speak directly with lawmakers about the urgent need for supportive housing and related services in their communities as state budget negotiations are underway.

With the threat of potential federal funding cuts looming, advocates called for a 4% increase to the New York State Supportive Housing Program. While a hard-fought increase last year marked an important step forward, advocates noted it followed years of disinvestment and falls short of the \$62.1 million funding level the Supportive Housing Network of New York says is needed to meet current realities.

Advocates also called for an increase for the Homeless Housing Assistance Program, a New York State capital funding program that helps create and preserve housing for people experiencing homelessness. HHAP provides one-time capital funding to build new housing, acquire and rehabilitate existing buildings, convert non-residential properties into housing and preserve existing supportive and emergency housing.

The final policy ask was for New York State to cover inflation-related increases in wages and program operations called a Targeted Inflationary Increase (TII) on all State human service contracts. A TII is critical for human service providers to pay staff livable, dignified wages.

The TII is critical due to the high level of skill needed for this work. Our most vulnerable neighbors experiencing homelessness are often also experiencing challenges like physical disabilities, serious and persistent mental illness, fleeing domestic violence and/or other crises. The average salary for core nonprofit human service workers in 2023 was just \$36,688 or nearly \$15,000 below the Census Bureau estimates for median annual earnings for individuals.



## SHNNY CAPITOL LOBBY DAY (CONTINUED)

Throughout the day, participants met with legislators and their staff to discuss policy priorities, funding, and why supportive housing is a crucial component to ending the homelessness crisis. The event was highlighted by a press conference and rally that brought the issue right to the Million Dollar steps at our State Capitol.

In addition, Ashley Matrassi, Director of CoC Programs at the Homeless Alliance, spoke at a state-wide panel briefing to lawmakers and advocates:

“I had the privilege of sitting on a panel specifically discussing the Continuum of Care (CoC) program,” Matrassi said. “These critical federal funds provide housing to approximately 14,000 households across New York and more than \$326 million in assistance statewide.”

**“As federal directives rapidly shift and litigation continues, we are facing real-time questions about how to sustain permanent supportive housing and support our homelessness response systems,” she added. “I spoke about the day-to-day impact of this instability, shrinking planning timelines, changing priorities, evolving expectations, expiring contracts, providers questioning long-term commitments, and community members caught in the middle of policy changes.”**

Also in attendance was Tracy Schmidt, Director of Community Impact, representing the Homeless Alliance and communities across Western New York.

“I had the privilege of meeting with staffers from Senator Patrick Gallivan’s and Senator George Borello’s offices to speak directly to the chaos we have been experiencing at the federal level and why New York State supportive housing programs are more critical than ever,” Schmidt said.

“At the end of the day we all want the same thing: for the most vulnerable in our community to live safe, dignified lives and for our communities to be thriving,” Schmidt added. “We have the people, the will, and the passion to bring this to fruition, we just need the continued funding and policies to allow us to do this work. Western New York reached functional zero for Veteran homelessness nearly 10 years ago. When we have the resources, there is nothing we cannot accomplish.”

Advocates left the Capitol united around a simple message: sustained investment in supportive housing is essential to addressing homelessness and ensuring communities across New York State remain strong, stable, and inclusive.

“Despite this uncertainty, CoCs are not standing still,” Matrassi concluded. “Across the country, Continuums are adapting in real time. We are building contingency plans, communicating transparently even when the answer is “we don’t know yet,” and leaning more heavily on collaboration, data, and coordination as stabilizing forces.”

**“The work continues not because conditions are ideal, but because OUR mission demands it. Housing is a human right — not a privilege.”**

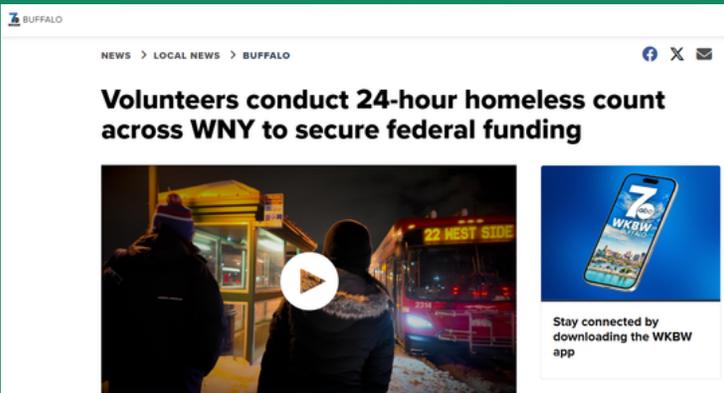


# TELLING THE STORY BEHIND THE (PIT) COUNT

We extend our sincere thanks to the local stations who joined us during the 2026 Point-in-Time Count and helped elevate this important community effort!

Below is a roundup of the media coverage from across Western New York (click photo for story):

## Volunteers conduct 24-hour homeless count across WNY to secure federal funding (WKBW)



## WNY organizations rally to fight homelessness, part of national survey (WIVB)



## Homeless Alliance conducting survey to assess homelessness in WNY (Buffalo Brief - WIVB)



## Interview: Homeless Alliance of WNY (WIVB)



## Point-in-time homeless count held in Buffalo (WGRZ)



## A SINCERE THANK YOU FROM THE HOMELESS ALLIANCE OF WNY!

Every year, our community comes together to ensure that our neighbors experiencing homelessness are seen, counted, and connected to support.

The Homeless Alliance of Western New York would like to extend a sincere **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in this year's Point-in-Time (PIT) Count.

**We truly couldn't have done it without you.**

This year's count was made possible by the dedication of more than 100 volunteers over 53 routes throughout Erie, Niagara, Genesee, Orleans and Wyoming Counties.

**Your commitment ensures that we have accurate information about homelessness in our region so we can better advocate for resources and services.**



This year's PIT Count took place during extreme cold weather conditions, making the effort even more meaningful as anyone outside was facing critical, life-threatening conditions.

The low temperature was 7°F on January 22, dropping to 0°F the following day on January 23 (the 24-hour period of this year's PIT).

The coldest day of January in Buffalo followed, when temperatures plunged to -4°F.

During these harsh winter temperatures and conditions, it becomes especially important for outreach teams to be present in the community.

**While the PIT Count helps us collect vital data, it also serves a much larger purpose: connecting people to shelter, services, and the resources they need to stay safe.**

Because of the volunteers, service providers, and community partners who stepped up to help, individuals experiencing homelessness had more opportunities to connect with support during one of the coldest times of the year.

**Your willingness to show up, brave the cold, and engage with compassion reflects the strength of our community.**

**Thank you for helping ensure that everyone in Western New York is seen and supported!**

# OAK ORCHARD HEALTH OPENS COLD NIGHT CAFES IN BROCKPORT AND ALBION

**As dangerously cold temperatures settled across Western New York, local communities responded by opening their doors to keep people safe.**

With wind chills dipping near zero, a Code Blue emergency was issued, activating new warming shelters in Brockport and Albion for individuals without reliable heat or housing. The shelters offered a warm place to sleep, along with meals, cots, blankets, and basic necessities — a critical lifeline during extreme winter conditions.

**One of the warming sites, hosted in partnership with Oak Orchard Health at a local church in Brockport, highlighted a reality that's often overlooked: the need for emergency shelter isn't limited to large cities. Rural and suburban communities face the same risks when temperatures plunge, and local volunteers stepped up to meet that need.**



Courtesy Oak Orchard Health

Brockport First Baptist Church and Oak Orchard Health teamed up for the important initiative that can host up to 120 people during a Code Blue.

**“What we do is open up our doors to provide a safe, warm, loving environment for those that are unhoused, who get stranded, who are without power, and they need a place to come to get warm, to have a cup of coffee, [and] to get community resources as well,” Julia Carasone, Warming Center Manager for Oak Orchard Health, told News10NBC.**

Visitors to the shelters can access cots, bathrooms, and a food pantry. They are also given toiletries, blankets, and backpacks filled with items like fleece clothing and socks.

Organizers emphasized that these efforts are about more than just warmth — they're about safety, dignity, and making sure no one is left out in the cold. Additional warming centers are expected to open in nearby communities later this winter, expanding access as frigid conditions continue.

The new locations are set for Perry and Batavia. Both are to open in February.

**Brockport First Baptist  
Brockport Warming Center**  
124 Main Street | Brockport, NY  
(585)-340-1355

**Christ Church Episcopal  
Orleans/Albion Warming Center**  
26 South Main Street | Albion, NY  
(585)-340-1355

## RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT: COMMUNITY MISSIONS OF NIAGARA FRONTIER

**Founded in 1925, Community Missions has supported Niagara County residents through some of life's most challenging moments for nearly a century. What began as services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness has grown into 24 programs across four divisions, providing housing, mental health, youth, and crisis supports designed to meet people with dignity, care, and stability.**

Community Missions delivers services through four core divisions — Crisis & Community Services, Mental Health Housing Services, Mental Health Recovery Services, and Youth Services — supporting youth, adults, and families across Niagara County. In addition to providing housing and crisis supports, the organization offers mental health care, recovery services, and youth programming designed to promote stability, connection, and long-term well-being.

Community Missions works alongside individuals and families experiencing homelessness, youth involved in the juvenile justice system, people impacted by trafficking, individuals with mental health needs, and those reentering the community after incarceration. Every program is rooted in dignity and designed to help people build safer, more stable futures.

### Their Services

- **Crisis and Community Services:** Community Kitchen, Emergency Housing Shelter, Food Pantry, Clothes Closet, Furniture Giveaway, Mark's Place, Parole Re-Entry, Christmas Program, Niagara Falls SNUG
- **Mental Health Housing Services:** Supervised Community Residences, Treatment Apartment Program, Supported Housing
- **Mental Health Recovery Services:** Niagara Visions PROS, Hope House, Niagara Falls Respite Services, Transportation
- **Youth Services:** Aurora House, Falls Street Station (YDHP), Family Solutions Program (FSP), Girls Circle, Juvenile Supported Case Management, Girls...Moving On
- **Family Services**
- **Faith Services:** Chapel Worship, Religious and Spiritual Development, Faith-Based Partnerships

### By the Numbers...

#### **In 2024 Community Missions provided:**

- 12,441 Nights of Shelter
- 144,441 Meals
- 4,379 Individuals with Clothing
- 8,071 Care Days in Youth Services
- 55,083 Care Days in Recovery Services
- 69,290 Care Days in Housing



1570 Buffalo Avenue  
Niagara Falls, NY 14303  
(716)-285-3403

[communitymissions.org](http://communitymissions.org) | OPEN 24 HRS

## RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT: GENESSEE ORLEANS MINISTRY OF CONCERN



Courtesy Genesee County Chamber of Commerce

**Genesee Orleans Ministry of Concern is a donor-supported 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Albion, NY, dedicated to helping individuals and families meet urgent needs and build long-term stability. Founded in 1968, the organization serves as a trusted “agency of last resort” for neighbors who have exhausted other resources.**

Through emergency assistance, youth and family empowerment programs, and a furniture program, the Ministry provides compassionate, practical support while working toward greater self-sufficiency and stronger communities across Genesee and Orleans counties.

**DONATE** ❤️

### Youth and Family Empowerment Program

The Youth and Family Empowerment Program brings families together through positive, skill-building experiences that help youth grow and thrive. Open to all ages, the program focuses on creating fun, welcoming moments through free activities, games, and events—strengthening connections while building confidence and community.

### Furniture Program

The Furniture Program helps transform empty spaces into homes. By providing gently used, essential furniture—such as couches, tables, chairs, beds, and bedding—the program ensures individuals and families moving into housing aren’t starting from scratch, but with comfort, safety, and dignity.

### Emergency Services

The Genesee Orleans Ministry of Concern supports neighbors in need by providing essential assistance when it matters most. From personal care items and bedding to help with prescription copays, vision and dental care, and limited rental assistance, advocates work closely with partner organizations and public benefit programs to connect people with the support they need to stay stable and move forward.

*For more information please visit*  
**[ministryofconcern.org](http://ministryofconcern.org)**

29 East State Street  
Albion, NY 14411  
M-F 9AM-4PM | (585)-589-9210

## **TOUCHDOWNS FOR A CAUSE: JAMES COOK, WILLIAM MATTAR RALLY SUPPORT FOR BUILD PROMISE**

**Big plays on the field don't always end when the final whistle blows. Sometimes, they turn into something much bigger.**

That's been the case this season for NFL running back James Cook, whose breakout year with the Buffalo Bills has sparked an unexpected ripple effect off the field — one that's helping support men experiencing homelessness right here in Buffalo.

As the fourth-year back continued to rack up yards and touchdowns this season, fans began turning that success into action. Fantasy football winners and Bills supporters alike started donating in Cook's name and directing contributions to Build Promise, a nonprofit developing a men's shelter and community access center on Buffalo's East Side.

Howard Rich, chairman of Build Promise's board, said the organization began noticing a pattern as donations came in.

**"When people do make donations, they said James Cook had a fabulous year," Rich told WKBW-TV. "He won my fantasy league for me, so I want to donate. So they send a check directly into us."**

**For Build Promise, the attention has been both timely and impactful. The organization is working to expand resources for men experiencing homelessness, and the increased visibility has helped elevate its mission across Western New York.**

Cook himself emphasized the importance of using his platform to give back, telling WKBW-TV that community impact matters just as much as on-field performance.

"I'm proud to support Build Promise because it's really about giving back, showing up for people, and helping out where we can," Cook said. "It's about the community."

Cook recently visited the Build Promise site on Buffalo's East Side, taking time to meet staff, supporters, and individuals connected to the project. Rich said the visit left a strong impression.

**"What I think is so great about a guy like James Cook is that he came in here and he shook everybody's hand," Rich told WKBW-TV. "Bills Mafia loves him, and if we could get the Bills Mafia to support Build Promise the way he supported us, we're off into the races."**



Courtesy Nathaniel Marrero / Sports Illustrated

## TOUCHDOWNS FOR A CAUSE: JAMES COOK, WILLIAM MATTAR RALLY SUPPORT FOR BUILD PROMISE

The effort has also drawn support from Buffalo attorney William Mattar, who partnered with Cook and local apparel company 26 Shirts to raise additional funds and awareness. The collaboration included a limited-edition T-shirt inspired by Cook's No. 4 jersey, with proceeds benefiting Build Promise.

In an interview with WGRZ-TV, Rich said partnerships like these help introduce Build Promise to audiences who may not otherwise be familiar with its work.

**“This is about more than just dollars — it’s about awareness,” Rich told WGRZ-TV. “When people hear James Cook’s name connected to Build Promise, they want to learn more about what we’re building and why it matters.”**

Between the fantasy-football-driven donations, the T-shirt fundraiser, and growing community support, Build Promise has seen momentum build alongside Cook's on-field success. While the stats and highlights may fade as the calendar turns to the NFL offseason, supporters say the impact being made off the field is designed to last — turning touchdowns into tangible support for people who need it most.

*Readers can support the cause by purchasing the limited-edition 26 Shirts collaboration featuring William Mattar and Buffalo Bills running back James Cook, with a portion of each sale benefiting Build Promise.*



Courtesy 26shirts.com

***They won't last forever! Get your limited-edition shirt from 26 Shirts here: [tinyurl.com/2utdn4ux](https://tinyurl.com/2utdn4ux)***

### BUY A SHIRT. BUILD HOPE.

Every shirt purchased supports Build Promise's mission to help those in need.



**DONATE**  
(No shirt provided\*)



**BUY A SHIRT >**

Courtesy BuildPromise.com

## HOMELESS ALLIANCE TO HOST OLDER ADULT HOMELESSNESS TRAINING

Join us on **Thursday, March 19, 2026** from **1:00-2:30 PM ET** at Gerard Place Community Center (2515 Bailey Ave Buffalo NY 14215) for a training on older adult homelessness.

As the population of older adults experiencing homelessness continues to increase, understanding their unique needs and improving our response is more important than ever.

This training will provide an overview of trends, barriers, and best practices for supporting older adults experiencing homelessness.

**Register to reserve your spot:**  
**[Training Registration: Older Adult Homelessness](#)**



## JOIN THE AGING & HOMELESSNESS TASK FORCE

**Aging & Homelessness Task Force**  
Help us form an Aging & Homelessness Task Force to guide regional efforts to address older adult homelessness in Western New York.

We are looking for partners from the homeless response system, aging services, healthcare, housing, and other stakeholders to help improve coordination, identify gaps, and develop strategies to better meet the needs of older adults experiencing homelessness.

If you are interested in helping shape this work, please fill out the interest form:

**[Aging & Homelessness Task Force](#)**



**Homeless Alliance**<sup>™</sup>  
of Western New York

## ERIE'S DEPARTMENT FOR THE AGING STAY FIT PROGRAM

**The Erie County Department for the Aging continues to play a vital role in supporting the health and independence of older adults through its Stay Fit Dining Program.**

This long-standing initiative provides hot, nutritious noonday meals Monday through Friday at senior centers and community dining sites throughout Erie County for residents age 60 and older. The program operates at nearly 50 locations across Erie County.

Each meal is carefully planned to meet at least one-third of the recommended daily nutritional requirements for older adults, helping to promote wellness, manage chronic conditions, and support overall quality of life. Beyond nutrition, the program fosters social connection and community engagement — two critical factors in reducing isolation and promoting mental and emotional well-being among seniors.

**A confidential suggested contribution of \$3.50 per meal is welcomed but not required, ensuring that all eligible residents have access regardless of financial circumstances.**

In addition to congregate dining, certain sites also offer frozen meal options, providing flexibility for those who may prefer to enjoy meals at home.

Older adults, caregivers, or family members seeking more information — including a full list of participating locations and reservation details — are encouraged to contact the Erie County Department for the Aging directly or visit the County's website for assistance on this outstanding program.

Advance reservations are required. To register, call the [site nearest you](#).

*The menu for March can also be found here.*



# THANK YOU LUNCHEON SUPPORTERS!



**Delaware  
North**<sup>SM</sup>



**DEVELOPMENT ADVISORS**  
*Quality • Community • Integrity*



# MOBILE MAMMOGRAPHY VAN

Bringing Breast Screenings to:

Hoag Library

UR Medicine has teamed up with: Hoag Library  
to bring in-office quality mammograms directly to us.

Screening Appointments Available:

134 South Main St., Albion, NY 14411

Location

Friday, March 27, 2026, 10am to 2:30pm

Date & Time

This is a great opportunity for women ages 40+ to receive crucial breast care with the same technology and quality of care you'd get in the office but in a friendly and convenient location. The process is quick and easy, and **it could save your life.**

**Schedule your screening appointment now.**

Call 1-844-870-0002 or email [mammovan@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:mammovan@urmc.rochester.edu).

Visit [mammovan.urmc.edu](http://mammovan.urmc.edu)

Part of Strong Memorial Hospital



UR  
MEDICINE

# Provider Resources

Looking for federal funding opportunities?



**Grants.gov**  
Your All-in-One Gateway to Federal Funding

Find Grants | Apply For Grants | Learn About Grants | Manage Grants

Grants.gov is your all-in-one gateway to:

- Finding Grants
- Applying for Grants
- Learning about Grants and Programs
- Managing Grants

## Learn About Homeless and Housing Funding in NYS



State Funding & Contracts



Online Portal



Grant Opportunities

Search for Grant Opportunities · Sign up for Grant Notifications

The SFS Vendor Portal is the [LINK](#) to State Funding for Homelessness Services



Stay connected to the funding opportunities that drive housing solutions across New York. 🏠

## Meet New York's LEADER in Supportive Housing

**Advocacy and Policy**  
Advocating for Policies that Advance the Growth & Effectiveness of Supportive Housing  
Research Policy and Budget Decisions at the Local, State and Federal Levels

**Research and Reports**  
Original and Evidence-Based Research | Peer-Review Journals | Network Research  
Local and State Data | Public Policy | Thinktanks | Nonprofit Organization Research

**Movement Building**  
Education | Advocates on Behalf of Members | Bringing Groups Together  
State-Wide Collaboration | Listening to Communities | Finding Solutions | Trainings

**Memberships**  
Nonprofit Membership | Affiliate Membership | Corporate Membership



Explore Resources at  
[SHNNY.org](#)

Looking for policy updates, research and data, collaboration, and statewide connection!?

SHNNY brings it all together in one place. 🍷

## NYCON New York Council of Nonprofits Council of Nonprofits

Unleashing the Power of Nonprofits | Community Focus | Statewide Impact

Advocacy That Protects You

Trainings to Grow Your Team



Statewide Network

On-Demand Technical Support

Tools & Resources



You don't have to do it alone.

View upcoming trainings, explore membership benefits and more at [NYCON.org](#)

Running a nonprofit is complex. You shouldn't have to navigate it alone. 😓

That's where NYCON comes in — a trusted statewide resource for nonprofit organizations across New York State!!

# Provider Resources

*Building Health Equity*

## TOGETHER ACROSS WNY

*Local Data. Community Voices. Better Outcomes.*



**Local Data = Better Care & Outcomes**

ECOHE shares local data to help providers better understand community strengths and unmet needs across race, income, language, and neighborhood.

→ Supports informed, person-centered care and outreach.



**Grant Support = Funding Success**

**FREE** expert support to help organizations find grants, apply, plan, edit, use data, and report successfully.

→ Personalized guidance to strengthen applications and improve competitiveness.



**Partnerships = Greater Impact**

ECOHE collaborates with nonprofits, healthcare providers, and community leaders.

→ Potential collaboration, referrals, and shared initiatives.



**Community Insight = Stronger Services**

ECOHE conducts surveys and community outreach to lift up community voices to identify practical challenges.

→ Provides insight into barriers like transportation, language access, food insecurity, and mental health gaps.

Local Data. Local Voices. **Better outcomes.** | Learn more at [erie.gov/health-equity](http://erie.gov/health-equity)

**The Erie County Office of Health Equity supports providers with local data, community insight, partnerships, and grant technical assistance — helping strengthen programs and funding success.**

-  **Understand local data**
-  **Build stronger partnerships**
-  **Strengthen funding strategies**

**Local data. Local voices. Better outcomes.**

HAVE YOU  
EVER

# Smoked?

You need to meet **EDDY**

Early Detection Driven to You.



Lung cancer screening is **easy**.  
And could **SAVE YOUR LIFE.**

Lung cancer screening is for people 50 or older with at least 20 years of heavy smoking.



**Hoag Library**

134 S Main St, Albion, NY 14411

April 20 21

2026

Find out if you're eligible, and where **EDDY** will be next [Roswellpark.org/Eddy](http://Roswellpark.org/Eddy) or call **1-800-ROSWELL (767-9355)**

## Resources

HELP IS JUST A PHONE  
CALL AWAY AT 2-1-1

**CALL 211  
FOR HELP WITH:**

- ✓ Housing
- ✓ Utilities
- ✓ Food
- ✓ Caregiving



211

Simply dial 2-1-1 or visit  
[211wny.org](http://211wny.org) to get  
connected to help in your  
community.

### FOOD LINK POP-UP PANTRY



## POP-UP PANTRY

Find important food resources throughout Genesee,  
Orleans and Wyoming Counties!

Visit [foodlink.org](http://foodlink.org) to locate food pantries, pop-up  
pantries, community meal programs, curbside markets  
and after school meals throughout the GOW area!

### FEEDMORE WNY FOOD PANTRY LOCATOR

# FeedMore wny

Find Food Assistance across WNY!

If you or someone you know needs help  
accessing food, FeedMore WNY makes it  
easy to find support.

Use this page to search for nearby food  
pantries, meal sites, and mobile  
distributions across Cattaraugus,  
Chautauqua, Erie, and Niagara counties.

Simply enter your ZIP code or address  
to see locations, hours, and contact  
information so you can get the help you  
need, close to home.

ROSWELL PARK  
**MOBILE  
SCREENING**  
is coming to **YOUR  
NEIGHBORHOOD!**



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Call  
**1-800-767-9355**

**Screenings are  
quick & safe.**

You may qualify for a free  
or low-cost screening.



You could be eligible for a free or low-cost  
cancer screening with Roswell!

Annual  
**EASTER  
EGGS HUNT**

• **March 28th** •  
**10:00am Sharp!**

**KENDALL FIRE HALL**  
1873 Kendall Rd, Kendall, NY





TOWN OF NIAGARA  
RECREATION

# EASTER EGG HUNT



MARCH

28

10AM-12PM



0-3 YEARS OLD: 10:30AM

4-6 YEARS OLD: 11:00AM

7-10 YEARS OLD: 11:30AM

**SIGN UPS ARE MANDATORY**

**PLEASE CALL 716-297-5243**

**TOWN RESIDENTS: FREE**

**NON-RESIDENTS: \$5 PER FAMILY**

**THIS IS A RAIN OR SHINE (OR SNOW) EVENT  
WILL BE HELD OUTSIDE THE COMMUNITY CENTER**

**7000 JOE ROTELLA WAY  
NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14305**





HOLIDAY MARKET

# Free Easter Bunny Photos



March 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>

11AM-5PM

[WWW.BUFFALOHOLIDAYMARKET.COM](http://WWW.BUFFALOHOLIDAYMARKET.COM)

Hop on over to the market and snap a FREE photo with the Easter Bunny  
March 28-29 | April 3-4 | 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM ET

# TOWN OF EVANS EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday March 28, 2026  
@10am

Evans Town Park  
8965 Lakeshore Road

Park opens at 9:30 a.m.

There will be 2 Grand Prizes for each group. Petting Zoo, bubble station, raffle baskets, sensory path, and a very special rabbit will be in attendance! Those who are in need can register a time slot for the sensory path

@716-549-0970

Age/ Grade Groups:

1 and 2 years old

3 and 4 years old

Grade K, 1 and 2

Grade 3, 4, 5, 6

Sensory Path



Rain Date:

Thursday April 2, 2026 @6pm

# Holiday Resources

The City Church's Annual

# Easter Egg Hunt

Fun-filled Easter Egg Hunt for the whole family!

St. Anthony's Community Center  
114 Liberty St in Batavia



March 31st

6-8PM

Everyone Welcome

Special appearance by the Easter Bunny!



Save the Date!

5th Annual

# ALBION

# Easter Hop

MARCH 28, 2026

9:30 AM - 12 PM

## Youngstown Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt 2026



Saturday, April 4th, 11AM

At Fort Niagara State Park

CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF ONE AND TEN ARE WELCOMED TO PARTICIPATE.  
\*CANDY PROVIDED TO ALL PARTICIPANTS\*



# Holiday Resources

Hop on over for our annual

## EASTER Egg hunt

Join us on  
**Saturday April 4th**  
for some egg-citing fun!



**Lion's Bandshell, Behind Town Hall**

### Age Groups:

Pre-K & Kindergarten: 9:00 am    3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: 10:00 am  
1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: 9:30 am        5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: 10:30 am



## SAVE THE DATE!

2ND ANNUAL

SENSORY FRIENDLY

## EASTER EGG HUNT

FRIDAY  
**APRIL 3RD**  
**1PM-3PM**

## WARSAW LEGION HALL

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW



## EASTER CARNIVAL

**Saturday, April 4**  
**10:00 am - 1:00 pm**  
Lincoln Park Athletic Complex  
1200 Parker Blvd.

### FREE

- Carnival Games and Inflatable
- Coloring contest with prizes
- Easter Bunny and more!

KORNERSTONE COFFEE WILL BE SELLING BREAKFAST TREATS, AND NORTHTOWN GARDEN CENTER WILL HAVE A POP-UP PLANT SALE.

### Register to participate in an Easter Egg Scramble!

HUNDREDS OF PLASTIC EGGS WILL BE SPREAD OUT ON THE FIELD AND EACH CHILD WILL COLLECT AND PUT TOGETHER AN EGG OF EACH COLOR. ALL PARTICIPATING CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE A GOODIE BAG.



#### Egg Scramble Times: Registration is Required

Age Categories: Ages 6 and under | Ages 7 - 12  
Scramble Times: 10:30 am, 11:00 am, 11:30 am, 12:00 pm  
Please arrive 10 minutes before your scramble time.  
Use the QR Code to register. Registration OPENS February 16.

FREE EVENT! PLEASE BRING A DONATION TO SUPPORT KEN-TON CLOSET AND/OR KEN-TON FAMILY FOOD CUPBOARD: TOILETRIES, NON-PERISHABLE FOOD, OR CASH ARE GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL (716) 831-1001.



Join Grace House For an

## EASTER EGG HUNT

APRIL 9TH, 2022  
FROM 1 TO 3 PM

Reserve Your Spot Now through April 2nd



Grace Guest House  
2315 Seneca St.,  
Buffalo, NY, 14210



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

ARE YOU A COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION WITH AN UPCOMING EVENT, RESOURCE OR PROGRAM TO HIGHLIGHT FOR THE COMMUNITY?

SUBMIT MATERIALS TO [SCHAFFER@WNYHOMELESS.ORG](mailto:SCHAFFER@WNYHOMELESS.ORG) TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE NEWSLETTER!

## THANKS FOR READING!

### CONTACT

Homeless Alliance of WNY  
625 Delaware Ave, Suite #410  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
716-853-1101  
[wnyhomeless.org](http://wnyhomeless.org)



SUBMIT FEEDBACK  
HERE



FACEBOOK



LINKEDIN



WE'RE  
SO BACK!

Follow us on our NEW  
Instagram Account!

[@homelessallianceofwny](https://www.instagram.com/homelessallianceofwny)

