



March 5, 2026

Dear Wallingford Town Council Members,

Wallingford Center Inc's allotted budget from the Town of Wallingford has enabled us to offer the following programs and services, supported by two part-time employees and many dedicated volunteers (35-100 per year).

This dedicated allocation allows WCI to maintain the quality and consistency of services and programs that the community has come to expect, ensuring Downtown Wallingford remains a vibrant and thriving center for business and culture. The services that we have been offering:

- **Façade Program**-beautification for merchants and building owners. WCI has formed a landlord committee to assist with communicating about their investment in their community. Our goal is to work with them to improve the presentation of their buildings, both front and rear. WCI believes this collaborative effort will create a more walkable, safer downtown.
- **Streetscape Program**- replacing or adding decorations, planters, benches, flags, poles, and bike racks for beautification.
- **Town events**- Celebrate Wallingford -approx. 10,000 people attend the Holiday Stroll - approx. 1000+ attend; Restaurant HOP 300+ attending; we have put on 2 block parties for the beginning and end of summer. WCI will be looking into potentially doing a Food Truck festival.
- **Collaborative relations** with Park & Rec, Spanish Community of Wallingford ("SCOW"), Town of Wallingford (all departments), the Coalition for a Better Wallingford, Tri Circle, 250th Parade and Social Media Committee, and other smaller collaborative groups.
- **Social media and Administrative support**- WCI has doubled its social media presence since 2024, growing to over 7,000 followers, and we are now successfully selling branded merchandise through our website and storefront at the Marketplace at 144 Center Street. As a result of this increased visibility and engagement with our merchants, we have expanded our marketing reach, strengthened community connections, and created additional revenue opportunities that directly support our downtown programs, events, and business initiatives.
- **Connecticut Main Street Center (CT Main Street)** provides valuable opportunities for both staff and member development through education, training, networking, and statewide collaboration. As a designated Main Street community member, Wallingford Center benefits from access to professional development workshops, technical assistance, peer roundtables, marketing resources, and advocacy support that strengthen our downtown initiatives and organizational capacity.

On May 7th, CT Main Street will host a **Spotlight on Wallingford**, welcoming up to 75 Main Street representatives from communities across Connecticut. This event will showcase Wallingford Center Inc.'s work in economic development, historic preservation, promotion, and community engagement.

The program will include:

- A presentation highlighting Wallingford's strategies, successes, and partnerships
- A guided walking tour of Wallingford Center
- Opportunities for networking and collaboration among downtown leaders

Hosting this Spotlight positions Wallingford as a model Main Street community and provides meaningful exposure for our businesses, property owners, and partners. It also strengthens relationships with our community and fosters idea-sharing that supports continued growth and vitality in our downtown.

This fiscal year, 2026-2027, Wallingford Center Inc. will be seeking a **3.5% budget increase** to sustain and strengthen the programs and services that support Downtown Wallingford's continued growth and vitality.

If the budget were reduced, some of the projects and activities outlined above would need to be scaled back. Such reductions would impact our ability to maintain the quality, consistency, and level of service that the community, businesses, and visitors have come to expect.

The services we provide—including economic development initiatives, promotional events, business support, beautification efforts, and community partnerships—are designed to ensure that Downtown Wallingford remains a vibrant and thriving center for commerce, culture, and connection. Maintaining this level of service is essential to preserving the momentum we have built and to positioning downtown for continued success.

Regards,

Liz Davis
Executive Director

Cc Nikki Trocchio- Board President
Nick Lombardi- Vice President
Alyssa McCann- Treasurer

WALLINGFORD CENTER INC.

PROPOSED BUDGET FYE JUNE 30, 2026

Ordinary Income/Expense	Budget 2025/2026	Proposed Budget 2026-2027	6 mos Actual	Forecasted to 6/30/26	Total Forecasted FYE 6/30/26	Difference	11/1/25-12/31/25	% Change from Total Forecast to 2026 Budget
CELEBRATE WALLINGFORD INCOME								
Beer Garden	4,000.00	7,500.00	9,024.00	0.00	9,024.00	-1,524.00	9,024.00	-18.89%
Business	10,500.00	11,000.00	6,925.00	0.00	6,925.00	4,075.00	12,225.00	58.84%
Civic	3,500.00	3,800.00	2,980.00	0.00	2,980.00	820.00	4,330.00	27.52%
Corporate Sponsorships	17,500.00	17,600.00	20,650.00	0.00	20,650.00	-3,150.00	20,650.00	-15.25%
Crafters	2,750.00	9,500.00	2,750.00	0.00	2,750.00	750.00	4,050.00	27.27%
Food Vendors	8,500.00	9,500.00	8,375.00	0.00	8,375.00	1,125.00	12,125.00	13.43%
Total CELEBRATE WALLINGFORD INCOME	46,750.00	62,800.00	50,704.00	0.00	50,704.00	2,096.00	62,404.00	4.13%
FUNDRAISING INCOME								
Block Party		500.00	500.00		500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00%
Buy A Brick	600.00	2,000.00	1,095.00	1,000.00	2,095.00	-95.00	2,847.57	-4.53%
Food Truck Income		3,000.00		0.00	0.00	3,000.00	0.00	
Holiday Stroll Income		4,800.00	5,271.00	0.00	5,271.00	-471.00	5,271.00	-8.94%
Restaurant Hop/Ticket Sales	7,500.00	6,500.00	1,842.00	5,958.00	7,800.00	-1,300.00	9,035.25	-16.67%
FUNDRAISING - Other	5,500.00		80.00	500.00	580.00	-580.00	1,500.00	-100.00%
Total FUNDRAISING INCOME	13,600.00	16,800.00	8,788.00	7,458.00	16,246.00	554.00	19,153.82	3.41%
GRANT MONIES								
Facade Improvement Prog	25,000.00	25,000.00	6,231.44	18,768.56	25,000.00	0.00	19,229.44	0.00%
Facade Capital Grant	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Streetscape-Capital	50,000.00	28,000.00	15,301.71	34,698.29	50,000.00	-22,000.00	17,275.83	-44.00%
Town of Wallingford Funding	130,000.00	169,000.00	65,000.00	65,000.00	130,000.00	30,000.00	65,000.00	23.08%
Total GRANT MONIES	230,000.00	238,000.00	86,533.15	143,466.85	230,000.00	8,000.00	101,505.27	3.48%
MERCHANDISE INCOME								
Event Merchandise Income	7,000.00	9,000.00	9,735.17	250.00	9,985.17	-985.17	9,742.17	-9.87%
Merchandise Income	4,000.00	2,000.00	3,483.86	350.00	3,833.86	-1,833.86	5,415.59	-47.83%
Total MERCHANDISE INCOME	11,000.00	11,000.00	13,219.03	600.00	13,819.03	-2,819.03	15,157.76	-20.40%
Miscellaneous Income	3,000.00	500.00	1,352.41	147.59	1,500.00	-1,000.00	5,836.13	-66.67%
RESTRICTED DONATIONS								
Holiday Light Sponsorships		5,000.00	3,250.00	1,750.00	5,000.00	0.00	3,250.00	0.00%
Total RESTRICTED DONATIONS	0.00	5,000.00	3,250.00	1,750.00	5,000.00	0.00	3,250.00	0.00%
Total Income	304,350.00	324,100.00	163,846.59	153,422.44	317,268.03	6,830.97	207,306.98	2.15%

PROJECT MANAGEMENT									
	Buy A Brick Expenses	600.00	1,409.00	767.11	300.00	1,067.11	332.89	1,479.94	31.20%
	Facade Improvement	50,000.00	50,000.00	4,000.00	46,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	16,213.00	0.00%
	Landscaping, Planting, Watering, etc	14,000.00	14,500.00	4,418.81	9,581.19	14,000.00	500.00	11,998.60	3.57%
	Streetscapes Capital	50,000.00	28,000.00	21,864.73	28,135.27	50,000.00	-22,000.00	38,254.23	-44.00%
	General Contractor for Lights		22,000.00		0.00	0.00	22,000.00	19,945.09	
	Total PROJECT MANAGEMENT	114,600.00	115,900.00	31,050.65	84,016.46	115,067.11	832.89	87,830.86	0.72%
	Tax, Business								
	Sales Tax	250.00	250.00		250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
	Other		250.00						
	Total Tax, Business	250.00	250.00	0.00	250.00	250.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
	WCI Merchandise	5,095.00	9,000.00	11,729.47	0.00	11,729.47	-6,634.47	13,092.84	-23.27%
	WEBSITE UPGRADE	5,000.00	2,000.00	807.46	4,192.54	2,000.00	3,000.00	1,925.27	0.00%
	Total Expense	305,650.00	323,968.00	169,056.28	152,379.62	321,435.90	-15,885.90	312,882.15	0.79%
	NET:	-1,200.00	132.00	-5,209.69	1,042.82	-4,166.87	-105,676.17	-103.17%	

Wallingford Senior Center



WALLINGFORD COMMITTEE ON AGING INC.

238 Washington Street
Wallingford, CT 06492
Telephone (203) 265-7753
Fax (203) 294-2117

March 9th, 2026

The Honorable Vincent Cervoni

Town of Wallingford

45 Main St

Wallingford, CT 06492

Dear Mayor Cervoni:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Wallingford Committee on Aging Inc., I am pleased to present for your review and approval the proposed Senior Center budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. This package also includes the center's 2025 annual report for your review.

The Wallingford Senior Center continues to be the cornerstone for older adult services and a wonderful asset to our town, as well as a great source of community pride. I'm honored to be a part of it. This will be a pivotal year for us as we look to the future and work to improve and expand our offerings for the thirty-two percent of the town population that we serve. We also support many other town departments and sponsored groups by hosting events and services that include voting in local and national elections, free tax assistance, focus groups, topical speakers, training, special events, entertainment for all ages, workshops, meetings, and award ceremonies. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the Senior Center's expansion into the 238 Washington Street location, where it developed into the outstanding organization it is today. As you can imagine, this all requires a tremendous amount of effort and planning by our staff and volunteers to serve our community. Every day we run numerous engaging programs on-site and off-site, provide quality meals at a very low cost through our café, run transportation for those who are homebound to the center as well as around town for medical appointments, shopping and vital errands, and most importantly promote mental, spiritual and physical well-being.

In 2026 we face the continued strain of inflation and cost increases that require constant evaluation and strategic planning to successfully operate at the high caliber that drives our programs. In addition to covering raising costs, we need to increase our reach based on strong public feedback to expand our hours and extend our transportation services to include out-of-town service. By doing this, we raise the bar again to lead the state in empowering older adults to thrive and reinvent aging.

It is humbling to get to experience how the senior center touches people's lives and has a positive impact on members of the community every day. Those we serve come here to flourish, build friendships, access vital resources and engage in community life that continues to support the town they helped build. It is our privilege to contribute to maintaining Wallingford's strong reputation as a great place to live, work and retire.

Your Partner in Service,



Ann Zak

Executive Director

Cc: Comptroller's Office

**WALLINGFORD COMMITTEE ON AGING
BUDGET FY 2026-2027**

SENIOR CENTER OPERATION	FY 2026-2027	FY 2025-2026
<u>Receipts</u>		
1. Cash-Town Contribution	896,296	866,305
2. Carryover	10,499	2,579
3. Interest	20	20
4. Memory Lane Income	60,000	60,000
5. TOTAL OPERATIONS RECEIPTS	966,815	928,904
<u>Disbursements</u>		
6. Salaries	672,447	646,584
7. Pensions	33,589	29,579
8. Payroll Taxes	54,913	49,892
9. Health Benefits	127,844	118,341
10. Workers Comp	3,118	3,500
11. Staff Travel	2,175	2,100
12. Meetings, Seminars, Dues	3,250	3,250
13. Liability Insurance	17,728	25,307
14. Telephone	3,600	3,600
15. Office Expenses & Supplies	7,400	6,400
16. Equipment	2,100	2,100
17. Maintenance/Repair	3,300	3,300
18. Audit	9,900	9,500
19. Memory Lane Expense	7,000	7,000
20. Town Building Lease	1	1
21. Postage – Office	250	250
22. Printing	2,500	2,500
23. Professional Services	7,500	7,500
24. Continuing Ed. & Training Exp.	800	800
25. Facility Expenses & Supplies	7,400	7,400
26. TOTAL OPERATIONS DISBURSEMENTS	966,815	928,904

FY 2026-2027 FY 2025-2026

Receipts

27. Cash-Town Contribution	258,314	219,205
28. Carryover	2,625	860
29. Bus Income	3,500	3,500
30. TOTAL TRANSPORTATION RECEIPTS	264,439	223,565

Disbursements

31. Salaries	177,668	149,066
32. Pensions	8,883	7,453
33. Payroll Taxes	15,913	12,834
34. Health Benefits	20,866	19,501
35. Workers' Compensation	12,150	12,150
36. Fuel	16,079	13,230
37. Maintenance	8,050	6,250
38. Insurance	4,829	3,080
39. Bus Lease	1	1
40. TOTAL TRANSPORTATION	264,439	223,565

41. TOTAL TOWN CONTRIBUTION REQUESTED (OPERATIONS & TRANSPORTATION)	1,154,610	1,085,510
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WALLINGFORD SENIOR CENTER OPERATIONS FY 2026-2027

RECEIPTS

1. Cash – Town Contribution
Town contribution towards expenses.
2. Carryover
Carryover funds from FY 2023-2024 \$13,124 in total used to offset FY 2025-2026 request. 80% for operations and 20% for transportation.
3. Interest
Portions of the town monthly cash contributions are kept in an interest-bearing account.
4. Memory Lane Program Income
10 Clients @ \$25.00 per day for 240 days.
5. Total Operations Receipts
Total of line items 1 to 4 to cover Senior Center Operations expense.

DISBURSEMENTS

6. Salaries
Increase of 4% which includes some additional hours for weekend hours.
7. Pension Benefits
A budget of 5% of employee wages will be contributed to a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) for all employees who have completed one year.
8. Payroll Taxes
Includes employer contribution to FICA, Medicare and Unemployment Tax paid to the Unemployment Services Trust (UST) Program.
9. Health Benefits
Anthem BC/BS current cost of coverage for five salaried employees which has increased 7% this year.
10. Workers' Compensation
Based on current 2026 calendar year cost= \$15,268 [\$3,118 – Operations, \$12,150 – Transportation]) charges include expense constant and assessment charges.
11. Staff Travel
Mileage reimbursement for staff of .725 cents per mile for 3,000 miles.
12. Meetings, Seminars & Dues
Professional and technical publications, meetings, conferences and membership dues to professional organizations for all staff and the organization itself.
13. Liability Insurance

Commercial General Liability Policy, Commercial Property Coverage (\$20,461); an additional \$1,000,000 umbrella policy (\$2,486); Director and Officers Liability, including Employment Practices; Fiduciary Liability, Internet and Workplace Violence Coverage (\$1,864). Last year's actual total premiums of \$24,811 plus an estimated 2% increase.

14. Telephone

Basic service with caller ID and long-distance coverage at \$30 this year.

15. Office Expenses and Supplies

Office supplies, paper goods, and advertising/personnel recruitment costs.

16. Equipment

Small office equipment, furniture, and computer equipment.

17. Maintenance and Repair

Service contracts on office equipment and service fees.

18. Audit

Annual independent auditor fee for all accounts. Fee for 2025 \$9,800 + \$100 anticipated increase for 2026.

19. Memory Lane Expense

Cost of supplies, meals and transportation for participants.

20. Town Building Lease

Building Lease with Town of Wallingford.

21. Postage

Mailing of general office correspondence.

22. Printing

Printing of brochures, business cards, stationery, and other membership information.

23. Professional Services

Attorney fees, temporary help, payroll service, and computer service and support fees.

24. Education and Training

Staff professional development: workshops, training, seminars, and course fees.

25. Facility Expenses & Supplies

Copier lease, cable TV, internet service, offsite computer file back up, and filtered water fee.

26. Total of Operating Disbursements

Total of line items 6 to 25.

**ELDERLY TRANSPORTATION
FY 2026-2027**

RECEIPTS

27. Cash – Town Contribution
Town contribution towards expenses.
28. Carryover
Carryover funds from FY 2025-2026 in total used to offset FY 2026-2027 request. 80% for operations and 20% for transportation.
29. Bus Income
Estimated passenger donations.
30. Total Transportation Receipts
Total of line items 27 to 29.

DISBURSEMENTS

31. Salaries
Salary cost for the equivalent of 3 full-time driver(s), and 5 part-time Bus Aides, it includes a 4% annual increase. Added .5 FTE for out of town transportation.
32. Pension Benefits
Distributions based on 5% of employee wages will be contributed to a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) for all employees who have completed one year of employment.
33. Payroll Taxes
Includes FICA, Medicare, and State Unemployment.
34. Health Benefits
Blue Cross/Blue Shield current cost of coverage for one full time staff: \$21,230 with an estimated 7% increase.
35. Workers' Compensation
Based on current 2025 calendar year cost ($\$15,268 + 2.5\%$) = \$15,650 [\$3,500 – Operations, \$12,150 – Transportation]) charges include expense constant and assessment charges.
36. Fuel
5,250 gallons @ \$ 2.52/gal.
37. Maintenance
Estimated cost for preventative maintenance, oil changes, tires, brakes, & other repairs.
38. Insurance
Estimated (current year actual of \$2,933 + 5%) cost of insurance under the Town of Wallingford fleet policy.
39. Bus Lease

Three CT-DOT 5310 grant purchased 2019, 2017 and 2015 mini-buses, plus one newly purchased (fully funded by the WCOA) 2024 minibus, all owned by the Town of Wallingford and sub-leased to the Senior Center.

40. Total Transportation Disbursements

Total of line items 33 to 39.

41. Total Town Contribution Requested

Total cash contribution requested from town in line 1 (Operations) and line 27 (Transportation).

**WALLINGFORD COMMITTEE ON AGING, INC.
WALLINGFORD SENIOR CENTER**

**FY 2026-2027 BUDGET ATTACHMENTS &
2025 ANNUAL REPORT**

A. Highlights for 2025	Page 8-9
B. Elderly Transportation Program Report	Page 10-12
C. Memory Lane Program Report	Page 13
D. Program Overview, Program Resources & Co-located Programs	Page 14–19
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Wallingford Senior Center

WALLINGFORD COMMITTEE ON AGING INC.



The Senior Center has had another successful and productive year and has expanded the membership minimum age requirement to include residents 55 and older. During the new fiscal year this has added another 121 members in just 7 months. We also continue to see an increase in general participation in many hands-on expressive art classes, fitness classes and travel. Our evening programs have also continued to grow, and we have worked hard to increase the numbers of dinners we serve by 57% to meet the demand. All but a few sold out during the second half of the year. Moving forward, an emphasis will be placed on enhanced community outreach and more participation in town wide events and celebrations which will allow us to continue to build a strong membership that appeals to all older adult residents in Wallingford.

The Senior Center and the Wallingford Committee on Aging (WCOA) has always sought to maintain the highest level of services as well as optimal condition of the building and all its equipment, including the senior transportation buses, with the least amount of expense to the taxpayers of our town. To that end, the list below includes improvements made by the committee since 2015 at no expense to the town:

- Replaced all flooring throughout the entire building (carpet, vinyl planking, etc.) except in the kitchen and the utility rooms. Great Room carpet, \$42,000 in 219 and various flooring projects since 2015: Work done by Colonial Flooring, Total cost approximately **\$100,000**.
- In 2015, we converted what was the Creative Arts Room into our Club 60 Plus Fitness center and changed what was the Computer Room into a new Creative Arts Room. This included all brand new fitness equipment (\$79,000), lighting and electrical \$5000, flooring \$2000, plumbing \$2000, mirrors, \$1500, painting \$5000, removing and reinstalling cabinetry \$2,500. Total cost approx. **\$97,000**.
- Replace entire telephone system by Link Solutions, cost **\$7,890**. In 2015
- In 2017, had Window Products Inc. replace widow treatments in Activity Room, Fitness Room and Memory Lane cost **\$8,600**.
- Advanced Security Technologies installed a four-camera video system plus staff panic buttons, \$6,065 in 2018. Upgraded with four additional cameras in 2021, \$3765. Total cost **\$9850**.
- Southington Rustic Fence repaired split rail fence \$1500. CT Tree Stump cleared brush 2 x \$1,500 in rear of building. Total cost **\$4500**.
- Replaced all interior light fixtures and light bulbs (except 2' x 4' units being done by attrition by town electrician) with LED type bulbs and fixtures. During 2020 Covid closure **\$20,000**.
- Hired Ferraro's Painting for interior of building painting during Covid closure **\$30,000**.
- Purchased and had installed hands free toilet flushers and faucets for restrooms during 2020 closure \$7328.18.
- Had automatic door openers installed by AA Lockserve on main restroom doors 5/2020 **\$4,644**.
- Had Kitteridge Equipment replace the Hobart conveyors type dish washing machine in the kitchen **\$19,931.17** in 2019.

- Purchased and installed a new Manirowoc Ice Machine in 2021 **\$2,355**.
- Purchased and installed a new Beverage Air Sandwich Maker refrigerator **\$3,641** in 2022.
- Four WSC Ford E350 busses were purchased on behalf of the town, the first three, 2015, 2017, 2019 all with 80% State DOT 5310 grant funding (\$52,000 x 3 = **\$156,000**) with town paying remaining 20%. The newest 2024 bus was purchased for **\$122,640** outright by the WCOA utilizing a Covid ERC refund we applies for and received from the IRS.
- Our FY 22-23 budget request to the town was reduced by **\$90,000** utilizing leftover prior year funds due to Covid closures.
- Our FY 23-24 budget request was reduced by **\$92,407.89** utilizing an additional ERC refund from the IRS.
- In 2023 & 2024 applied for grants and received **\$19,500** in ARPA funds from South Central Area Agency on Aging and **\$25,000** in ARPA funding from the town which was used to pay for a license mental health provider, to run supports groups and provide individualized therapy for individuals affected by Covid, depression, anxiety, grief and loss. *In 2024, these programs provided 524 units of Group Therapy and 92 Units of Individual Therapy.*
- In 2024 utilized almost **\$100,000** in State of CT ARPA funding to have a Reliable Refrigeration Plus replace one rooftop HVAC unit, 2 rooftop exhaust fans, all thermostats and volumes dampers and associated wiring throughout the building. Also, installed two new main control panels, (\$33,000 remains for related use).
- In 2024, had Image 360 create and installed a new Senior Center sign with LED message board, also including sign frame for SCOW, cost **\$41,102**.
- Southington Rustic Fence replaced entire split rail fence across the back of property in July, 2024, **\$8,488.24**.
- WSC Bocce Courts were refurbished by Maisano Bros. Construction in the Fall 2024 – installed drainage new court materials and cleaned and reset the walls, Cost **\$25,000**.

Total \$1,000,521

*Does not include any repairs or replacement of furniture, computers, servers, copiers and other minor equipment.

Through two ARPA grants, one from the South Central Area Agency on Aging for \$19,500 and one from the Town for \$25,000 we also paid a licensed therapist to run 2 support groups and 1:1 therapy for those older adults affected by grief, isolation, depression and anxiety related to Covid or other issues. We continue to explore other options to maintain this important service through the committee.

Once again, the center completed another successful, annual independent audit by Carney, Roy & Gerrol, PC, showing we are in great condition financially and that our practices, transparency and accountability are meeting and exceeding the highest standards in the nonprofit sector.

This year also marked a change in leadership as Executive Director William Viola retired after 24 years at the senior center and Ann Zak was appointed in his place. She has focused on learning overall operations, improving member satisfaction and making all aspects of the center more user friendly for residents. Our staff remains dedicated overall, hardworking and highly flexible, always willing to pitch in and cover other positions as needed and to work together and carry on our vital mission of providing the highest level of programs, special events and services to the older adults of the Wallingford community.

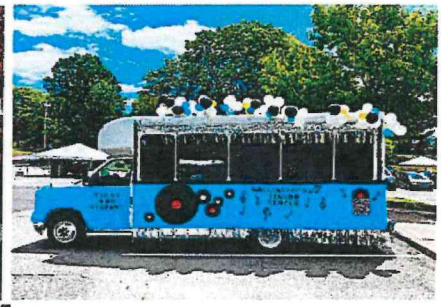
**WALLINGFORD SENIOR CENTER
ELDERLY TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM**

WSC Transportation Department buses once again logged over 30,000 miles and provided almost 10,000 rides in 2025, surpassing both the mileage and total rides for 2024. Still quite noteworthy is the ever-growing number of *passengers requiring significant assistance*, with 58% of our regular passengers requiring some kinds of special accommodation when using our services. This continuously increasing level of frailty in our riders, with many using canes, walkers or wheelchairs, remains the primary justification for our part-time transportation escorts. These bus aides help us to maintain a comfortable level of safety for both staff and passengers plus a notable increase in speed and efficiency since the drivers are not forced to constantly exit and re-enter the bus. Even with the extra help of the bus aides, the time and effort required is a factor in reducing the overall number of rides we are able to provide. We continue to believe our services enable many older adults to remain in their homes, delaying or preventing institutionalization, and maintaining their links to family and the community. Voluntary donations for our services are accepted and added to the Transportation Account which helps offset the town's contribution.

During the year, the center's Transportation Department consisted of four vehicles: a newer 14 passenger 2019 Ford bus added to the fleet in December of 2019, joining the previously acquired 14 passenger 2017 and 2015 Ford buses. All have been purchased via the CT DOT - Federal 5310 grant funding program, with 80% of the cost provided by the grant and the town providing the 20% balance. The title to the 2015 bus was given to the town in early 2021 and for the 2017 bus in February of 2023 as the DOT releases them after 5 years of properly documented service under the terms of the grants. On January 12, 2024 a new 2024 bus was delivered to us by Matthews Buses. The total cost of \$122,940 was paid for by the WCOA from ERC funds received in 2023 and then registered to the town for use by the senior center. With four, newer well-maintained vehicles in our fleet, we now possess the flexibility to accommodate scheduled and unscheduled maintenance, special events and local trips.

During normal service, several part time drivers operate the buses on weekdays with three buses on the road Tuesdays and Thursdays but only two buses used Monday, Wednesday and Friday. In 2026, we plan to add additional days for out-of-town transportation for medical appointments only based on the overwhelming requests that we receive for that additional service. Our services include providing transportation for the Memory Lane Program (Wallingford residents only), transportation for other members to and from the center, scheduled shopping at a number of local grocery and department stores, and appointments (primarily medical, but hairdressing, pharmacy, banking, library and other trips, whenever possible). We also budget a small number of hours to cover a backup driver in the event another driver is out. Much of the administrative time is devoted to radio dispatching, scheduling, maintaining vehicles, supervising drivers and associated paperwork, including maintenance records, which is not fully reflected in this budget. This is performed by the Transportation Coordinator as the main scheduler and dispatcher. The Office Manager, Receptionist and Executive Director all act as backup dispatchers, record keepers and drug testing coordinators and these costs are absorbed in the operations portion of the budget. Throughout 2025, the transportation department continued to struggle finding drivers with the required "Passenger Endorsement". Most companies that hire van drivers pay significantly more per hour, which limits the pool of applicants for our positions. A future compensation analysis is warranted to see what type of hourly increase will make the positions more comparable.

The CT Transit buses with their revised routes have also provided additional options to town residents including seniors, although participation levels still appear lower than hoped for. The GNHTD Regional Rides Program remains as the only low cost, door-to-door, off hours, and out-of-town transportation options for seniors in our community. The GNHTD Dial-a-Ride and the Northeast Transportation ADA Program still provide service to disabled residents, including seniors, within ¾ mile of the fixed transit routes. Limited, low cost, out-of-town transportation service is also currently provided by volunteer reliant Senior Transportation Services managed through Meriden Senior Center. Demand for transportation services remains high and we believe this is vital to many seniors in the Wallingford community.



**WALLINGFORD SENIOR CENTER
ELDERLY TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM
FISCAL YEAR STATISTICS**

Fiscal Year	Miles	Units of Service	Gas/Maintenance cost
02-03	32,402	13,665	11,321
03-04	34,053	13,917	10,533
04-05	38,646	16,071	14,930
05-06	39,132	15,915	18,097
06-07	38,704	14,848	16,680
07-08	41,004	15,057	(New Buses) 21,533
08-09	41,052	14,529	25,157
09-10	35,797	13,292	13,837
10-11	35,577	13,127	20,253
11-12	38,282	13,307	23,090
12-13	34,077	10,665	27,500
13-14	35,569	12,983	25,532
14-15	38,413	12,921	(New Bus 9/15) 26,926
15-16	36,266	12,443	28,572
16-17	37,420	11,384	(New Bus 9/17) 22,782
17-18	35,427	11,346	23,780
18-19	33,057	10,768	17,358
*19-20	21,732	5,031	(New Bus 12/19) 10,239
*20-21	10,380	1,700	13,718
*21-22	25,979	7,705	8,194
22-23	31,562	8,997	15,166
23-24	30,030	8,527	(New Bus 1/24) 26,164
24-25	31,620	10,480	18,546

*Covid-19 Pandemic –interrupted and reduced service

**WALLINGFORD SENIOR CENTER
MEMORY LANE (ADULT DAY) PROGRAM**

The *Memory Lane* Adult Day Program (originally Daily Activities for Independence, or DAI) began at the Wallingford Senior Center in January, 1992 under a three-year regional demonstration grant provided by the South-Central Connecticut Agency on Aging. It was incorporated into the Senior Center Operations Budget in FY 95-96.

Memory Lane offers a unique social-model day program. Participants have some physical, cognitive, social, or psychological special needs, but can continue to be highly active and independent when provided with the appropriate levels of support, individual attention, and therapeutic activity. An assessment and trial visits to the program determine whether a person is appropriate or wishes to participate in the program. Occasional openings resulting from a combination of sickness, death, or discharge are usually filled with referrals that come from a variety of sources, including family members and outside agencies. Families benefit from the respite the program offers them, enabling them to carry on with the demanding role of caregivers. This program has also proven to be a cost-effective way to increase physical and mental functioning, encourage socialization, and delay institutionalization. It has become an alternative to costly medical-model adult care or a convalescent home setting for many families. Paid staff, consisting of a full-time Memory Lane Coordinator, who is a certified Therapeutic Recreation Director (TRD), and two part-time (18 + 12 = 30 hours total) assistants, is supplemented by volunteers, student interns, and other employment program members. A high census and a continuous waiting list for this program in 2003 led to a long-desired expansion to five days per week of service on July 5, 2004. Over the past twenty years, the number of participants has fluctuated at times due to a variety of factors including harsh winter weather, illness and poor awareness. In 2013, the program name was changed and a significant resurgence in census was the result of a renewed marketing effort to expand knowledge and perception of the program in the community. At the same time, a restructured fee schedule was developed, with Wallingford residents attending 4 - 5 days per week paying \$25 per day; \$30 for 2 - 3 days; and a few non-residents paying \$30 or \$35 per day, respectively. This income is used to offset some of the cost to the town.

Although weather and other health issues continued to impact the attendance of the program especially during the winter season, Memory Lane had another solid year statistically, especially reflected in the increased number of new participants. Program Coordinator, Deb Markiewicz, her staff and volunteers have created a loving, comfortable yet engaging and social atmosphere that is well enjoyed by the program participants and greatly appreciated by their families and caregivers. Positive reviews, high satisfaction levels and a heightened awareness in the community has helped maintain the daily census. We are hopeful that a continued focus on marketing to families and caregivers plus increased efforts in networking with local providers will facilitate continued growth and utilization of this valuable resource.

We continue to believe that this is an important and necessary service for the mildly cognitively impaired older adults of the Wallingford community and their families and/or caregivers in order to provide them a safe and healthy environment where they can socialize, remain active mentally and physically, and thereby maintain their independence to the highest possible level for as long as possible.

Calendar Year	2022	2023	2024	2025
Total number of referrals	32	34	35	34
Number who became active participants	11	10	18	15
Total Days of Service	238	248	246	247
Total Units Service	2079	1841	2078	2067

**WALLINGFORD SENIOR CENTER
2025 PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

In 2025, the Wallingford Senior Center experienced significant growth and enhancement across several key program areas. A major advancement was the hiring of a new Program Coordinator, Susan White, who specializes in Creative Arts. Her expertise has expanded and strengthened our creative offerings, resulting in increased interest, participation, and overall program engagement.

One of the most anticipated improvements was the refurbishment of the Center's kiln, allowing us to successfully reintroduce ceramics programming. This restoration, combined with an expanded schedule of creative arts classes, has attracted strong attendance and enthusiastic response from members, further enriching our cultural and artistic environment.

Technology and accessibility were also prioritized during this period. The Center launched a new website in 2025 that is user-friendly, visually appealing, and easy to navigate. Members can now access the monthly newsletter more conveniently, along with information on Lake View Café daily specials, upcoming trips, amenities, and other important Center updates.

Additionally, the Great Room sound system was upgraded to support a wider range of technological devices, improving the quality of presentations, performances, and special events. These enhancements reflect our continued commitment to providing engaging programs, modern amenities, and an inclusive, well-informed community for our members.

Bold words indicate a new program or new donated/purchased item for the year.

Club 60+

The fitness center features 11 pieces of cardio equipment: 3 treadmills, 2 elliptical trainers, 3 recumbent cross trainers, an ergometer and 2 recumbent bicycles, 1 Precor Recumbent bike. Six dual-function weight resistant machines include: multi press, ab/back, biceps/triceps, lateral pull down/row, leg extension/leg curl, and leg press/calf raise. Free weights and bands are available. Certified fitness trainers are available for orientations and support. A team of volunteers monitors the center during operating hours.

Our fitness center, Club 60 Plus, continues to gain new members. **A total of 9,462 members** worked out in Club 60+ up by over 1000 from the previous year. **The total of Club 60+ memberships is 445** which includes paying clients and SilverSneakers/Renew Active participants.

SilverSneakers and Renew Active

The SilverSneakers and Renew Active programs draws in the members to the Club 60+ and the SilverSneakers classes.

Last year	16,657 swipes
2025	20,490 swipes

Group Fitness

Group Fitness continued to grow as the fitness class schedule added another Silver Sneaker class option for members who qualify. **Silver Sneaker CIRCUIT AND Silver Sneaker Yoga.** Weekly fitness classes offered: Total Fitness, Strength and Balance, Tai Chi (beginners and

intermediate classes), Parkinson's Fitness Class, Group Drumming, Cardio Drumming, Body in Motion, Gentle Yoga, Chair Yoga and Workout with Sue via ZOOM and ZUMBA.

Annual Total Participation: 25 classes per week. 25,3367 visits.

Outdoor Recreation: Hiking, Snow Shoeing, Bocce, Pickleball, Golf

Indoor Recreation: Cornhole, Shuffleboard

Social and Recreational

Monthly Birthday parties provided an opportunity for members to celebrate their birthday. All members celebrating the birthdays each month are eligible for a Lake View Café gift certificate for lunch. There were a number of recreational and social opportunities including: The Senior Jammers Band, Singing for Fun, Billiards (including in-house and coed tournaments and tournaments with other senior centers); Bocce, Shuffleboard, Cornhole, Pickleball and golf Leagues; Tap Dance Class (Silver Steppers); Mah-jongg; cards (Canasta, Bridge, Pinochle, Set Back, Texas Hold'em Poker, Nickel/Nickel, Rummikub); Cribbage; Scrabble; Jigsaw puzzling; Dominos and Bingo. **New this year Chess and Karaoke.** A number of monthly and weekly programs included: Tuesday and Thursday morning dance parties, line and ballroom dance lessons, special events featuring guest entertainers. Veteran's Coffee House provided monthly opportunities for veterans to socialize, to learn about beneficial programs and services, and to enjoy programs and guest speakers.

2025 Tournaments: Billiards, Bocce, Cornhole, Shuffleboard and Golf

Biggest Events of the Year

- The Annual Fine Arts, Flowers and Verse was held in June 6 and 7 - 20 displays of art work, floral arrangement and verse were set up in the Great Room. The art show also featured different mediums for public display. This is a collaborative event with the senior center, the Wallingford Garden Club and the Wallingford Poetry Club.
- The Annual Tag Sale was held outdoors on September 6. 50 vendors set up and sold various items.
- The Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair was held on November 1. 40 vendors set up their booths to sell their handmade crafts and other. The center offered a raffle for a fund raiser. Raffle tickets were sold for two weeks prior to the fair. More than 40 prizes were donated to the raffle by members and businesses.

Educational/Lifelong Learning Programs

Weekly and monthly educational offerings included: art appreciation classes; iPad Users Group; iPhone Classes, Bible Discussion, Book Discussion Group; Travel Presentations; Financial Safety and Fraud; **New to 2025: Curiosity Club, Legacy Writing.** Monthly AARP Safe Driving Class were offered. **New AARP CarFit one on one custom car fittings.** Tech Connect support from the WLFDP Public Library, Financial Safety from Bank of America; Thomas Kosturka bird presentation.

Health and Wellness

Monthly educational demonstrations, seminars, workshops and presentations includes Sound Healing (crystal bowl healing with Toni Mc Govern), Blind and Vision Care, Dental Health (UNH), Wallingford Funeral Home, Medication Management (Masonicare), Fall Prevention(CT Orthopedics), Long Term Care Insurance(Amy Platt), Varicose Veins(Midstate Radiology Vein Center), Meal Planning with Omni Group and Shop Rite Dieticians, Use your Mind to Enhance Your Mood and Solo Agers, Quinnipiac University graduate occupational therapy students “Legacy Project”, Pet Clinic, Bingocize presented by Anne Bernick, RN from Wallingford Health Department; A Trainer’s Tip is offered in the monthly newsletter. The Parkinson Support Group met monthly and was facilitated by Anne Bernick, RN. Special screenings and clinics included: hearing services by Home Hearing, 12 foot care clinics by Dr. Gambardella, 1 flu vaccine clinic sponsored by East Shore District Health Department, Reiki treatments, hearing services by Home Hearing.

Creative Arts Clubs

Creative Arts Clubs include Arts and Crafters, Knitters, Quilters, T.A.B.’s, Artists and the Photography Group all of which contributed to the volunteer crafts and sales for the Annual Holiday Fair. **New to the list in 2025 is Ceramics: Clay and Glazing. IDEA Factory: Tapestry, Jewelry Making, Felting, Watercolor, and Fashion. Shakespeare For All: Romeo and Juliet.**

Local Authors invites: Greg Armstrong, D.W Alder, Jane Wilian, Jean Ruggiero and FBI Agent Greg Dillan.

Community

Special educational programs held monthly/quarterly in 2025 included: Fire Safety in the Home by Wallingford Fire Department; Questions and Answers with the Wallingford Police Department; One Book, One Wallingford; Wills, Trusts and, Probate, Ask A Realtor, Wallingford Vital Records documents shredding services, Wallingford Ukulele Club, Wallingford Symphony, Wallingford Public Library Tech Connect, and The Wallingford Grange.

Town meetings and Public functions include Local Mayor visits from Vincent Cervoini; Board of Education Rajan Doering and Town Council. Housing Committee Community Meetings. Continued using our grant for Bereavement Support Group. WACA.

Services Provided to Members

The Senior Center coordinated with local agencies and professionals to provide the following programs and events: shredding of unwanted documents; monthly free appointments for benefits screening, financial questions, veterans’ services, and legal advice; real estate; & free tax return assistance, e-filing (AARP Tax-Aide CT).

Meals Program

Our Lake View Café offered breakfast, lunch, and snack foods daily, and Thursday evening dinners April through October, at affordable prices and provided opportunities for volunteering and socialization. Lake View Café staff also catered for several of our special events and evening parties throughout the year. Ken Marshall continued to supplement help with the kitchen providing catered meals and preparations for Lake View Café.

Intergenerational Programs

Spring Recital from students of SCOW, Students from Quinnipiac University volunteered to clean out the Agnes Campos Memorial Butterfly Garden in April. Students from Lyman Hall High school Italian Club played bocce and cornhole in the fall. Mulan Dancers - Chinese School of Dance performed Spring Recital, The Chika Wie family string ensemble performed for Holiday Concert. Students from Orange Synagogue performed Hanukkah songs and traditions.

Holiday Special Events

Several Holiday events were offered throughout the year. These included the January Winter Warmer with The "R" Band, Valentine's Party, St. Patrick's Day Dinner, Labor Day Cook Out, Halloween Party, Special Veterans Program, Thanksgiving Celebration, Tree Decorating, Nashville Christmas Dinner, Winter Melodies Program, Hanukkah Celebration, and Noon Year's Eve Celebration with Breakfast.

Entertainment Invites for 2025

Dave and Renee Duo (Music Concert), Pat Russo (Guitar), Judith Handler (Celtic Sounds), George Fosdick (Pianist), Gene Thompson (Magician), Anchor Management (Yacht Rock Concert), Jose Paulo (Caribbean Concert), Joby Rogers (Michael Jackson Show), Blaise Tramazzo (Soloist), Fortunate Sons (Band Concert), DJ Rocco, Chris Marolda (Soloist), David Stein (Pianist), DownTown 6 (Band Concert), Tony V (Soloist) JukeBox 45 (Band Concert), Mulan Fitness, Vinny and Lynn Knapp Duo (Music Concert), Patty Carver (Soloist), Mass Conn Fusion (Saxophone Duo), Frank Frazer (Soloist), Don Pierson (Soloist), Ashly Cruz (Soloist), The Corvettes (Music Concert), Ryan Mitten (Celloist), Galaxy Entertainment (Nashville Christmas), Silk N Sounds (Women's a Capella), Chika Wee (String Quartette) Pryme Tyme Entertainment (Jukebox Bingo).

Travel Programs

Our travel is a popular lifelong learning program.

DATE	TRIP	TRIP CO	Comments	# Pass
2025				
	COLLETTE			
March 16 - 27	Old World Sicily	Collette Tours		1
July 20 - 28	Highlights of Norway	Collette Tours		5
Oct 12 - 21	Hawaiian Adventure	Collette Tours		11
Nov 29 - Dec 6	Nashville and Smokey Mt	Collette Tours		1
19-Mar	Titanic in Boston	Landmark		52
15-Apr	Elvis at Villa Louisa	Tours of Distinction		39
23-Apr	NY Botanical Gardens	Tours of Distinction		36
May 30-June 1	1000 Islands	Tours of Distinction	Over night	24
15-May	Aqua Turf ABBA	Friendship Tours	Drive on Own	22
June 3'	Blossoms and	Tours of Distinction	<i>Cancelled</i>	X

	Butterflies			
25-Jun	Summer Breeze Amarante	Friendship Tours	Drive on Own	4
July 23-25	NOAH Lancaster, PA	Friendship Tours	Over night	21
17-Jul	Martha's Vineyard	Tours of Distinction		44
7-Aug	Essex Steam Train	Friendship Tours		47
August 20-21	Saratoga	Tours of Distinction	Over night	20
20-Aug	Cruising Newport	Tours of Distinction		40
Sept. 4	Boston Lights	Friendship Tours		38
Sept 23-30	Mackinac Island	Friendship Tours	Over night	18
3-Nov	Oktoberfest	Tours of Distinction		45
15-Nov	The Frick	Friendship Tours		38
Dec 1-3	Xmas in Cape May	Tours of Distinction	Over night	
10-Dec	Kenny and Dolly	Friendship Tours	Drive on Own	31
Total Attendance				537

Volunteer Opportunities

Opportunities for volunteer service include: program and activity leadership or support (60% of ongoing activities are volunteer-led); front desk volunteers; Lake View Café and kitchen volunteers; Memory Lane volunteers; clerical support volunteers; travel program group leaders; Club 60+ fitness

center volunteers; Greeter and Hospitality committees; and volunteers for special events including the annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair and the Fall Tag Sale. We received volunteer help from CHOATE High School and Walmart. New Technology donations from CHOATE Technology Procurement Department. Wallingford Senior Center also benefits from the services provided from Special needs programs including Ben Haven School for the Autistic and local one on one volunteers from private households.

Community Involvement and Service

Several programs designed for community service provided significant contributions to local agencies and organizations. The members of the Quilting and Knitting groups donated more than **1,852** hats, masks, pillow, pillowcases lap robes, shawls, baby clothes and outfits, bibs, quilts, sweaters and afghans to: VA West Haven, Skyview Nursing Home, Wallingford Housing Authority, YNHH, Midstate Medical Center, New Britain General Hospital, Middlesex Hospital, SMILO at YNHH, Holy Trinity Church, Masonic Home and Hospital, Moses Y Beach School, SCOW, Regency Nursing Home and Rehab., Congregational Church, Masonicare, Quinnipiac University Community craft donations from Community Service Campus Life, Lyman Hall Culinary Students painted beautiful pumpkins for the fall.

The members of the senior center raised funds for the American Heart Association; collected and donated Toys for Tots, Holiday for Giving and the Elks Club; Food Drive for Masters Manna. WSC participated in Coalition For a Better Wallingford Holiday Festival of Trees and the Wallingford Senior Center Holiday Fair.

PROGRAM RESOURCES

The Wallingford Senior Center utilized a variety of resources to offer a full range of activities and programs to its members. Programs were planned and implemented employing resource materials and guest speakers from supporting organizations including the Connecticut Association of Senior Center Personnel, the National Institute of Senior Centers, and the National Council on Aging, and from local and state agencies and organizations. The following resources were used in 2025.

- AARP
- AARP Tax-Aide Connecticut
- AARP CarFit
- Agency on Aging, South Central CT
- Allinson & Associates
- Alzheimer's Association of SC CT
- American Heart Association
- Arthritis Foundation
- Assisted Living Services
- Assurance Wireless
- Aqua Turf
- Bank Of America
- Ben Haven
- Best Life Hearing Services
- Coalition for a Better Wallingford
- Collette Vacations
- CT Department of Transportation
- CT Physical Therapy Association
- Cheshire Senior Center
- Dunkin' Donuts, Wallingford Locations
- Easter Seals/Goodwill Industries
- Elderly Nutrition Program
- Franciscan Homecare & Hospice
- Friendship Tours
- Galaxy Entertainment
- Gaylord Specialty Healthcare
- Goblinfish Studios
- Goodwill
- Home Hearing
- Paul T. Gambardella, D.P.M.
- Genesis HealthCare
- Hartford HealthCare
- Hartford HealthCare Senior Services
- Landmark Tours
- Masonicare
- MediMike
- MidState Medical Center
- Miner Hills Golf Course
- National Council on Aging
- National Institute of Senior Centers
- Omni Group
- Quinnipiac University
- Regency House
- Driver Safety Courses
- Free Tax Assistance Program
- Helping Mature Drivers Find Their Safest Fit Programs
- Program
- Program
- Program
- Arthritis Exercise Program
- Veterans Coffee House Support Programs
- Day Trips Programs
- Lake View Café Program
- Program
- Travel Programs
- Programs
- Program
- Program
- Veterans Coffee House Support Programs
- Senior Community Café Program
- Travel Programs
- Programs
- Programs
- Advertising Programs
- Hearing Aid Services
- Foot Care Clinics Programs
- Health & Wellness Programs Programs
- Travel Programs
- Programs
- Programs
- Programs
- Programs
- Golf League Programs
- Programs
- Programs
- Programs
- Programs
- Programs

ATTACHMENT D – Continued

• SCOW	Programs
• ShopRite of Wallingford	Programs
• Skyview Center	Programs
• Shirt Graphix	Programs
• Thunderfish Charters	Programs
• Toomey Financial Services	Programs
• Tours of Distinction	Travel Programs
• University of New Haven	Intergeneration and Educational Programs
• Veins Centers of Connecticut	Health and Wellness
• Veterans Posts, Groups	Programs
• Vet Care Everywhere	Health and Wellness
• VITAS Healthcare	Programs
• VRC (Vital Records)	Programs
• Wallingford Board of Education	Programs
• Wallingford Committee on Aging	Program
• Wallingford Family YMCA	Program
• Wallingford Fire Department	Program
• Wallingford Funeral Home	Programs
• Wallingford Health Department	Programs
• Wallingford Parks and Recreation	Programs
• Wallingford Police Department	Programs
• Wallingford Public Library	Programs
• Wallingford Public Schools	Intergenerational & Outreach Programs
• Wallingford magazine	Advertising
• Wallingford Veterans Service Center	Programs
• Wallingford Youth & Social Services	Programs
• Walmart of Wallingford	Programs

Monthly Birthday parties provided an opportunity for members to celebrate their birthday. All members celebrating the birthdays each month are eligible for a Lake View Café gift certificate for lunch. There were a number of recreational and social opportunities including: The Senior Jammers Band, Singing for Fun, Billiards (including in-house and coed tournaments and tournaments with other senior centers); Bocce, Shuffleboard, Cornhole, Pickleball and golf Leagues; Tap Dance Class (Silver Steppers); Mah-jongg; cards (Canasta, Bridge, Pinochle, Set Back, Texas Hold'em Poker, Nickel/Nickel, Rummikub); Cribbage; Scrabble; Jigsaw puzzling; and Bingo. New this year is Dominoes.

A number of monthly and weekly programs included: Tuesday and Thursday morning dance parties, line and ballroom dance lessons, special events featuring guest entertainers. Veteran's Coffee House provided monthly opportunities for veterans to socialize, to learn about beneficial programs and services, and to enjoy programs and guest speakers. A few special events included the senior center as well as some groups and individuals from the Wallingford Community. The annual Tag Sale was held outdoors on September 7th. Thirty vendors set up and sold their handmade items. The Annual Fine Arts, Flowers and Verse was held on June 7th and 8th. Twenty displays of artwork, complimentary floral arrangements and verse were set up in the Great Room. The art show also featured different mediums for public display. This is a collaborative event with the senior center, the Wallingford Garden Club and the Wallingford Poetry Club. The annual holiday fair was held on November 2nd, where Forty vendors set up their booths to sell their handmade crafts and other items. The center offered a raffle for a fund raiser. Raffle tickets were sold for two weeks prior to the fair. More than 30 raffle prizes were donated by members and businesses.

Wallingford Senior Center
Joann Hummel Social Service Coordinator
Annual Social Service Report: January 2025 – December 2025

The Social Service Coordinator, Joann Hummel is Certified as a CHOICES Health Insurance Counselor through the Agency on Aging of South-Central Connecticut. During the year, she presented a Medicare information session at the Wallingford Public Library. To help the community understand Medicare and the assistance that she can offer to the community through the Senior Center. The presentation was a success and contributed to many new people seeking service at the Senior Center this year. Joann counseled new retirees to Medicare and offered insight to Medicare beneficiaries on their Health Insurance benefits and options. She educated clients on the essential aspects of choosing a supplement to Medicare, Medicare A&B, Medigap, Dental Plans, Medicare Advantage Plans, Medicare Prescription Drug Programs, Medicaid and the Medicare Saving Program (MSP). Once clients were informed, she helped clients enroll to their chosen plan. She also guided clients through the complex array of State programs providing information and assessment related to their eligibility requirements. Rules and regulations were explained in a professional, non-bureaucratic setting. The need to provide Legislative updates, and advocacy to help maintain or increase program benefits for clients, were also monitored. The vast services provided from the Social Service Coordinator included educating clients about programs and services and assisting with applications required for Federal, State and Municipal programs including Access Health, Social Security, Energy Assistance, Meals On Wheels, Housing Authority, Section 8 Housing, Homeless Shelters, Rise Adult Incontinence Bank, Transportation, Ct Senior Farmers Market vouchers and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The Social Service Coordinator also ensures the follow-up services for the seniors, so they do not lose benefits. She delivers care management services which include assessing the senior's unique physical, psychosocial and financial needs to access the services to meet these needs and help with any problems with delivery of service.

Additional services include providing referrals for geriatric and psychological assessments, care giving, counseling, employment applications, property tax assistance programs, veterans' benefits, meal programs including food pantries, adult day care programs, legal services, financial counseling, DMV, senior housing, and other housing options, medical advocacy and cancer patient support and advocacy. Joann has also provided support and assistance to Wallingford town offices and local hospitals including the Health Department, Fire Department, Tax Assessor's office, Veterans Service, Planning and Zoning, Police Department, completing wellness checks for the homebound; as well as, assisting Social Workers from local hospitals and organizations.

Joann recognized the need to enhance the emotional and psychological wellbeing within the 60+ community. In 2024 a total of 288 service units were offered to people in need which only rose in 2025 to 430 service units offer by the Social Service Coordinator to Wallingford residents. Many members were seeking counseling for loss and bereavement, as well as symptoms of stress and anxiety. Very few therapists or psychiatrists will take Medicare, which only left them to become more isolated. The increase in mental health concerns after Covid 19 was very clear and the need was imperative. The creation of weekly support groups began in 2023, which was and continues to be co-facilitated by Joann and a Wallingford Family Therapist. The support groups are still a vital service to the Wallingford Community. The convenience of having the weekly groups at the Senior center to support people who are experiencing Grief, Loss,

Loneliness, Stress and Anxiety has become well known in the community and monthly inquiries about how to join continued. Currently, The WSC Director supports programs addressing mental health needs and has formed a fundraising committee to help address funding so the center can bring in more programs that address healthier minds and spirits for the community.

With regular changes to existing services and programs, the Social Service Coordinator requires continuing education and problem-solving techniques to meet these challenges. Networking with other community resources provides a vital team approach to finding and creating a safety net for Wallingford seniors. Through the help and guidance of the Social Service Coordinator, many seniors were able to increase their monthly allowance by taking advantage of managing health care cost, managing prescription costs, and lowering their monthly utility, food and personal costs which resulted having a higher quality of life with less financial stress. This not only helped the 60+ community stay in their homes during a time when there was a lack of availability of housing options for low-income individuals, it also helped them to remain responsible to pay for their property taxes, personal taxes and care for their home.

The need for housing remains a current need for many people in Wallingford. In 2024 the inquiries regarding housing received was 288 this year in 2025, 374 people requested help regarding housing needs. Our community has suffered from increase rents, eviction notices, non-assessable living environments and the lack of housing opportunities. The Social Service Coordinator has worked with the Housing Authority, Carabetta Housing, 211 system and New Opportunities to try to find emergency shelter for people. Due to witnessing the need, and seeking to try to find answers, Joann became actively involved with working with SCRCOG and in the development of *Wallingford Works for Housing (WWH)*. The group, WWH consists of residents, community leaders, politicians, and organizations, working with our neighbors to build relationships and propose solutions to the housing challenges we all face. The goal is for housing for all, economic growth and a healthy future for Wallingford. Joann hosted community conversations at the Senior Center and local establishments which welcomed the attendance of many town and state representatives.

The need for people requesting help regarding food insecurity increased this year. Last year in 2024, 147 requested help from the Social Service Coordinator to apply for SNAP or the food pantries. In 2025 this need rose to a high of 469 people requesting assistance. After the government shut down and the concern regarding the freeze on SNAP benefits, panic grew but the community reaching out to help also grew. During the holidays the Wallingford Elks Club helped 8 families have a full Thanksgiving meal which was coordinated by the Social Service Coordinator.

The partnership with the Ct Food Share Mobile Pantry program provided many community members and seniors with free food to supplement their nutritional needs. Twice a month, CT Food Share Mobile Pantry set up at the Wallingford Senior Center parking lot to provide a safe and convenient location for community residents to gather and pick out fresh produce, fruits and other pantry items to meet their needs. To continue to support people with food insecurities and help them find healthy alternatives. Joann became certified with the Wic and Senior Farmers Market Nutrition program. The Wallingford Senior Center is now a vender for the community to receive their Ecard so they can go to any Farmers Market in Ct and receive free Ct grown fruits, vegetables, eggs and honey during the summer and fall season.

Overall, due to the collaboration and outreach with community agencies, and many State and Federal programs, problems have been resolved quickly with excellent outcomes. These collaborations have provided the Social Service Coordinator with the ability to resolve problems

for the 60+ community in a more efficient, timely manner, thereby relieving the stress for them to have to wait for a long period of time to resolve a personal need.

Additional Functions, responsibilities and activities of the Social Service Coordinator in 2025 include:

- Coordinate appointments for New Opportunity Fuel Assistance program application weekly at the Wallingford Senior Center
- Coordinate Guest Speakers to facilitate current and progressive seminars for the seniors.
- Coordinate Financial Planning information sessions.
- Coordinate Veterans Services to assist with benefit information.
- Assist and Complete SNAP Applications
- Assist and complete Energy Assistance applications.
- Liaison between cancer patients and their medical advocacy team
- Social Service Educational team member during town Celebrate Wallingford
- Presented a community wide Medicare Training at the Wallingford Public Library
- Presented Wallingford Works for Housing Community discussions groups.
- Volunteered Celebrate Wallingford
- Coordinate and application assistance in Housing Authority, Congregate Living, Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing Homes
- Outreached to home bound Wallingford residents.
- Outreached to Wallingford residents with psychiatric health concerns.
- Attended staff meetings at the Wallingford Senior Center
- Attended meetings with local Social Workers
- Coordinated home care services with local agencies: Franciscans home and Hospice Care, Always Best care, Compassionate Care, Hartford Health Care, Masonic Care, Right at Home, Infinity Homer Care
- Coordinated Home Transition Solution for residential hoarding situations.
- Co Facilitates Support Groups
- Bereavement Counseling

Educational Seminars, Committees, Trainings and Certifications:

- Certification: Screening, Brief, Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRTH)- Assessing Substance abuse
- Certification: Wic and Senior Farmers Market Program 5/1/25 exam
- Certification CHOICES Counselor
- Certification: GATE KEEPER screening for Suicide Risks
- Re Certification: Choices/ SHIP Medicare Counselor
- Attended Training: The Mental Health Journey
- Attended Training: Care Givers for Adults
- Attended Training: Working together to wrap around caregiver and resident services.
- Attended Training: Collective Solutions Municipal Training for Homelessness response in CT.

- Attended Training: End of Life journey.
- Attended Conference: Agency on Aging (AOASCC) annual meeting.
- Attended Seminar: CHOICES: What's New for Medicare 2025/2026
- Attended Seminar: Daring Dialogue Community Workshop
- Attended Seminar: SHIP What's new with Medicare.
- Attended: Medicare Advantage Conference 2025/2026
- Attended Training: What's New in Medicare 2025/2026
- Attended Training: Dementia Care and Assessment
- Attended Training: New Medicare Tool Finder
- Attended Training: Medicare Savings Plan
- Attended Training: Getting Ready for Open Enrollment
- Attended Training: Open Enrollment Tool-finder.
- Staff meeting with Agency on Aging
- Attended Training: Navigating Social Security and Medicare.
- Attended: Wlfd Community Resource Alliance Committee Meeting
- Attended: and Member SCRCOG of Wallingford Works for Housing
- Attended Committee Meeting: member for SCRCOG Senior and ADA Mobility Study
- Attended Training: Economic security for older and aging Ct workers.
- Attended Meeting: Community Resource Alliance
- Attended Meeting: M TEAM meetings.
- Attended: Wallingford Town Council Meetings
- Attended: Wallingford Planning and Zoning Meetings
- Attended: SCRCOG Regional Meetings
- Attended Seminar: Elder Advocacy of Ct.

ANNUAL 2025 STATISTIC REPORT
INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE AND FOLLOW UP STATISTICS
SOCIAL WORKER REPORT

	I & A	FOLLOW UP CALLS	APPOINTMENTS OFFICE/OUTREACH		unit total
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	
1. ABUSE NEGLECT PROBLEMS	7	4	5	3	(19)
2. ADULT DAY CARE	2	2	2		(6)
3. AGENCY ON AGING	4	4	1	4	(13)
4. HOMESHARE	0	0	0	0	
5. ASSISTED LIVING	3	3	2	3	(11)
6. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH/SUBS ABUSE/GAMBLING/HOARDING	202	24	198	6	(430)*
7. BENEFITS CHECKUP	50	4	50	3	(107)
8. CHORE/HOMEMAKER/FRNDLYVISITOR	42	12	31	14	(99)
9. COMPANION/LIVE-IN	5	2	4	3	(14)
10. CONGREGATE HOUSING	3	2	1	1	(7)
11. CONGREGATE MEALS//ENP	2	1	1	1	(5)
12. CONNPACE/CONNMAP	0	0	0	0	
13. CT HOMECARE PROGRAM	13	6	5	5	(29)
14. MEMORY LANE	14	2	9	4	(28)
15. ENERGY ASSISTANCE	45	36	28	25	(134)
16. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	20	13	17	16	(66)
17. FOOD PANTRY/OTHER	139	123	102	105	(469)*
18. SNAP	49	23	44	14	(130)
19. GERIATRIC ASSESSMENT PROG.	0	0	0	0	
20. HEALTH INSURANCE/DENTAL	66	43	65	8	(182)
21. HOME REPAIR	18	13	9	17	(57)
22. HOUSING	131	83	77	83	(374)*
23. HOME HEALTH	107	67	80	96	(350)*
24. INCOME TAX	4	1	3	8	(16)
25. LEGAL	26	14	18	15	(73)
26. ADVANCED DIRECTIVES	7	4	3	1	(15)
27. CONSERVATORSHIP	7	4	3	1	(15)
28. POWER OF ATTORNEY	8	5	4	1	(18)
29. LONG TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN	0	0	0	0	
30. MEALS ON WHEELS	5	4	1	4	(14)
31. MEDICARE C	79	12	79	25	(195)
32. MEDICARE PART D	40	6	40		(86)
33. MEDICAID	17		14	3	(34)
34. MEDICAL CARE/DENTAL CARE	43	6	43		(92)
35. MEDICARE A, B	42	14	34	5	(95)
36. MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM	65	20	60		(145)
37. MEDIGAP	54	6	49		(109)
38. STATEWIDE RESPITE PROGRAM	0	0	0	0	
39. SKILLED NURSING HOMES	17	9	14	9	(49)
40. SOCIAL SECURITY	26	18	25	4	(73)
41. STATE SUPPLEMENTAL/SSI	0	0	0	0	
42. SUPPORT GROUP/RESPITE	49	18	52		(119)
43. TAX/RENT REBATE	17	8	11	9	(45)
44. TRANSPORTATION	36	13	29	21	(99)
45. VETERAN'S PROGRAM	9	2	9	3	(20)
46. WEAP	0	0	0	0	
47. YOUTH & SOCIAL SERVICES	6	1	6	6	(19)
48. *HOME BOUND/WELLNESS RESPONSE	25	29	29	19	(102)
49. NEW MEMBERSHIP	13		13		(26)
50.COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ SOCIAL SERVICE VENDERS	37	15	37	12	(101)

51. COMPUTER SEVICES and MAIL	68	4	68	1 (141)
52. *CLIENTS UNDER 60*	A:Units	B:Units	C:Units	D:Units
ABCD TOTAL UNITS:	1609	1472	1330	558
TOTAL UNITS 4969		A/B 3081		C/D 1888

**WALLINGFORD SENIOR CENTER
ADDITIONAL STAFF**

Arrangements were made by the administration of the Wallingford Senior Center for the following staff to supplement regular staff during the calendar year. The following is an estimated value for these services that were provided at no cost to the Senior Center:

-
- Elderly Nutrition Program (ENP) Site Manager**
\$ 37,898
 - One 20 hour per week position provided by Life Bridge Community Services to oversee the volunteers and overall operation of the Senior Community Café.
(1040 hours @ \$ 36.44 = \$ 37,898)

 - “Tech Connect” Program**
\$11,370
 - Matt, Elijah and Connor, 3 “Techsperts” from the Wallingford Public Library’s grant funded program provided both one on one and group teaching twice weekly for our members at the senior center.
(312 hours @ \$ 36.44 = \$ 11,370)

 - Quinnipiac University & Wallingford Garden Club Volunteers**
\$ 2,143
 - 10 Quinnipiac University students came to the senior center in 2025 to assist with the spring cleanup of the Agnes Campos Memorial Butterfly Garden along with 5 Wallingford Garden Club members and the Executive Director. (64 hours @ \$ 33.49 = \$ 2,035)



-
- Program Assistance**
\$ 4,856
 - Students from Lyman Hall High school Italian Club played bocce and cornhole with WSC members in the fall (24). The Lyman Hall Chorus and string ensemble performed for the annual holiday party (75). Three Choate students volunteered to help break down for the annual Holiday Fair (10). The Chika Wie family string ensemble performed for Fine Arts, Flowers and Verse and also performed for the members during the holidays (10). A High School Student played the piano in the Great Room weekly for members throughout the summer (26).
(145 hours @ \$ 33.49 = \$ 4,856)
-

TOTAL VALUE OF ADDITIONAL STAFF = \$ 56,267

**WALLINGFORD SENIOR CENTER
VOLUNTEER SUPPORT**

Members of the Wallingford Senior Center, the Wallingford Committee on Aging, Inc. and volunteers from the community-at-large contribute their time, talents and skills to enable us to provide a wide spectrum of services and activities. The tasks they perform are as varied as the volunteers themselves.

The following is an estimate based on actual records and reports of staff for hours and rates based on those provided by "Independent Sector" (2023 CT Average = \$36.44; 2024 National average = \$33.49) for the value of volunteer time.

• **WALLINGFORD COMMITTEE ON AGING, INC.**

The Board of Directors of the Wallingford Committee on Aging meets monthly to establish policy and oversee the finances and personnel of the Senior Center, weekly check signing by the Treasurer and monthly planning meetings with the president and Executive Director. Sub-committees (i.e., Finance, Personnel, Policy, Nominating, Fundraising, and Long-Range Planning) meet periodically to prepare reports and recommendations to the Executive Director and Board.

Estimated Value (15 Board Directors): 970 hours @ \$36.44 per hour = **\$ 35,347**

• **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM SHS, LHHS, BENHAVEN & ALTERNATIVE SCHOOLS**

Community service volunteers, assisted in the ENP cafe area with serving and table clearing, transportation assistance, office work and with the Memory Lane Program.

Estimated Value 120 hours @ \$33.49 per hour = **\$ 4,019**

• **AARP TAX VOLUNTEERS**

AARP Tax volunteers come to the center annually (Feb. – Apr.), to provide free, simple tax return calculation and filing for both our members and the public.

Estimated Value 420 hours @ \$36.44 per hour = **\$ 15,305**

• **MEMBER VOLUNTEERS**

Wallingford Senior Center members assist with the Memory Lane program, reception, office, and clerical tasks; serve as group leaders, greeters, class instructors, trip captains, hospitality services, kitchen assistants and dishwashers. Also, many assist staff with fundraising, program planning, community service projects, donations to the community and membership registration.

Estimated Value: Approximately 20,572 hours @ \$33.49 per hour = **\$ 688,956**

TOTAL VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS = \$ 743,627

TOTAL VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS & ADDITIONAL STAFF = \$ 799,894

March 3, 2026

Town Council
Town of Wallingford
45 South Main Street
Wallingford, CT 06492

Dear Mayor Cervoni,

On behalf of Fostering Family Hope Inc, a Connecticut-based statewide organization proudly headquartered in the Town of Wallingford, we would like to formally request an allocation of **\$40,000.00** from the upcoming 2026 annual budget. These funds will directly support one full year of facility rent and essential operating expenses.

While our programs serve children and families throughout the State of Connecticut, our administrative headquarters, program coordination, and daily operations of The Foster Closet (a boutique offering basic essentials to foster families), are based in Wallingford. The Town's support directly sustains the infrastructure that enables us to deliver high-quality services to youth and families across the state while maintaining a committed and engaged presence within the local community.

The requested funds will be allocated as follows:

1. Facility Rent (12 Months) - \$30,000.00
Coverage of one full year of lease payments for our headquarters located in the Town of Wallingford, and anticipates a move to a larger space. The physical location of our organization houses program administration, statewide coordination, outreach efforts, volunteer engagement, planning, resource distribution, and most visibly, The Foster Closet boutique.
2. Core Operating Expenses (12 Months) - \$10,000
Essential operational costs necessary to maintain uninterrupted services and with the anticipation of a larger space, including:
 - Utilities (electricity, heating, and internet)
 - Office and program supplies
 - Insurance and required compliance expenses
 - Technology systems supporting program delivery, data, and volunteer management

These are foundational expenses that ensure continuity, accountability, and efficiency in serving Connecticut's youth and families impacted by foster care.

Each year, Fostering Family Hope serves approximately 2,000 children impacted by foster care across Connecticut as well as their families, including youth residing in Wallingford and surrounding communities. Through six distinct programs (listed below), Fostering Family Hope provides tangible basic essentials, encourages the growth of positive relationships within children's family circles, and offers ongoing emotional support for families. Our programs, resources and services are always free and we walk alongside children and families at every stage of the foster care journey - from prevention and placement through reunification and post-adoption support. Our central program, The Foster Closet boutique, empowers children and youth to shop free of charge for clothing and items that make them feel confident, especially since it is often necessary to replace essential items when a child is removed from their home, and reduces the initial financial burden of the kinship or foster family supporting them. The vision of Fostering Family Hope is a community which embraces the whole family circle, supports the physical and emotional needs of children in care and beyond, and in which every child feels firmly rooted in family and is empowered to know their self-worth. Fostering Family Hope is the only independent nonprofit of its kind in the State of Connecticut delivering basic necessities in a dignified, boutique-styled environment while also offering emotional support, community connection, and educational resources to children and families across the foster care continuum - from prevention to post-reunification and post-adoption. As a 100% volunteer-run and donation based organization, with no staff taking salary, all incoming funding and donations go directly to the operation of FFH and its programs for these children, youth, and families.

By being headquartered in the Town of Wallingford, our organization contributes directly to the local economy through annual lease payments and partnerships with local vendors and service providers. Our presence brings statewide recognition and engagement to the Town, positioning Wallingford as the home of an organization dedicated to improving outcomes for children across Connecticut. In addition, we actively leverage foundation and private funding that flows into the region as a result of our work. Municipal investment further strengthens our ability to secure and sustain these outside funding sources by demonstrating strong community support and financial stability, both of which are critical factors for grantmakers and philanthropic partners.

We have been honored that the Town of Wallingford has not only welcomed our organization, but has also vastly contributed to our overall impact on the lives of children and families affected by foster care. Fostering Family Hope is grateful for the many generous donations of the community, volunteer hours, and the incredible partnerships we have been able to establish which continue to help us achieve our mission, including with organizations such as Wallingford Community Women, Wallingford Rotary, WCI, Master's Manna, WPAA TV, Elevate Church, Christ Presbyterian Church, Calvary United Church, and Choate Rosemary Hall, local businesses such as The Eatery, Mr. D's Ice Cream, Le Jardin, and The Farms Country Club, and corporations such as Ulbrich Steel, Nucor, and Burns & McDonnell. This is just a small reflection of the meaningful role the Town of Wallingford has played in our organization's journey.

Across Connecticut's foster care system, the demand for basic necessities and emotional support has intensified. With a persistent shortage of foster homes, existing families are being asked to carry more than ever before. As the only independent nonprofit providing this level of comprehensive support, Fostering Family Hope has experienced a significant rise in children and caregivers seeking both tangible assistance and emotional or educational support. Given the Town of Wallingford's significant role in our organization's growth, as well as the increasing needs of the foster care

community, it is vital for us to move to a larger location to sustain the increasing volume of our client's needs. We are deeply committed to our mission and to maintaining our base of operations in the Town of Wallingford. As we anticipate moving to a larger space, and with rental costs continuing to rise, an investment from the Town will protect our ability to stay and grow within Wallingford.

Without funding to support one full year of rent and operational expenses, our organization would face significant challenges, including:

- Potential loss of our headquarters in Wallingford and relocation to another town
- Reduction in program capacity affecting children and families statewide
- Loss of long-term partnerships and local grant opportunities impacting our program operations

The loss of operational stability would not only affect the children, youth, and families we serve across Connecticut, but could also result in the relocation of a valued statewide organization headquartered within our community.

As an organization, we recognize that our greatest impact is reflected in the experiences of the children and families we serve. One local foster family recently shared:

"Being a foster parent is a joy-filled and exhausting experience and sometimes very frustrating. There are times when you give your all for a child and you feel unsupported by DCF. It is FFH and other foster parents in the community who rally around you and remind you that they care and they want to help, and their support is like a battery recharge when you are fading. We are so thankful for FFH and their volunteers who generously gave to our family this year. Thank you for the intentionality in selecting gifts and clothing. Times have been tight financially so the generosity and the support from our community is truly amazing!"

With the financial and community support of the Town of Wallingford, we can significantly expand this impact. Funding from the Town, offsetting the cost of rent, would allow us to direct individual, foundation, and organizational donations more fully toward program implementation. This support would maximize the effectiveness of our services while sustaining the high level of reliability, responsiveness, and resources that we provide to children and families.

Town support would strengthen several key programs. Our **Special Events Program** would continue to provide enriching opportunities for children and families and grow our most successful events, including our *Back-to-School Extravaganza*, which supplied backpacks, school supplies, clothing, and entertainment to more than 250 children last year and our *Christmas Gift Giving Blizzard* which distributed three gifts to 242 foster children in 2025. Additional events include our *Teddy Bear Picnic*, *Ice Cream Socials*, *College Packapalooza* (providing care packages to foster youth entering college), and seasonal family outings which create opportunities for families to build positive memories together.

Our **Education Program** would expand its ability to offer free CPR certification to foster and kinship families to help maintain licensing requirements, along with training in special education advocacy, trauma-informed care, and hands-on hair care classes to ensure children of all ethnicities receive culturally appropriate care.

Funding would also strengthen our **Foster Closet Boutique and Care Bag Programs**, enabling us to purchase toiletries, shoes, clothing, and other essential items as inventory becomes low. This ensures that families and youth entering care can reliably access the basic necessities they need in a timely and dignified manner.

Additionally, our **Community Groups**, like our Mid-State Group connecting many local Wallingford families with foster families in nearby towns, would continue to grow in size and reach. This would allow families navigating similar journeys to connect, share resources, and build organic support networks. These groups also provide important racial and familial mirrors for children and youth experiencing foster care and adoption.

Finally, our **Visitation Room Program** would continue to transform visitation spaces within DCF offices and state incarceration centers across Connecticut, creating welcoming, child-centered environments where families can spend meaningful time together. In 2022, FFH completed a transformation at the Meriden DCF Office, which serves families from Wallingford, Meriden, and Cheshire. The reported positive impact on family visitation experiences has been profound.

Through partnership with the Town of Wallingford, Fostering Family Hope can continue expanding these services and strengthening the network of care that supports foster children, youth, and families throughout our community.

We respectfully request your consideration of this funding and have attached our current operating budget for your review.

Thank you for your continued commitment to strengthening our community and supporting Connecticut's most vulnerable youth and their families.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signatures of Erin Johnston and Megan Pearson. The signature on the left is 'Erin Johnston' and the signature on the right is 'Megan Pearson'.

Erin Johnston & Megan Pearson
Co-Executive Directors
Fostering Family Hope
860-391-2869, 917-656-6751
ffh@fosteringfamilyhope.org

FFH 2026 Operating Budget

Organization Name: **Fostering Family Hope Inc.**
 Fiscal Year: **2026**

Category	Budget Amount	% of Total	Notes
INCOME			
4010 - Individual Donations	\$55,000	32.4%	
4020 - Corporate Donations	\$7,000	4.1%	
4110 - Foundation Grants	\$40,000	23.5%	
4300 - Benefit Fundraiser	\$13,000	7.6%	
4800 - Community/Church Donations	\$15,000	8.8%	
4900 - Requested Funding	\$40,000	23.5%	
TOTAL INCOME	\$170,000	100%	
EXPENSES			
Personnel			
5010 - Salaries and wages	\$0	0.0%	
SUBTOTAL PERSONNEL	\$0		
Operating Expenses			
6010 - Rent/Utilities/Maintenance/Comm	\$40,000	23.5%	*Anticipated Increase with Relocation
6020 - General Expense	\$15,000	8.8%	
6030 - Foster Closet/Care Bag Program	\$30,000	17.6%	
6040 - Community Group	\$4,000	2.4%	
6050 - Education	\$8,000	4.7%	
6060 - Special Events	\$20,000	11.8%	
6070 - Visitation Rooms	\$32,000	18.8%	
6080 - Benefit	\$6,000	3.5%	
6090 - Cash Reserve	\$15,000	8.8%	
SUBTOTAL OPERATING	\$170,000		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$170,000	100%	
NET INCOME (DEFICIT)	\$0		



We Provide the Tools to Build Strong Futures

TriCircle request for Town of Wallingford funds

1. A Detailed explanation of your Agency's intended use of funds allocated from the Town Budget

TriCircle Corporation, a 501c3 non-profit located in Wallingford, requests \$7200 (\$600 monthly, which includes utilities) in funds from the Town of Wallingford. TriCircle will use these funds for rental of additional office space in our 116 S Main Street. This will provide space for expanded services in the Wallingford community.

2. A statement describing the potential impact on your agency should these funds be awarded

TriCircle will expand clinical services for those who may have one or more behavioral health challenges. Additional space will allow for expanded group services for those we serve in the Wallingford community.

3. TriCircle's current operating budget

Attached

Gratefully,
Ana Gopoian
Founder, Executive Director
TriCircle Corporation
EIN# 81-3883437
(203)213-0329
www.TriCircle.org

Budget 2025 - 2026 Revised

Budget 2025 - 2026

TriCircle FY 2025/2026 Annual Budget								Revised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Programs	DMHAS 2	DMHAS 3	DMHAS 4	Unrestricted/Admin Overhead	Clinical	Scholar & Quilt Fund	TOTALS
3	Budget Income							
4	1. Individual Giving							
5	Donations:				7,500		1,000	8,500
6	2. Benefit Events							
7	Set Back				8,100		900	9,000
8	Annual Gala Brunch				20,000		240	20,240
9	Sales: Choc, Hats, Shoe Drive				1,100			1,100
10	Mixtape Bingo				1,900			1,900
11	Mohegan Sun Concert				20,000		420	20,420
12	3. Supporting Organization:							
13	Elks				1,000			1,000
14	Outrun Addiction 5K				5,300			5,300
15	Raianna's Run				3,400		500	3,900
16	4. Earned Income Activities:							
17	Individual Clinical Services					5,000		5,000
18	5. Foundation Grants							
19	Engagement Expansion HHC				1,000			1,000
20	Napier Foundation				4,000			4,000
21	Wallingford Youth & SS				6,000			6,000
22	Cuno				16,000			16,000
23	Great Give				3,000			3,000
24	CFGNH				15,000			15,000
25	6. Corporate Giving							0
26	Elaffi FCU				500			500
27	Ulbrich Steel				4,000			4,000
28	Unrestricted: Donations: Corp				3,100			3,100
29	7. Government Funds							0
30	DMHAS	24,000	24,000	24,000				72,000
31	Total Income	24,000	24,000	24,000	120,900	5,000	3,060	200,960
32	Expenses							
33	Salaries							
34	Executive Director	8,470	8,540	8,540	34,000	275		59,825
35	PT Program Coordinator (CFGNH)				5,850			5,850
36	Bookkeeper	1,200	1,200	1,200	13,000	250		16,850
37	PT Admin/Event (CFGNH) Melissa				7,200			7,200
38	Payroll Taxes (10.65%)	1,164	1,175	1,175	5,469	383		9,366
39	Health Benefits (TBD)							0
40	Contractual Services							0
41	Data Reporter/Analyst (Melanie)	1,260	1,290	1,290				3,840
42	Sub-Contractors/Data Reporter	5,440	5,280	5,280	5,500	3,500		25,000
43	Media support				9,360			9,360
44	UWMW De-escalation							0
45	APG							0
46	Para-professionals	2,380	2,310	2,310				7,000
47	Other Expenses							0
48	Insurance - Professional Liab.				1,850			1,850
49	Insurance Dir & Officers				900			900
50	W.C. Insurance	300	300	300	1,168	47		2,115
51	Consum Supp/smacks 5.5 /person	100	100	100	1,360		250	1,910
52	Internet/WiFi				1,325	200		1,525
53	Software				700	85		785
54	Donations/Evcnt Sponsorship				330			330
55	Gas/Auto Repairs	175	250	250	1,800			2,475
56	Retreats	2,300	2,300	2,300				6,900
57	Equipment	111	105	105				321
58	Rent	300	350	350	14,400			15,400
59	Program Outreach/Marketing	800	800	800	1,800	764		4,964
60	Repairs				1,000			1,000
61	Telephone				789	87		876
62	Unrestricted Event Expenses							0
63	Set Back (supplies exp)				600			600
64	Gala Brunch				4,400			4,400
65	Mohegan Sun Concert				5,500			5,500
66	Raianna's Run				150			150
67	Outrun Addiction 5K				100			100
68	Memorial quilt						100	100
69	Other (Misc) Expenses				1,500			1,500
70	Scholarships						2,000	2,000
71	TOTAL EXPENSES	24,000	24,000	24,000	120,051	5,591	2,350	199,992
72	Income-Expenses:	0	0	0	849	-591	710	968

12/9/25

65,675



**Wallingford Lions Club
PO Box 4085
Wallingford, CT 06492**

March 1, 2026

Town of Wallingford
Att: Mayor Cervoni
45 South Main Street
Wallingford, CT 06492

SUBJECT: Request for Town Support & Impact on Community Programs

Dear Mayor Cervoni,

The Wallingford Lions Club is requesting to be included for support through the Town budget. As part of Lions Clubs International, our mission is to serve the community through programs focusing on vision, hearing, diabetes awareness, hunger relief, youth support, and community engagement.

Town support directly strengthens services offered to Wallingford residents, including:

- Free vision screenings for children, seniors, and residents with limited means
- Financial assistance for eye exams and glasses for those unable to afford them
- Health outreach programs, including diabetes awareness and hearing support
- Community assistance, such as food donations and emergency aid for families
- Youth programs, including scholarships and service opportunities
- Community events that promote connection, safety, and civic pride

Town funding can help us:

- Distribute gift cards to our Veterans New Years Project
- Distribute gift cards to 60 families during our Gift of Thanks held in November each year
- Adopt one or more families during the holiday season
- Support families, seniors, and youth in ways that complement—not duplicate—Town efforts
- Provide support to our community during our initiatives such as childhood cancer, environment, vision, diabetes and mental health

If Town support is not provided, the community will feel the effects:

- Reduced or limited vision and health services
- Decreased capacity to provide emergency assistance to families
- Fewer youth scholarships and leadership opportunities
- Scaling back or eliminating community events
- Increased reliance on Town departments to fill service gaps



Wallingford Lions Club
PO Box 4085
Wallingford, CT 06492

The Wallingford Lions Club is proud to serve this community and work in partnership with the Town. Your support ensures that vital, impactful programs continue to reach the people who rely on them.

Respectfully,

Tracy Bottone, President
The Wallingford Lions Club

Spending Plan for Lions Year

2025- 2026 2024 - 2025 2023-2024 2022-2023 2021-2022

Income

Spice fundraising (22-23 only)		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 82.69
Fall Support of Other Lions Fairs		\$ -	\$ 985.20	\$ -
Berlin Fair- Recycling Project		\$ 3,168.00		
Garden Market/Celebrate		\$ -	\$ 77.00	\$ 60.00
Veterans Stand Down		\$ -		\$ -
Yard Goats Volunteer	\$ 2,677.40			
Donations	\$ 3,199.16	\$ 2,065.00	\$ 1,277.92	\$ 221.38
		\$ 75.67		
		\$ 19.40		
Food Share Project			\$ 2,650.00	\$ 3,358.00
Chili Cook Off	\$ 377.00		\$ 1,046.00	\$ 740.00
Holiday Stroll Bake Sale/Raffle		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 340.00
Holiday Lights		\$ 532.52	\$ 798.92	\$ 892.60
		\$ 223.52		
Scholarship Grant APK		\$ -		\$ 1,000.00
Grant for Tree		\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -
North Haven Fair Volunteer	\$ 596.70			
Hebron Lions Volunteer	\$ 132.00			
Gift of Thanks Donations	\$ 2,550.00			
Adopt a Family Donations	\$ 300.00			
Panera Bread Event				
Scoops Ice Cream Event				
Total Income	\$ 9,832.26	\$ 6,084.11	\$ 7,335.04	\$ 6,694.67

Expenses

Food Share (Gift Cards)	\$ 2,850.00	\$ 2,850.00	\$ 2,850.00	\$ 2,850.00
Assistance to Blind person	\$ 215.00	\$ -		\$ 200.00
Holiday Adopt-a-Family Family	\$ 400.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 385.82	\$ 325.30
Veterans Assistance/ Salute to Veterans	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00
Tree Planting	\$ 800.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 500.00	
LCIF	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 150.00
CLERF	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 150.00
23 A Adult vision screening program	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Diabetes Awareness	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Lions Low Vision Center	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
FIDELCO	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Hearing and Balance	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
CRIS	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
Scholarships (2)	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
St Baldricks	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00

Other/Library Literacy Project	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 35.00
Trees of Hope	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00		
Total Expense	\$ 7,465.00	\$ 6,800.00	\$ 6,715.82	\$ 6,210.30
Net	\$ 2,367.26	\$ (715.89)	\$ 619.22	\$ 484.37