



# The Warming Place

Nantucket's only shelter for the unhoused.



Dean Geddes, Inquirer & Mirror

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

# FROM THE BOARD



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we want to thank you for your steadfast support of The Warming Place. This past year has shown us once again how powerful a caring community can be. Because of your generosity, compassion, and commitment, we were able to provide a safe haven, nourishing meals, and a sense of dignity to neighbors experiencing homelessness on Nantucket.

Our mission is simple yet profound: to offer warmth, safety, and hope to those who need it most. Over the course of the year, we welcomed more guests than ever before, serving forty individuals—men and women ages 27 to 74. We helped the chronically homeless and the working poor. From November 1st through April, we operated every night. In addition; our day shelter was open twice each week. We served more than 2,000 meals and distributed grocery gift cards, tents, coats and other essentials. We also connected our guests to medical care, housing resources and employment opportunities. Each meal served and each night of shelter represents not only relief from the cold, but also the possibility of a brighter tomorrow.

The Warming Place achieved a major milestone this year—becoming an independent nonprofit. We hired a full-time Director of Development and launched the Summer Outreach Program that provides lunch every Monday and a year-round connection to services. And, we have recently hired our first Shelter Manager who will guide the upcoming season and strengthen the support we provide to our guests.

This work is only possible through the dedication of staff, volunteers, donors, and community partners. Nearly 50 volunteers gave their time, faith communities and restaurants provided meals and nearly 200 individuals, foundations, and businesses contributed vital funding. Together, we ensured our guests were not only safe but also cared for with compassion and dignity.

As we look ahead, we invite you to join us—whether by giving, volunteering, or advocating—so that together we can continue building a community where no one is left without shelter.

Thank you for standing with us in this vital work. Together, we are making a difference.

With gratitude,  
Board of Directors  
The Warming Place

Board of Directors  
FY 2025

**Vincent Debaggis**  
PRESIDENT

**Deb DuBois**  
SECRETARY

**Sue Mynttinen**  
TREASURER

**Kathleen Herbert**  
**Brie Snyder**  
**Tricia Vanacore**

# OUR VOLUNTEERS

*50+ Volunteers in 2024–25*

**Our volunteers are the heart of The Warming Place. From picking up and serving meals to offering a warm welcome, they make it possible for us to open our doors every day. Their time, energy, and compassion turn our shelter into a community.**

Leanne Bell  
Carol Benchley  
Rob Benchley  
Keith Bloise  
Richard Branigan  
Flor Chavez Ieiva  
Collette Christiano  
Annie Churns  
Teresa Coutinho  
Michael Dagesse  
Vincent DeBaggis  
Heather Driscoll  
Deborah DuBois  
Jenifer Dunbar  
Kristen Dussault  
Elaine Fowler  
Rocky Fox  
Diana Guzman  
Annie Hauser  
Kathleen Herbert  
James Herbert  
Alison Inglis  
Marianne Jenkinson  
Zahra Kasza  
Thomas Kasza  
Julie Kever  
Channing Lefebvre  
Silvia Lefebvre  
Cynthia Lenhart  
Victor Manuel Lopez Gutierrez  
Joanne Love  
Shirin Mahjoory

David McCarthy  
Rosemary McLaughlin  
Matthew Meisner  
Rob Morgenstern  
Andrew Mulcahy  
John Mynttinen  
Sue Mynttinen  
Tracy Nichols  
Elise Norton  
Sam Parsons  
Melissa Patterson  
Anne Perkins

Jim Pignato  
Charley Polachi  
Martha Polachi  
Jack Polowy  
Therese Robishaw  
Carlos Suarez  
Caroline Vanacore  
Mark Vanacore  
Tricia Vanacore  
Mark White  
David Zieff  
Regina Zinser



# WHO DO WE SERVE?

The Warming Place serves year-round Nantucket residents experiencing literal homelessness—those without a fixed, adequate place to sleep at night. Some are camping outdoors, living in cars, or finding temporary refuge in sheds, trailers, or other spaces not meant for human habitation. These individuals are not outsiders passing through; they are our neighbors and part of the fabric of this island. They deserve dignity, stability, and care. In the 2024–25 season, we saw a 100% increase in guests served.



# HOW DO WE SERVE?

The Warming Place is more than a shelter — it is a lifeline. Each winter season, we open our doors nightly to provide a safe, warm, and welcoming space for those with nowhere else to go. Guests find not only shelter, but also practical assistance and a community that cares. Our services include:

**Warm Meals & Basic Needs:** Nutritious dinners, gift cards for food, and access to essentials like winter coats, hats, gloves, and socks.

**Health & Hygiene Support:** Access to showers once a week, laundry cards, toiletries, and supplies to help maintain dignity and well-being.

**Compassionate Care:** A dedicated team—many with healthcare backgrounds—trained in CPR, first aid and additional skills through Homeless Training Institute.

**Connection & Stability:** A consistent, supportive environment where guests know they are seen, valued, and part of this community.

**Together, these services create more than just shelter. They restore dignity, support health and remind each guest that they are not alone.**

# ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Formed a Board of Directors, created a corporation, and established bylaws.
- Consolidated operations to two central sites for greater efficiency.
- Hired our first employees and adopted staff policies and procedures.
- Launched our website and social media presence to connect with the community.
- Secured official 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.
- Contributed to the production of the documentary film *Room For Us?*, raising awareness about the housing challenges on Nantucket.



# MEAL HIGHLIGHTS



- **2,000+ meals** served in the 2024–25 season. A 33% increase from prior years, reflecting both growing need and our capacity to respond.
- **346 grocery cards** distributed in 2024–25.

Providing a hot, fresh meal is at the heart of The Warming Place. Each dinner nourishes our guests physically while also creating moments of dignity, care, and connection.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS



*“I thank Jesus for The Warming Place. When I had nothing, they gave me hope. Now I have work, housing, and I want to give back.”*

*—Efren Peralta Almonte*

**Community Engagement** at The Warming Place is about bringing Nantucket together around care and compassion.

**Volunteers** play a vital role—from preparing meals to lending a listening ear—helping sustain our daily operations.

**Through education** and advocacy, we raise awareness about the realities of homelessness and inspire neighbors to take action.

**By building** lasting partnerships and funding support, we ensure our mission can grow to meet the evolving needs of our community.

**At its heart, community** engagement reminds us that homelessness is not an individual challenge, but a shared one—and together, we can be the solution.

**Together, these efforts empower our neighbors to move toward long-term stability and self-sufficiency.**

# NANTUCKET REFERRAL PARTNERS

*We are grateful for our referral partners who help connect individuals in need with The Warming Place. Their collaboration ensures that those facing homelessness find safe shelter and support when they need it most. Together, we create a stronger safety net for our community.*

**Addiction Solutions**

**Fairwinds**

**Family Resource Center**

**Homeless Prevention Council**

**Nantucket Atheneum, English Language Learning**

**Nantucket Cottage Hospital**

**Nantucket Food, Fuel and Rental Assistance**

**Nourish Nantucket**

**Our House**

**Seconds Shop**

**Visiting Nurses of Cape Cod—Nantucket**

## **Interested in partnering with The Warming Place?**

We are always looking to strengthen our network of local organizations working to support Nantucketers in need—reach out to explore how we can collaborate to better serve our community.

Contact us at [info@thewarmingplace.org](mailto:info@thewarmingplace.org)

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT



Klit Noble

Community Foundation  
for Nantucket  
“This Is Us”

Faces of Nantucket



Charity Grace and  
Nantucket Current

Volunteer  
Appreciation Event



'Sconset Pop-Up



Nourish Nantucket



The Knights of Columbus  
Sleep Out



Dean Geddes,  
Inquirer & Mirror

# FINANCIALS FY25

## Income and Other Funds FY25

Donations	\$179,803
Grants	88,233
Interest	4,214
Savings	<u>265,000</u>
Total	\$537,250

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## *What It Takes to Run Our Shelter, FY2025*

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### Program Expense

Overnight Staff	\$149,967	Shelter is staffed every night from 7am to 7pm to ensure safety and care.
Meals	23,869	Hot nourishing meals and grocery assistance for our guests.
Shelter Support	17,841	Clean bedding for every guest. Winter coats, sleeping bags and other guest supplies.
<b>Community Outreach &amp; Fundraising</b>	98,780	Investing to reach more supporters to expand our programs.
<b>Administration</b>	13,874	Required legal fees & liability insurance.
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>\$304,331</u>	

If you have any questions please contact  
[info@thewarmingplace.org](mailto:info@thewarmingplace.org)

# GENEROUS GIFTS

It takes a village to combat homelessness and our small island is home to a tight knit community of caring individuals. We are deeply grateful to each and every generous and compassionate donor.

## SPOTLIGHT ON Nancy Seaman & Alan Schwartz



*"When we discovered that homelessness shockingly exists on Nantucket, we knew we had to do something to help. We immediately realized that if others were aware that fellow Nantucket Islanders are forced to sleep outdoors on freezing winter nights due to lack of housing, they would heed the call to step forward and help alleviate this distressing situation. We were correct. But we still have far to go."*

### **\$25,000 And Above**

Ainslie Foundation  
Michelle and Robert Atchinson  
Geoff Beattie  
Community Foundation For Nantucket  
Kim and Alan Hartman

The One8 Foundation,  
Jonathon and Joanna Jacobson  
Ann and Christopher Quick  
Charles and Helen Schwab  
Alan Schwartz and Nancy Seaman

Monique and Gregg Seibert  
The Town of Nantucket  
Tricia and Mark Vanacore

### **\$10,000–24,999**

Eric Cappo  
The George & Marie Chabot  
Charitable Foundation

Scott and Kimberly Goodwin  
Carolyn Jones  
The Knights of Columbus

Surfside Association

### **\$5,000 - \$9,999**

Margaret Ritchie R. Battle Family  
Charitable Fund  
Debbly Belichick  
Cape and Island United Way

Cape Cod 5 Charitable Endowment  
Fund  
Liz and Edmund Craig  
Gutsy Givers

Marine Home Center  
Larry Restieri  
Rockland Trust  
Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
Betsy and Joseph Wright

### **\$1,000 - \$4,999**

Asher Family Foundation  
Christopher Balfé  
Barber and Sons  
Anthony Barila  
Carol and Louis Beierle  
Blue Water Emergency Partners  
J. Brown Builders  
Paul Bruning  
Ann Copp  
Amanda Cross

Judy and Vincent DeBaggis  
Shellie and Dan Dunlap  
Sheila Giardini  
Kate and Richard Glidden  
Hannah Judy Gretz  
Margaret Koehm  
Barbara and Amos Hostetter  
Curt Humphrys and  
Dr. Carolyn Matthews  
Island Energy Services Inc.

Island Lumber Company, Inc.  
Graham Jenner  
Beth and Rob Jenner  
Ann and Charles Johnson  
Pamela and Steven Leinbach  
James and Patricia Meehan  
Nantucket Health Club  
Nantucket Looms  
Nantucket Unitarian Universalists  
Mary and Al Novissimo

# ALL GENEROUS GIFTS

(continued)

Jennifer and Thomas Pincince  
Ella Prichard  
Remain Nantucket  
A Francis Robinson  
Cheryl and Joseph Romano  
Margaret and David Ruley  
Elaine and Cary Schwartz  
Siasconset Union Chapel  
Jennifer and Seth Stier  
Lynn and Bob Stroud  
M. Sweeney Construction Inc.  
Jasper Young

## **Gifts up to \$999**

Sarah and Bruce Alger  
Peggy Altreuter  
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Anderson  
Brian Anklam and Leann Buse  
Anonymous  
ASHA, Ashly McCormick  
Morgan Baker  
Bahrat Banjara  
Anne and Graham Barber  
Curtis Barnes  
Sharon and George Bassett  
Leah Bayer  
Ann and Bruce Benedict  
Mary and James Bennett  
Edward Bent  
Joyce Berruet  
Bob Bettacchi  
Andrew Biggio  
Meg Browers  
Mary and Chuck Bruno  
Karla and Steve Butler  
Judith and Paul Carini  
Diane Carl  
Susan and Bill Carlson  
Geraldine Casey  
Patricia and Steve Chase  
Helen Christine and John Ellis  
Bess and Gerard Clarke  
Alison Cokorinos  
Didi Coyle and Tom Szydlowski  
Rhett Currier  
Judy and Vincent Debaggis  
Susan Decoste  
Sheldon Dickenson  
Deborah Dolen  
Judith Drake  
Dan Driscoll  
Deborah DuBois & Robert Orlandi  
Martin DuBois  
Trudy Dujardin  
Hadley and Jesse Dutra  
Janice Ellsworth  
Matt and Sheila Fee  
Ferrantella Landscaping, Inc.  
Meranda and Peter Ferrara

Julie Fitzgerald and Carl Sjolund  
Allison Forsgreen  
Catherine and Andrew Fraser  
Jennifer and Dalton Frazier  
Mark Fredland  
Jack and Ciara Fritsch  
Siah Gardens and Jamie Kelly  
Lucinda Garrison  
Mary Gilmour  
Jennifer and David Glassberg  
Margaret and John Goldman  
Denise Goldsmith  
Graass Family Charitable Fund,  
James and Susan Graass  
Joseph Grause  
Toby Greenberg  
Kathy and Bill Grieder  
Gloria Grimshaw and Bruce Poor  
Betsy Grubbs  
Lauren Gudonis  
Edmund Hajim  
Linda and Joe Hale  
Christine and Henry Harding  
Jane and Ralph Hardy  
Jennifer and Khaled Hashem  
Evelyn and Bob Haussein  
Nina Hellman  
Kathleen and James Herbert  
Mary Ann Hill  
Susan Hochwald  
Kenneth Holdgate and Nancy New-  
house  
Mary Margaret Holmes  
Chris Hulme  
Zahra and Thomas Kasza  
Suzanne Keating  
Heather Keltz  
Susan Kirk  
Ruth Klink  
Kathleen Kokomoor  
Marsha Kotolac  
Joanna and Gene L'Heureux  
Carol Langer  
Shelia Lathrop  
Thomas Levin  
Jane P. Long Fund  
Mary and Jeffrey Lynch  
Linda MacKay  
Madaket Marine  
Chris Magee  
Brendan McDonough  
Brenda McDonough  
Holly and Martin McGowan  
Rosemary McLaughlin  
Loretta Middleton  
Mary and Robert Miklos  
Polly and Nick Miller  
Miram and Herb Mittenenthal  
Ellen Murphy

Caroline Murphy  
Sue and John Mynttinen  
Gina and Rick Mynttinen  
Nantucket Home Health Care, Inc.  
Nantucket Marine  
Nantucket Pharmacy  
Nantucket Rotary Club  
Susan and Carl Ottison  
Neil Paterson  
Karen and Robert Partridge  
Peachtree Kids, Cara Marquis  
Chris Perry  
Martha and Charles Polachi  
Joanne Polster  
Josh Posner and Eileen Rudden  
Jane and Tom Quigley  
Peg and Philip Read  
Linda Reith  
Allen Reinhard  
Susan and Peter Richards  
Priscilla and Kermit Roosevelt  
Sara Rossi  
Catherine Saynor  
Patricia Schiller  
Reema Sherry  
Robin Slick, Slick Productions  
Trevor Smith  
Elizabeth Smith  
Peter Soule  
Southern Tide  
Marianne and John Stanton  
Sally Giddens Stephenson  
Kathy Stevens  
Paul Stewart  
Arlene Sullivan  
Barbara Elder and James Sulzer  
Swain's Travel, Inc.  
Athalyn Sweeney  
Shelly Sweet  
Carolyn Thayer Interiors  
Jessica Torre  
Allison and Charles Townsend  
Joel Treisman  
Myron and Mae Tupa  
Union Lodge F, & A.M. A.M.  
Robert Veghte  
Virginia and Robert Vidoni  
Jana Visco  
Holly Visco  
Mary Walsh  
Emma Ward  
The Weaving Room  
White Elephant Resorts  
Katherine Ririe Yancey  
Ellen and Harvey Young



# The Warming Place

Nantucket's only overnight  
shelter for the unhoused

## OUR MISSION

The Warming Place provides a warm and safe daytime and overnight shelter for individuals on Nantucket experiencing homelessness. We will create a compassionate and supportive environment through a collaborative relationship with medical and social services.



[thewarmingplace.org](http://thewarmingplace.org)