

POWER OF TOGETHER 2

Southeastern Connecticut

A grassroots organization of neighbors combining resources to make a difference for those in need in our community.

Winter/Spring 2020 Newsletter

Issue 2

Photo by

The Power of Together Community Continues to Grow

From a 44-member start in April 2016, and after almost four years, Power of Together 2 has grown to 119 members. We have donated a total of \$142,500 to 15 worthy causes in our local area, all from \$100 donations each meeting from each of you, our amazing members. Combining our donations with those of the three other regional Power of Together organizations (Niantic, formed in January 2014, Griswold, formed in April 2017, and Shoreline/Waterford, formed in February 2019), as of December 2019 we have collectively donated **\$432,500** - nearly a half-million dollars - to 53 organizations or worthy causes.

*We make a living
by what we get.
We make a life by
what we give.*

- Winston S. Churchill

While the total membership numbers fluctuate and chapters are growing with enthusiasm, currently we estimate that around 330 total members across the region are proud supporters of the Power of Together. As many of these members are couples, the number of people involved is actually much higher. Remarkable! We continue to thank Deb Fountain, founder of the original Niantic chapter, for her leadership and inspiration. *Thank you, Deb!*

First meeting of the year and the new decade!

Tuesday, February 11, 7 pm, Mystic YMCA

We need your voice, your ideas, your enthusiasm

Please make every effort to come - it's only an hour!



A few of our 2019 presenters.



Recipient Spotlight

Always Home, Inc., November 2019's recipient, is the only non-profit service provider in the region dedicated exclusively to serving homeless and at-risk families with children. Always Home strives to give parents the tools they need to overcome their housing crisis so that they can focus on the well-being of their children. Their goal is to empower client families to attain permanent, stable housing, while imparting hope and respecting the dignity of each family they serve. Always Home has 40% more clients this year than last and has doubled its staff of social workers. As their budget is almost exclusively funded through individuals and grants, the need is great for additional funding. Betty Smith, PoT2 member and Always Home Executive Director, presented. The donation totaled \$11,600.




New to Power of Together 2?

Not sure about the rules?

Nervous about presenting your cause?

Not sure if your cause qualifies?

Check out our [website](#) and our [inaugural Newsletter](#) for answers and learn more about this great organization of which you are such an important part!



DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE MANY WORTHY ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE IN OUR AREA?

The New London Day's *Make a Difference* holiday campaign is a great example of how a local newspaper can use its platform for good. For twelve years, the campaign has successfully assisted numerous individuals from a variety of towns and organizations within its readership.

Each day, during the month of December, The Day tells the story of individuals who are in difficult circumstances. Besides the clear benefit of generating responses of assistance from its readership, it is also very informative about the many organizations in our area that are trying to improve the lives of those less fortunate. As Power of Together is interested in learning about those organizations, here is a list of the ones chosen by The Day this past December:

Alliance for Living, Always Home, Care & Share, Catholic Charities, Covenant Shelter, Drop-in Learning Center, Jewish Federation of Eastern CT, Jonnycake Center, Madonna Place, Martin House, Montville Social Services, Mother's Retreat, New London Community Meal Center, New London Homeless Hospitality, Norwich Human Services, OIC of New London County, Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center, Reliance Health, Riverfront Children's Center, Safe Futures, Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul Place, Stonington Human Services, Thames River Family Program, The Arc Eastern Connecticut, Visiting Nurse Association of SE CT, and The Warm Center.

It is interesting to go to the websites of these organizations as their work is challenging and diverse, representing the diversity of our community. In addition, you might find a group you would consider pitching at one of our upcoming meetings.

Our Power of Together website lists not only the [organizations to which we have donated](#), but an extensive [List of Charitable Organizations](#) in the area. If you have a moment, please take a look!

November 2019 Meeting and Social - Once again, we wrapped up a fabulous 2019 with a social/meeting combo at the Union Baptist Church in Mystic. How wonderful to gather, kick off the holiday season, escape the strum and drang for just a bit, and revel in the positive, gratifying energy this great organization generates. After meeting and imbibing, the announcement of the donation recipient (Always Home!) was made, followed by continued socializing. **THANK YOU** to Union Baptist Church, Dog Watch Café and to everyone who brought food/drink and who came to enjoy and celebrate our shared PoT2 purpose. Once again, we are grateful!



2020 Meeting Dates

Mystic YMCA, 1 Harry Austin Dr., Mystic

February 11, May 12, August 11, November 10

All meetings are held on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm

ALL ARE WELCOME. BRING A FRIEND!

