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Every year of the 19 Days looks a little different, but it’s always a blast. This year, Andrea was the sole participant in the Bonding of the Beauticians, taking the lead on dressing up with her crew and decorating her shop two weeks in a row—and she raised more than $16,000!

Nico, Manager of the Norwich branch of Ledyard Bank, went all out with his hair dyeing, as usual. Mascoma Bank’s Norwich branch also hosted a breakfast time meet and greet with Santa—a treat for families who didn’t have to travel far or wait in line to fulfill their children’s holiday dreams of meeting Santa and Mrs. Claus.

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Dan Fraser, Dan & Whit’s
“Without the help of Katie and the other Community Service Coordinators at the Haven, I would not be here today,” says Angie.

Angie left a relationship in 2020 and found herself homeless. Out of options, she called #211, the national three-digit number for information and referral to health, human, and social service organizations.

Vermont #211 helped place Angie in a local hotel. Living off her disability check, she struggled to find income-based housing she could afford. Adding to her difficulties, Angie continued to battle physical and mental health challenges.

Thanks to generous friends like you, Haven Service Coordinators follow up with people who find temporary shelter through #211. One of our Coordinators, Katie, helped Angie navigate and complete housing applications and assistance forms. It wasn’t long before Angie was out of the hotel and in secure and safe housing with her service dog, Kita.

Angie is just one of our many clients who receive the gentle guidance and support they need through Haven staff and services—just one of the many lives you touch through your selfless compassion.

Katie

Kita

Food, Shelter & Stability at the Haven

2022 snapshot

Food Shelf visits 16,005

New household Food Shelf visitors 1,237

48 adults from 48 households found safety in one of our shelters

22 adults, 23 children, 15 families were guests in the Byrne Family Shelter

52 individuals moved from our shelters into permanent housing in the community! A special measure of success!

Pet Contest: They’re all winners! Meet Desperaeus of Trumbull Lane, Peaches and Sunny, and Nala!

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The gorgeous Giving Tree, courtesy of the always-generous Norwich Lions Club, was a must-see!

19 Days of Joy

That’s a lot of Turkey! Hartford High School was the location of the Haven’s annual Turkey Day. In the week before Thanksgiving, more than 1,000 households received the traditional bird and fresh ingredients for all the fixings!

The stunning Giving Tree, courtesy of the always-generous Norwich Lions Club, was a must-see!

The 14th Annual Norwich Turkey Trot was the unofficial kick-off to the 19 Days of Norwich! Started by Molly Turco, this fan favorite event had runners working up an appetite before their big feast. And work they did! Runners raised more than $7,500—which was matched by The Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation in honor of the 19 Days. Thank you for your hard work on and off the pavement!

1. Newly elected Vermont Senator Peter Welch visited the Haven before Thanksgiving to help in our Turkey Day efforts.
2. The Children’s After School Program annual holiday party was a blast! Hosted by the Jeffrey S. Holmes Post No. 84, the food, fun, and laughs at the party are a highlight of the year for these young ones—thank you to the jolly Post crew for bringing joy! 3. The Nugget Theater in Hanover hosted its annual screening of Christmas movies for kids—with plenty of popcorn and snacks!

2022 snapshot

The Annual Homelessness Awareness Vigil is a national event held to shine light on friends and neighbors throughout the U.S. who are experiencing homelessness. We gathered with advocates on the winter solstice, the longest night of the year, to raise our voices for policy change on behalf of the lives lost or uprooted due to the homelessness crisis.

Thank you to everyone who came to inspire compassion and change!
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Angie remains connected to Katie and to Haven services. “In the very beginning Katie said to me, ‘keep on keeping on’ and that has been my mantra ever since. It has helped me keep going day after day. I will not give up.”

You gave Angie (and Kita) the strength to “keep on keeping on!”

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Light on the longest night

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