

# FALL 2024

## NEWSLETTER



### Harvesting Hope! Maryse Wirbal, CEO

As the leaves change and fall settles in, we embrace the season of “Harvesting Hope.” This time of year reminds us of the importance of community and resilience as we work together to empower individuals and families to achieve sustainable independence. We are dedicated to planting the seeds of change through our programs, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to thrive and flourish in the face of challenges.

The Front Door Agency remains committed to our mission of breaking the cycle of poverty and empowering individuals and families toward sustainable independence. Recently, we have observed an increased gap in services for youth and young adults facing homelessness, who often lack the necessary resources to navigate their unique challenges. This demographic has historically been underserved, underscoring the urgent need for transitional housing and supportive services tailored to their specific circumstances.

The demand for our services has surged over the last couple of years, reflecting the pressing need for comprehensive support in our community. As we confront significant challenges regarding homelessness and housing stability, our commitment to providing essential resources and programs has never been more critical. With more individuals seeking help, we are dedicated to ensuring that our community members have access to the support they need.

As we move forward, we are reminded of the strength that lies within our community and the collective impact we can achieve. Your continued support plays a vital role in helping us provide these essential programs. Together, we can create lasting change and build a brighter future for those we serve. Thank you for standing with us in this important work!

### Back to School



On behalf of the children and mothers enrolled in the Transformational Housing Program, we would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for the generous donation of \$750 from the Amherst Jr Women’s Club this year. Your contribution has had a significant impact, allowing the children in our program to start their school year with brand new, well-fitting shoes.

The experience of being professionally fitted and selecting shoes at Alec’s Shoe Store not only provides practical support but also instills a sense of self-worth in these young individuals. It sends a powerful message: YOU are worth it and symbolize hope and opportunity, laying a strong foundation for the children's educational journey ahead.

### Did You Know?

**12.1%** was the year-over-year increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness in the U.S. This marked the largest increase since data collection began in 2007.

In **2023, 256,610** people experienced unsheltered homelessness. This is a **9.7%** increase from the previous year.

Lack of **affordable housing**, low paying jobs, domestic violence, poor education, substance use disorder, and discrimination all contribute to the homeless crisis.

From 2022 to 2023, **homelessness in New Hampshire** increased by more than 50 percent.

The nationwide **Point-in-Time Count** offers the following facts about people experiencing homelessness:

- 71.5 percent, the vast majority of people experiencing homelessness, are individual adults.
- 51.2 percent of these individuals experienced unsheltered homelessness.
- 28.5 percent are people living in families with children.

*State of Homelessness 2024*

### Meet Our Housing Stability Team



**Doug Howard**



**Bette Gioffre**



**Jenn Weaver**

The Housing Stability Program is dedicated to aiding individuals and families in retaining their housing or securing new permanent residences as needed. From July 1 to September 30, the Team provided nearly \$24,000 in rental assistance, over \$34,000 in security deposit assistance, and \$5,000 in utilities and food assistance to families at risk of homelessness. They delivered more than \$62,000 in direct assistance, helping 101 individuals and 52 households either exit homelessness or prevent them from becoming homeless.

The team will also focus on supporting young community members aged 18 to 24 experiencing homelessness in the Greater Nashua area through various initiatives as part of the Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP).

### Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)



YHDP offers critical support services, including crisis transitional housing and rapid rehousing, for unaccompanied youth and young adults aged 18 to 24, as well as emancipated youth under 18. In addition to these housing solutions, YHDP features a Ready to Rent training program designed for local homeless youth and a Landlord Incentive program to encourage area landlords to participate in the effort to transition our most vulnerable citizens out of homelessness and into permanent housing.

# Why Partner with the Front Door?

## Corporate Partner

Support our mission by partnering with the Front Door Agency, a trusted organization that has provided essential services in the Greater Nashua community for over 37 years. Your business will gain visibility through prominent marketing communications and event sponsorship benefits, allowing you to connect with influential community members and the general public. By showcasing your commitment to community support, you will help strengthen the area where you do business and demonstrate your dedication to assisting families in need.

## Suite Sponsor

The Front Door Agency's Supportive Housing Programs help single women and children stabilize and flourish into sustainable independence. The Agency's objective is to provide extensive services allowing clients to set and achieve goals that will enable them to transition and become empowered, ultimately building a better life for themselves and their family.

As a Suite Sponsor, you can choose to sponsor an individual suite for \$1,000 or a common area for \$2,500

Contact Sheree at [ssevigny@frontdooragency.org](mailto:ssevigny@frontdooragency.org) if you are interested in being a **Corporate Partner or Suite Sponsor in 2025.**

# Holiday Program

Each year we pair families in need with community members that fulfill their wish lists. In 2023, 83 individuals, businesses, and organizations donated toys, warm clothing, and food to 540 children – filling the Courtyard by Marriott Nashua ballroom with gifts!

We opened the applications in October and saw a record number of families in need of assistance this holiday season. If you or your organization would like to consider adopting a child or family, please contact Sheree Sevigny - [ssevigny@frontdooragency.org](mailto:ssevigny@frontdooragency.org) or call 603.886.2866.



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