



Always Home

PREVENTING FAMILY HOMELESSNESS

Serving Communities Since 1998

July 2024 E-Newsletter



Kids love summer, but parents frequently face difficulties when seeking childcare for the extended school break. Low-income families, in particular, struggle with the added obstacle of affordability.

This 6-year old is one of three siblings who received financial support through Always Home's Childcare Solutions Program for camp with before- and after-care. Mom and Dad are grateful that they can continue working their full-time jobs while their children are having an enriching and fun-filled summer.

With grants from **Groton Utilities**, **Mystic Woman's Club** and **Rotary Club of Mystic** and ongoing support from **The Whaler's Inn**, Always Home helped a total of 15 families send 21 children to summer camp. Now that's a lot of happy campers!

Rain never stops a Mudhead! Yet this was the first time in the history of the Mudhead Benefit Cup Regatta that the race had to be canceled due to weather. Boats and their crew waited patiently at the start of the race course, but there was no wind to set sail. By late afternoon the skies had cleared, setting the perfect scene for the evening's MEGAParty.

Our thanks to the Mystic River Mudhead Sailing Association for again naming Always Home the beneficiary of this event. A round of applause for Courtney Moore of **CMB Creative Group** and Bethany Goddies for all they did to make the day happen. And to everyone who tried to race, sponsored, fundraised, volunteered, donated and came out to celebrate and dance to the music of local band Wooly Mammoth, our deepest appreciation!



[Click here for MegaParty photos!](#)

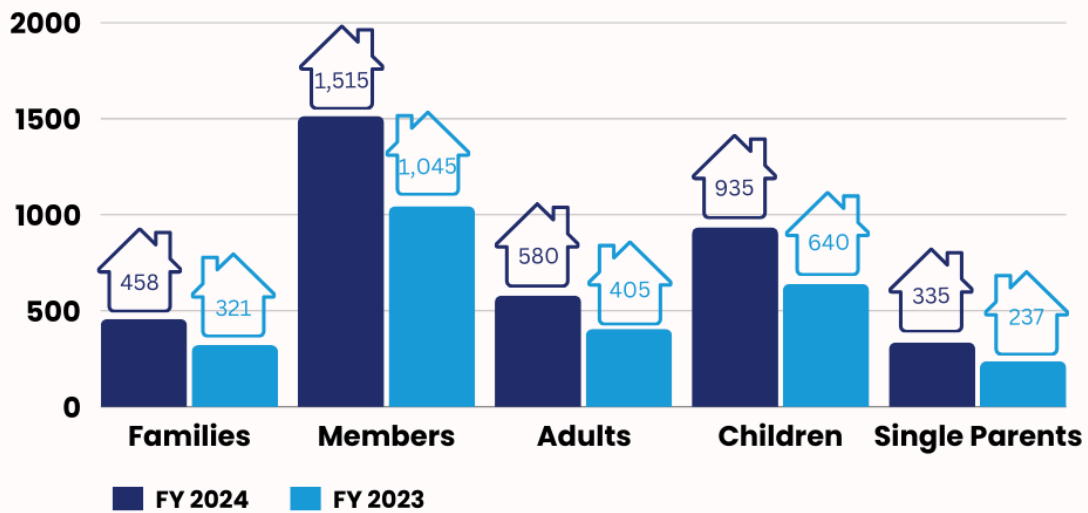
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FAMILIES SERVED FISCAL YEAR 2024 VS FISCAL YEAR 2023



From July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024, Always Home served 458 families in housing crisis. This represents a 42.7% increase from the families assisted in Fiscal Year 2023 and marks the highest number of families served in a single year since our organization's founding 26 years ago. Incomes of low-wage workers are not keeping pace with the rising cost of living. The data indicates that as rent prices continue to increase, more low-income families are finding it difficult to afford housing.

Always Home is committed to Preventing Family Homelessness, but we cannot achieve our goals without the support of the community. In the year ahead, donations we receive will help families remain stably housed and out of emergency shelter, ensuring that children do not face the hardship of losing their homes. Please consider making your gift to Always Home a recurring donation that will have an impact every month of the year.

Thank You for Donating Today



On a hot and humid day in June, Frank Lotti, Don Offner and Neil Ryan of **Wireless Zone - Verizon** graciously donated their time and sweat equity to assemble six Adirondack chairs for Always Home's two-family properties in Groton, CT. Our thanks also to the **Rotary Club of Groton** for a Fiscal Year 2023 grant that made the purchase of these chairs possible.

Wireless Zone is a generous nonprofit supporter and partner, working to make a difference in the communities they serve. Always Home is excited to share that Wireless Zone Gives recently awarded us an emergency grant of \$10,000 towards replacing the roof at one of our two-family properties. As we continue to seek funding to cover the full cost of this capital improvement project, we are very grateful to Wireless Zone for stepping up to guarantee the continued integrity of this property, and to ensure the safety and well-being of the families who live there.

Always Home also appreciates the following funders for providing generous program grants in the last three months: AHEPA Norwich Foundation; Bank of America Charitable Foundation; Berkshire Bank Foundation; Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut Foundation; Charles B. Allyn Foundation; Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut; and Ledyard Rotary Foundation.



Stonington Vineyards is donating to Always Home a portion of their Summer concert featuring acoustic duo Luke & Mike. Pack a picnic and your lawn chair and join us on Friday, August 23rd at 6 pm! [Just click here for tickets and details!](#)