



**COMMONPOINT**

Community happens here



## 2024 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

After-School Programs  
Allied Health Training  
Autism Enrichment Programs  
Benefits Assessment & Enrollment  
Bereavement Groups  
College Access  
Culinary Arts Training  
Cultural Arts  
Early Childhood Education  
ESOL Classes  
Financial Counseling  
Food Pantries  
GED Classes  
Health & Wellness  
Holocaust Survivor Resilience Program  
Infant Care  
Jewish Heritage  
Job Placement  
Legal Assistance  
Mental Health  
NORCs  
Older Adult Centers  
Opportunity Youth  
Parenting Center  
Pool Clubs  
Refugee Resettlement & Integration  
Respite Memory Care  
Special Services Inclusion Programs  
Sports Classes  
Summer Camps  
Summer Youth Employment  
Swim Team  
Tech Training  
Vocational Training  
Volunteerism



## ABOUT US

# Our Mission

Commonpoint is dedicated to sustaining and enhancing the quality of individual, family, and communal life throughout New York City through services to people of all ages, ability levels, stages of life, and backgrounds.

# Our Vision

Commonpoint aims to accommodate all community members and provide them with the skills they need to achieve long-term success.

# Our Values

**Innovation:** We are positioned to move quickly to provide clients with customized, effective resources that meet their needs.

**Community Commitment:** We are deeply connected with our community, and are committed to hearing and acting on their voices to guide our work and do what it takes to help them thrive.

**Equity and Inclusion:** We respect and include all cultural backgrounds, religions, races, ethnicities, gender identities, abilities, and ages. Everyone deserves the opportunity to live their full potential, and our programs and community are stronger when we embrace people of all identities, backgrounds, and perspectives.

**Resilience:** We are passionate and tireless in our mission to help all people persevere through all obstacles to reach their goals.

**Transparency and Accountability:** We strive to be open and honest in our relationships and accountable to our constituents. We encourage honesty and transparency while upholding the highest ethical and professional standards. We take responsibility for our performance and help our team deliver services with integrity and accountability to all stakeholders.

## DANIELLE'S DESK

2024 was an exciting year for Commonpoint.

Everything that we do is thanks to your generous support and unwavering commitment to our mission to support people as they move from crisis to stability to empowered living. Together, we can continue to make a difference.

We continue to use evidence-based models alongside data to build the most effective programs to stabilize and empower community members. Together, our incredible staff supported about 100,000 individuals this year, from infants to adults to seniors. I am incredibly proud of our work and the impact we help make.

Looking back at the past year and forward to 2025, we know there will be bumps in the road. We know that when we stand together, we thrive as individuals, as families, and as a community. We know that with your help, Commonpoint will continue to grow to meet the needs of our neighbors.

It is an 80-year-old man who walks over two miles to the food pantry, and our staff can support him with food deliveries, clothing, and other services.

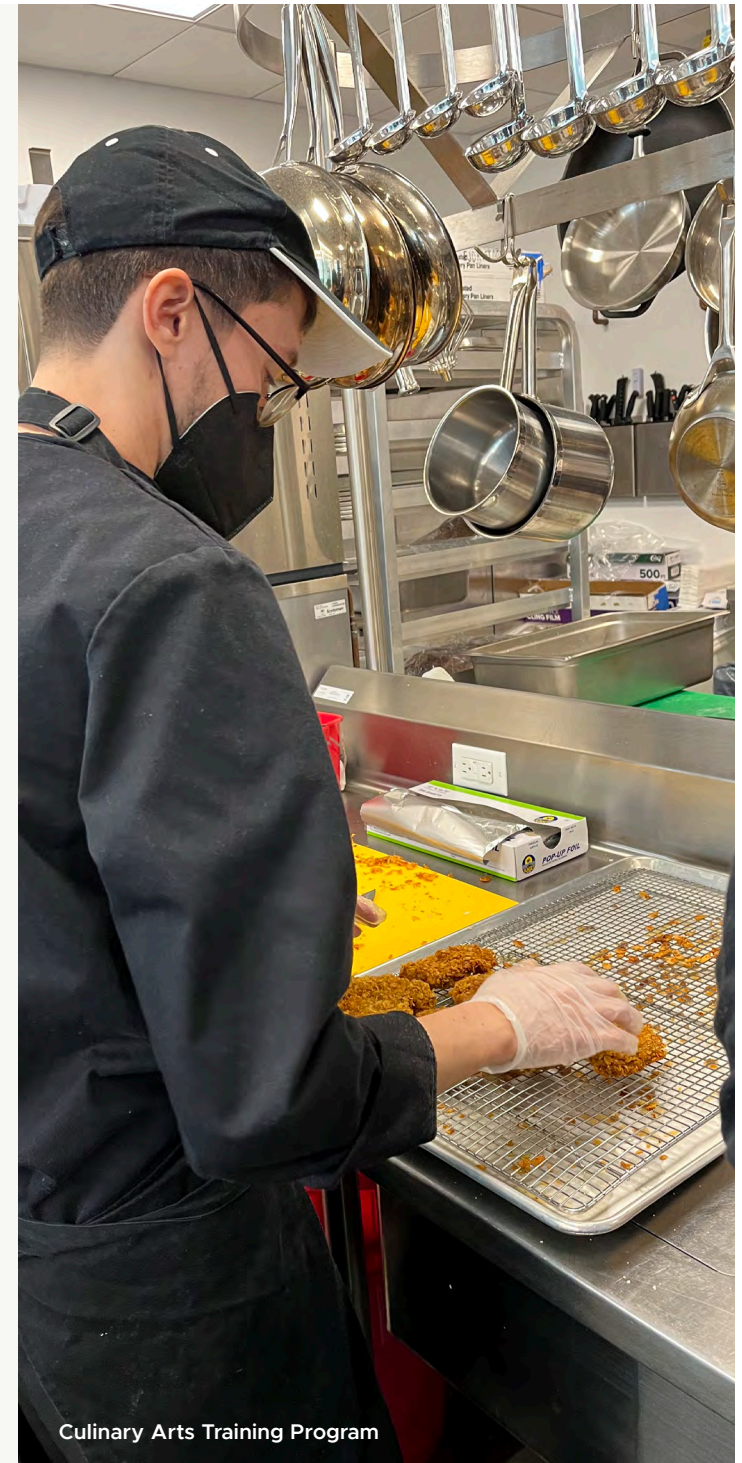
It is a young man who spent years looking for his path, found us, took a construction training class, and is now working a steady job on a worksite and providing for his family.

It is a newly arrived refugee child meeting her first American friends in her after-school program while her parents are in English language classes.

It is Jewish and non-Jewish teens from our summer camps traveling to Europe to deepen their understanding of Jewish heritage and learn to stand against injustice.

It is people of all ages, abilities, ethnicities, and from all walks of life coming together to make a community.

Thank you for being our advocates, ambassadors, partners, and supporters every day, every step of the way. **We can only do it with you.**



## WHO WE ARE

Guided by the Jewish values of service and justice, we were founded to meet the evolving needs of our community, which we continue to do today.

Commonpoint has grown from being your local community center to providing a depth of services to people of every religion, ethnicity, cultural background, gender identity, ability, and age.



Martin Van Buren High School

## WHAT WE DO

### Our diversity of programs include:

- **Jack and Shirley Silver Hub** for one-stop employment programs and adult social services supporting New Yorkers from a wide range of backgrounds, educational levels, and skills to achieve economic self-sufficiency.
- **Mental Health Outpatient Treatment and Rehabilitative Service Programs** providing high-quality mental health services since 1978 for adolescents and adults.
- **Youth Opportunity Hub** addresses obstacles young people may face by providing wrap-around services such as food, legal assistance, mental health counseling, and health & wellness alongside all the services they need to support them to complete their schooling, explore career options, and stay healthy in body and mind.
- **Programs For Children With Developmental Disabilities** are designed to meet the social, emotional, educational, and recreational needs of children with autism spectrum disorders and other disabilities.
- **Youth Programs** include infant care, early childhood education, after-school programs, and summer camps offering a safe, nurturing environment for children that develops each child's educational potential, self-confidence, and social skills.
- **Health and Wellness** is dedicated to health, physical, and social development through programs designed to keep you in shape by working at your own pace and having fun in a safe, non-judgmental environment.
- **Cultural Arts & Jewish Heritage Programs** present engaging cultural events for families and community members along with thought-provoking virtual classes on art, film, and religion and topical speaker events.
- **Refugee Resettlement and Integration Services** help people successfully assimilate into their new community by reaching self-sufficiency through initial resettlement support, case management, English language classes, job placement, and vocational training.
- **Older Adult Programming** offers people 60+ warm and inclusive social, recreational, and educational programs focusing on continuing growth and enrichment to keep the body and the mind active.
- **Six Digital Food Pantries** throughout Queens, in partnership with the UJA-Federation of New York and the Met Council on Jewish Poverty, use a client-choice model enabling customers to place their orders online and schedule a pick-up time, thereby increasing dignity and control and allowing for working families to access the pantry.



Commonpoint Tennis and Athletic Center at Alley Pond

OUR PROGRAMS

# Mental Health

When one in five individuals experience mental health issues but less than 50% of those receive care, there is a mental health care crisis. Since 1978, our Mental Health Outpatient Treatment and Rehabilitative Service Programs have provided high-quality mental health services for adolescents and adults.



When I began going to get counseling, I was in a very bad state due to the death of my wife. I am much improved and can function better than I had been. —Tom

I can discuss what I need to feel better about life and the world around me. I have gotten helpful insights on what happens in my life, including school, past trauma, and relationships. —B.C.

## 18,238

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED, INCLUDING INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP THERAPY, CASE MANAGEMENT, AND OUTREACH.



## OUR PROGRAMS

# Refugee Resettlement & Integration

Individuals admitted through the U.S. Refugee Admission Program are provided resettlement services that help them become self-sufficient and contributing members of society. Services include English language learning, temporary and permanent housing, furniture and household items, clothing, facilitation of health screening, cultural orientation, trauma-informed case management, mental health, employment training, and placement.

ALMOST 300 PEOPLE RECEIVING SUPPORT ARRIVED THROUGH THE U.S. REFUGEE ADMISSIONS PROGRAM, THE LARGEST NUMBER FOR A NEW YORK CITY AREA RESETTLEMENT AGENCY.

# 900+

INDIVIDUALS FROM 27 COUNTRIES  
FLEEING PERSECUTION OR  
HUMANITARIAN CRISES RECEIVED  
COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT.



G was facing multiple challenges when she arrived in New York from Afghanistan through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program. We helped her family with housing, furniture, food, and seasonal clothing. However, G suffers from chronic health issues, and her daughter has neurocognitive disabilities. The R&I team facilitated service for G and her daughter at a comprehensive community medical center. G's daughter is in a supportive, engaging school. The family has made remarkable progress since their arrival, and they are optimistic about their future in the U.S.



OUR PROGRAMS

# Supportive Services

Six Digital Food Pantries throughout Queens use a client-choice model that enables customers to place their orders online and schedule a pick-up time, thereby increasing dignity and control and allowing working families to access the pantry.



Even with both of us working, there are weeks when we just don't have enough to buy food. The pantry helps us. It's been a huge relief for our family. —*Losif*

# 540,118 MEALS

PROVIDED TO 86,984 PEOPLE



# 2,112

PEOPLE ASSESSED AND HELPED  
WITH BENEFITS ENROLLMENT



# Older Adults

We support thousands of older adults to age in place, in the neighborhoods they love, safely and with dignity. Our array of activities and resources helps prevent isolation and loneliness, build community, sharpen memory skills, improve cognitive function, and lower the risk for chronic illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease. Exercise and wellness classes, nutrition education, assistance in understanding and securing benefits and entitlements, intergenerational programming, and opportunities for volunteerism round out the programs and services offered to assist our participants in maintaining their independence and enjoying a fulfilling quality of life.



After losing my husband, I was alone. The Sam Field Older Adult Center offered me a community, a sense of being a part of something. The programs I'm taking part in give me something to look forward to and help me find out about me! —*Shalina*



# 31,414

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES  
PROVIDED FOR OLDER ADULTS:

HOT LUNCHES; EXERCISE CLASSES; IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL CASE MANAGEMENT; SOCIALIZATION; RECREATION; CULTURAL & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING; AND TRANSPORTATION TO PROGRAMS AND MEDICAL HEALTH APPOINTMENTS.

## OUR PROGRAMS

# Employment

Recognizing individuals' challenges in developing the workplace skills necessary to succeed in today's fast-paced environment, we created a unique service model based at the Jack and Shirley Silver Employment Hub. This innovative model removes barriers to success and gets individuals on the path to careers paying a living wage and opportunities for growth.

On top of Vocational Training and Career help, our supportive services include food pantries; mental health services; legal and financial counseling; and benefits assessment and enrollment.



Jamel joined our Construction Training program while working full-time, yet his attendance was outstanding. Despite long shifts on his feet, he stayed positive and motivated his peers. After earning his credentials, Jamel secured a job doing cementing, roofing, scaffolding, and solar panel installation. Reflecting on his journey, he said, "It was worth the hard days to know what the good days look like." Now, Jamel is pursuing his Site Safety certification to become a supervisor.

# 6,109

PEOPLE ENROLLED  
IN SERVICES

# 670

PLACED IN JOBS

# 687

ACHIEVED  
A VOCATIONAL  
CREDENTIAL

# 2,112

ENROLLED IN  
BENEFITS

# 656

IN GED AND  
ESOL CLASSES



OUR PROGRAMS

# Summer Camp

Commonpoint campers enjoy unforgettable summers filled with lasting friendships and unique experiences. From sports to the arts to STEM to outdoor activities, each Commonpoint camp is a safe, nurturing, welcoming environment with trained staff ensuring every camper has their best summer ever.



# 1,785

CAMPERS AT SEVEN  
SUMMER DAY  
CAMPS AND TWO  
OVERNIGHT CAMPS



My daughter never felt connected to Judaism before. But she made really great friendships with kids who demonstrated strong knowledge of Jewish experiences in a positive way. She came home from Sababa and told me she thinks it wouldn't be so bad to study Hebrew a little more than she used to, and while she doesn't claim to love Hebrew school all of a sudden, she no longer complains about it or resents it. —David



## OUR PROGRAMS

# Youth

Youth programs include infant care, early childhood education, after-school programs, and summer camps offering a safe, nurturing environment that develops each child's educational potential, self-confidence, and social skills. Working parents are confident that their children learn and play in a secure and supportive environment.



My daughter has been with Commonpoint since she was in 3K and has been in the after-school program. As a single mother, it is a game changer. I have much less stress knowing my daughter is safe and having a blast. I could have never exposed her to chess, sports, 3D printing, games, painting, and so much more.  
—*Esther*



# 6,896

CHILDREN ENROLLED IN EARLY  
CHILDHOOD, SPECIAL SERVICES, AND  
AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

## OUR PROGRAMS

# Volunteers

Our 800+ volunteers are skilled, dedicated, and passionate about giving back to their community. They connect with fellow volunteers, staff, and program participants to form friendships and support our most vulnerable community members. We offer one-time and recurring opportunities for individuals, families, corporations, and community groups.



A few years ago, my parents lost their jobs, and it became more difficult to make ends meet. As a child, I witnessed their hardships and struggles during this time. The Commonpoint food pantry treated us with respect and never made us feel ashamed for reaching out to them. Now, I volunteer at the food pantry, helping other families the same way Commonpoint helped mine. —Don



# 33,194

HOURS VOLUNTEERED BY  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS

## OUR PROGRAMS

# Health & Wellness

Health & Wellness offers opportunities to meet your health and fitness goals and support your fitness journey with options for everybody at every fitness level, all within a caring, safe, non-judgemental community. We have everything you need to fulfill your goals, from training for fun to running a marathon.



As a 16-year-old paraplegic who uses a wheelchair, finding activities that allow me to stay active and healthy was a challenge until I discovered adaptive tennis at Commonpoint. This experience has been transformative, not just for my physical health but for my overall well-being. From the moment I picked up a racket, I felt empowered. Playing tennis has helped me build strength, agility, and coordination. Beyond the physical benefits, tennis has been crucial in boosting my confidence and mental resilience. It has allowed me to become something I did not think was possible. —Tyrell

## 20,000+

CHILDREN AND ADULTS,  
RAN, WEIGHT-LIFTED,  
LEARNED TO SWIM,  
PARTICIPATED IN GROUP  
EXERCISE CLASSES,  
DANCED, PLAYED TENNIS,  
PICKLEBALL, BASKETBALL,  
BASEBALL, AND MORE!



## OUR PROGRAMS

# High School & College Success

Our High School & College Success Programs, including the Youth Opportunity Hub, address the obstacles young people face in completing high school, applying to college and persisting to graduate college, and gaining high-quality work experiences. We provide wraparound services such as food, mental health counseling, and health and wellness alongside all the services students need to support them to complete their schooling, explore career options, and stay healthy in body and mind.



# 97%

GRADUATION RATE, COMPARED TO THE  
86% RATE IN NEW YORK STATE IN 2023



# 5,368

YOUNG PEOPLE PLACED IN  
PAID SUMMER INTERNSHIPS



My time in SYEP helped me develop essential skills that I will carry into college and my future career, including punctuality, communication, leadership, and organization. This year, I was given more responsibility, helping my supervisors manage and oversee the newer team members. With this bigger role, I feel that I have grown a lot as a team member and a leader. —12th Grade SYEP Participant

## OUR PROGRAMS

# Resilience

The Resilience Program offers resources to individuals and families facing unexpected tragedies and situations while addressing immediate needs like food and mental health. We provide essential services to assist those in need in a dignified manner to help them achieve self-sufficiency. Services are offered in English, Russian, Spanish, Ukrainian, Hebrew, and Farsi, reflecting our commitment to cultural competency and meeting the needs of diverse communities.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES ARE PROVIDED TO SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES, HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS, AND THOSE FACING UNEXPECTED TRAGEDY THROUGH WORKSHOPS, COUNSELING, SUPPORT GROUPS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND LEGAL AND FINANCIAL AID.



The weekly meetings and holiday celebrations are so helpful. They get us out of the house to socialize with people we have grown so close with. —David & Miriam



# 680

INDIVIDUALS IN NEED  
EMPOWERED TO ACHIEVE  
SELF-SUFFICIENCY

## OUR PROGRAMS

# Special Services

Our programs for neurodiverse individuals help meet the emotional, educational, social, and recreational needs of neurodiverse children through homework help, arts & crafts, sports, cooking, and science in after-school and summer camp programs. Participants learn essential skills such as independence and leadership to thrive.



CM was nonverbal for the first years of her life. She joined the Social Skills Group and has been actively participating for the last four years. In that time she made several friends and mastered starting a conversation, maintaining, joining, and ending a conversation. We helped her become aware of her strengths and areas to improve. With positive reinforcement, CM took an active role in her learning.



# 350

UNIQUE YOUTH AND ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PARTICIPATED IN AFTER-SCHOOL, ENRICHMENT, AND SUMMER PROGRAMS

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Lawrence C. Gottlieb**  
*Chair*

**Lee Perlman**  
*Treasurer*

**Michael Bizenov**

**Mady Caslow**

**Liam Elkind**

**Ingrid Fishman**

**Liam Glass**

**Ellen Grossman**

**Stacy Hoffman**

**Renee Krieger**

**Hillary Kupferberg**

**Eric Lastres**

**Kunjan Mehta**

**Jason Minnella**

**Mark Newfield**

**Betsy Perlman**

**Nathan Pinkhasov**

**Shirley Silver**

**David Sokoler**

**Judy Sonkin**

**Greg Tanenbaum**

**Richard Tanenbaum**

**Robert Winning**

## EXECUTIVE TEAM

**Danielle Ellman**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

**Jason Rok**  
*Chief Financial Officer*

**Craig Lastres**  
*Chief Operating Officer*

**Danielle Hersch**  
*Chief Strategy Officer*

**Gigi Garcia**  
*Chief People Officer*

**Jared Mintz**  
*Vice President of Communications*

**Juanito Vargas**  
*Vice President of Adult Programs*

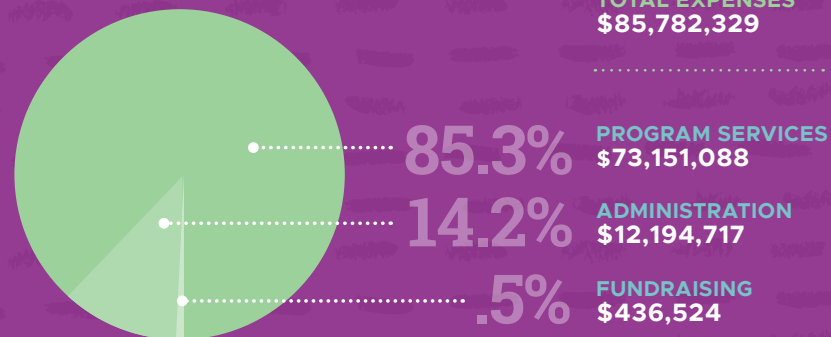
**Judy Vladimir**  
*Vice President of Development*



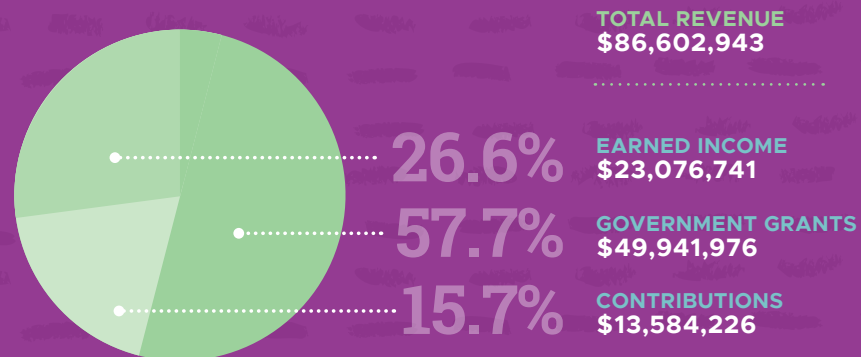
**2024 in pictures:** (left to right, from top): *Pathfinders at Island Quest Day Camp;*  
*Older Adult Exercise;* *Construction Training Graduation;* *Sababa Beachaway*  
*Sleepaway Camp;* *Mental Health Day at the Queens High School of Teaching (QHST);*  
*Central Queens Food Pantry*

## 2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### Expenses



### Revenue



**2024 in pictures:** (left to right, from top): Resettlement & Intergration; Early Childhood Education; Wheelchair Tennis at Commonpoint Tennis and Athletic Center at Alley Pond; Adult Day Care Family Respite Program; GED Graduation; Special Services After-School Program

