

# MORE THAN A HOUSE

## BUILDING HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

*Sometimes a building represents more than walls and a roof—it represents possibility. How Our Vision, Priorities, and Values Shape Every Step Forward.*

At Starve Poverty, growth has never been about becoming bigger for the sake of becoming bigger. Growth means becoming more intentional, more effective, and more faithful in serving communities in need. That is why we created our Vision & Mission House — a framework that clearly defines who we are, what we stand for, and where we are going. Like any strong house, our work requires a solid foundation, guiding values, clear priorities, and a shared vision. This house represents the blueprint for every program we build, every partnership we create, and every life we seek to impact.

**Our Roof:** Vision & Mission- At the center of everything is our mission: To Break the Chains of Poverty.

**Our Ambition:** One Person at a Time

**Our Priority Areas:** Where We Focus Our Work

**The Values That Hold Us Together - All Decisions are Filtered Through Here**

**Our Foundation:** Faith- Our faith shapes our compassion, influences our decisions, and motivates our service. It is the reason behind the work—not separate from it.

### Looking Ahead

This house is more than a visual. It is our roadmap for the future. As Starve Poverty continues to grow, this framework will help guide priorities, measure progress, strengthen partnerships, and ensure we remain focused on the mission entrusted to us. The needs around us are significant—but so is the opportunity to create meaningful impact together. Because when we build with purpose, compassion, and faith, we are not only meeting needs today—we are helping build stronger futures tomorrow.

*Thank you for being part of the house we are building together.*

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## OUR VISION & MISSION

To "BREAK THE CHAINS OF POVERTY" - by deploying people into specific communities to help meet humanitarian, educational, medical, social, and spiritual needs, targeting teams toward specific projects that benefit poverty-stricken individuals or groups.

<b>OUR AMBITION</b>	To drip the love of Christ on one person at a time.				
<b>OUR PRIORITIES</b>	<b>HUNGER RELIEF &amp; FOOD ACCESS</b>	<b>URGENT HOME REPAIRS</b>	<b>DISASTER &amp; MISSION RESPONSE</b>	<b>VOCATIONAL TRAINING</b>	<b>STEWARDSHIP &amp; ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH</b>
	<b>PURPOSE:</b> No child or family goes hungry.  <b>HOW WE DO THIS:</b> 1. Food Pantry 2. No Hungry Kids Program 3. Emergency Food Distribution	<b>PURPOSE:</b> Ensure homes are safe, healthy and liveable.  <b>HOW WE DO THIS:</b> 1. Urgent Home Repairs	<b>PURPOSE:</b> To respond quickly when communities face urgent need. Strengthen mission partnerships.  <b>HOW WE DO THIS:</b> 1. Disaster Response 2. Mission Kentucky 3. Emergency Outreach Initiatives	<b>PURPOSE:</b> Help individuals move toward sustainable independence by teaching trade skills to high school students.  <b>HOW WE DO THIS:</b> 1. Vocational Training 2. Job Readiness and Skill Development	<b>PURPOSE:</b> To faithfully steward resources by building people, systems, & sustainability needed to grow our mission with excellence.  <b>HOW WE DO THIS:</b> 1. Financial Stewardship & Sustainability 2. Operational Excellence & Streamlined Systems 3. People Development 4. Grow Partnerships 5. Accountability, Transparency & Trust 6. Leverage Partnerships
<b>OUR CORE VALUES</b>	<b>LOVE MATTERS</b> Everything we do is rooted in compassion and care		<b>YOU MATTER</b> Every person has inherent dignity and worth		<b>INTEGRITY MATTERS</b> We commit to honesty, transparency, and doing what is right
<b>OUR FOUNDATION</b>	Our foundation is faith in God, which shapes our values, fuels our compassion, and calls us to serve others with humility, integrity, and love. Faith is not separate from our work—it is the reason we do it.				

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### WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Whether you're looking to volunteer your time, donate food or supplies, offer financial support or simply learn more about how we're breaking the chains of poverty—we'd love to connect with you.

Scan the QR code to visit our website - [www.starvepoverty.org](http://www.starvepoverty.org)

Call us at 609-249-5392 or Visit us at 99 Route 72, Barnegat, NJ 08005

Together, we can bring hope, healing, and hands-on help—one project, one person at a time.



# PEOPLE BEHIND THE MISSION

*Our impact is only possible because of volunteers who transform generosity into action and resources into hope.*

Behind every pound of food distributed, every family served, and every milestone reached are volunteers who continue to show up with compassion, dedication, and a willingness to serve. Their work often happens quietly—sorting donations, stocking shelves, carrying nearly two tons of food each week, assisting neighbors, supporting events, managing inventory, leading programs, and ensuring operations run smoothly day after day.

Our volunteers are the hands and heart behind the mission. They welcome neighbors with dignity, respond to growing needs with care, and help transform resources into meaningful support for families in our community. Whether serving behind the scenes or directly engaging with those we support, their commitment makes lasting impact possible.

As our organization grows, so does the role our volunteers play in strengthening programs, expanding capacity, and helping build a future where hope and support are accessible to more families. Every hour given, every task completed, and every act of kindness contributes to something larger.

## INVENTORY MANAGEMENT TEAM

### THE TEAM BEHIND THE SCENES ENSURING RESOURCES BECOME IMPACT



Before food reaches pantry shelves or makes its way into the hands of our neighbors, our Inventory Management Team has already invested countless hours making it possible. From driving to pick up shipments and unloading trucks to organizing donations, managing back stock, and maintaining inventory flow, this team plays a critical role in keeping our operations moving efficiently every day.

Their work requires strength, coordination, commitment, and an incredible attention to detail. They help ensure that food is received, sorted, stored safely, and distributed effectively—supporting not only daily pantry operations but the growing needs of our community. Through changing schedules, large deliveries, and increasing demand, they continue showing up with dedication and a willingness to do whatever is needed.

Much of their work happens behind the scenes, but their impact is visible in every family served and every meal distributed. As our organization grows, their leadership, problem-solving, and perseverance help build the foundation needed to expand our reach and strengthen our mission.



*To our Inventory Management Team: thank you for carrying the weight—literally and figuratively—of this important work and helping transform donations into hope for our community.*

\*\*Pictured above: (left to right) Bob Morse, Stan Romaneck, Gary Dvorak, Ken Oakes and Bill Potts

## PANTRY LEAD TEAM

### LEADING WITH COMPASSION

Our Pantry Lead Team serves at the heart of daily operations, helping ensure that every pantry day runs smoothly from beginning to end. From opening and preparing the pantry, organizing volunteers, and coordinating workflow, to supporting neighbors and closing operations at the end of the day, these leaders help create structure, consistency, and care in every interaction.

Their role goes far beyond logistics. Pantry Leads guide teams, solve problems in real time, anticipate needs, and help create an environment where neighbors feel welcomed, respected, and supported. They carry responsibility not only for operations, but for helping foster the compassion and dignity that define our mission.

As our organization continues to grow, strong leadership within the pantry becomes increasingly important. Through dedication, flexibility, and a servant's heart, our Pantry Lead Team helps ensure we are prepared each day to meet our community's needs with excellence and care.

Their leadership may happen behind the scenes, but their impact is felt in every volunteer supported, every pantry day organized, and every neighbor welcomed through our doors.



*To our Pantry Lead Team—thank you for leading with purpose and helping turn service into meaningful impact.*

\*\*Pictured above: (left to right) Kelly Lee, Michele O'Brien, Gretchen Orsini, Dolores Sprague and Lynda Quinn



# PEOPLE BEHIND THE MISSION

*Our impact is only possible because of volunteers who transform generosity into action and resources into hope.*

## EXPANDING ROLES, DEEPENING IMPACT

**Jessica Jones** serves as SPI's dedicated **Social Media Coordinator** and has been instrumental in helping share our mission, tell our story, and strengthen our connection with the community. Her ability to bridge communication and operations makes her an invaluable part of our evolving team.

As SPI continues to grow, Jessica is now expanding her role to also support **Bookkeeping and Administrative Operations**—bringing the same level of care, organization, and dedication to the systems that help keep our daily operations running smoothly.

*Thank you to Jessica Jones for her dedicated work leading our social media and for stepping into an expanded role supporting our bookkeeping and administrative operations.*



We are proud to recognize **Michele O'Brien** as she takes on two new leadership roles within SPI, serving as **No Hungry Kids Program Coordinator** and as one of our **Pantry Leads**.

Her compassion, dedication, and commitment to serving families continue to strengthen our mission and expand our impact throughout the community. Michele's heart for helping others and her willingness to lead wherever needed make her an invaluable part of our growing team.

These roles reflect the trust we place in her and the leadership she brings to our mission every day.

*We are grateful for the leadership Michele brings to SPI and the impact she continues to make throughout our community.*

As SPI continues to grow, **Lauri Smith** is stepping into an expanded leadership role as **Operations Manager**.

Through continued collaboration and mentorship she will play an increasing role in supporting and overseeing day-to-day operations while working alongside Ron as he continues leading the vision, relationships, and mission of SPI within the community.

This intentional transition reflects SPI's commitment to building strong leadership, operational continuity, and a sustainable foundation for the future of the organization.

Her leadership, commitment, and passion for the mission continue to strengthen the foundation of SPI and help guide the work happening every day throughout our community.

*Thank you for the continued leadership, dedication, and care you bring to SPI each day.*



Since the very beginning of the pantry, **Kathleen Emig** has been a constant source of support, dedication, and reliability within SPI. Over the years, she has worn many hats and continually stepped in wherever there has been a need—always with a willingness to serve and a heart for the mission.

Her commitment, flexibility, and quiet leadership have helped strengthen the foundation of SPI in countless ways. We are also excited to share that Kathleen will now be stepping into the role of **Volunteer Coordinator**, where her care for people, organizational skills, and dedication to the mission will continue helping support and guide our incredible volunteer team.

Kathleen's impact reaches far beyond the tasks she completes—it is reflected in the consistency, compassion, and heart she brings to SPI each and every day.

*Thank you, Kathleen, for your unwavering dedication and for continually stepping up to help carry this mission forward.*

### *A Personal Note: Ron's Health Update*

We are pleased to share that Ron has completed his radiation treatments and received encouraging results from his doctor. He will continue his hormonal treatments for the next 12-15 month.

Following back surgery three weeks ago, he is continuing to make great progress and remains a steady presence in leadership as he continues to recover. We remain grateful for his strength and continued resilience. We ask that you continue to keep him and his recovery in your thoughts and prayers.

## THE HANDS THAT MAKE IT ALL POSSIBLE

We want to take a moment to recognize all of our volunteers whose names and roles may not have been highlighted in this newsletter edition. Every day, they show up with compassion, energy, and a willingness to serve that makes our work possible.

From behind-the-scenes support to direct service in our programs, their contributions are the foundation of everything we do, and we are deeply grateful for each and every one of them.

# PROGRAMS IN ACTION

*We don't just envision a stronger community- we build it every day.*

## WHEN THE MISSIONS TURN INTO MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS: WHAT WE HAVE BUILT GOES BEYOND PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

What has made this work meaningful isn't just the projects we complete—it's the relationships that form along the way. Whether it's on mission trips or through urgent home repair programs, we've seen again and again that real impact happens in the connection between people: volunteers showing up, families opening their doors, and communities standing alongside one another in moments of need.

These experiences go beyond a single week of service or a finished repair. They create ongoing relationships—shared meals, shared stories, and shared trust. In those spaces, something deeper takes root: not just helping hands, but a sense of belonging and mutual care that continues long after the work is done.

And that's what shapes what comes next for us. We're not only building and repairing homes—we're building a network of connection that strengthens communities from the inside out. As we look ahead, the invitation is the same: to keep showing up, to keep building relationships, and to keep discovering how lives are changed when we do this work together.

*Scan here!*

Check out the Causeway Gazette to see how SPI and Causeway CaRes are working together to make an impact in our community.



## SERVING BEYOND OUR COMMUNITY: KENTUCKY MISSION TRIP 2026



Since 2020, SPI has been sending teams of volunteers to the Appalachian coal country of eastern Kentucky to take on larger home repair projects and serve alongside our partners at St. Vincent Mission in David, Kentucky. While the work is physically demanding, each trip leaves participants with something far greater than they arrived with—a deeper appreciation for community, service, and the power of helping others.

This April, a team of 13 volunteers traveled to Kentucky for a week of hard work, fellowship, and purpose. Together, they installed a new roof on the main building utilized by St. Vincent Mission, a facility that serves as the hub for many of the programs and services supporting local families. The team also completed critical repairs to two manufactured homes damaged by past flooding, including a bathroom renovation, structural repairs, sub-floor replacement, and new flooring installation.

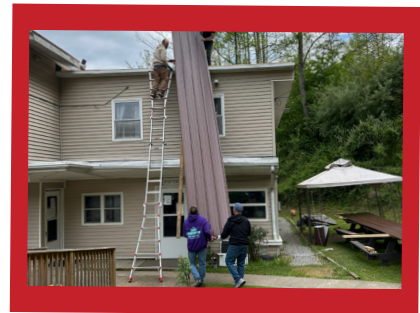
The days were filled with long hours, hard work, and plenty of sweat, but they were equally filled with laughter, shared meals, meaningful conversations, and the relationships that make these trips so special. Time and again, our volunteers discover that while they travel to Kentucky to serve others, they often return home feeling blessed by the experience themselves.



This year's trip also marked an important leadership transition. After five years of faithfully leading our Kentucky mission teams, Josh Van Derveer passed the leadership role to Mike Keifer. Josh's dedication, leadership, and commitment have helped shape this ministry and create lasting impact for countless families over the years.

For Ron, this transition carries special meaning. More than 15 years ago, Ron had the privilege of officiating Josh and Rachel's wedding. Watching Josh and Rachel grow in their faith, service, and leadership through the years has been a blessing, and SPI is grateful for the role they have played in making these mission trips so impactful.

As one chapter closes and another begins, we celebrate both the legacy of leadership Josh leaves behind and the future of this ministry under Mike's guidance. Together, we remain committed to serving communities in need and sharing hope through the work of our hands and the generosity of our hearts.



# PROGRAMS IN ACTION

*We don't just envision a stronger community- we build it every day.*

## 2023-2026 IMPACT SNAPSHOT

### FOOD PANTRY

- Launched Pantry February 2022 In A 2,400 Sq. Ft. Facility; Served 30 Families In Our First Month; Grew To 175+ Families By Year-End; Reached 570 Individuals, Including 110 Children
- 2023: Served 240+ Families; 720+ Individuals, Including 215 Children; 78,461 Lbs. Of Food Distributed (65,384 Meals)
- 2024: Served 320+ Families; 870+ Individuals, Including 269 Children; 98,619 Lbs. Of Food Distributed (82,182 Meals)
- 2025: Served 435+ Families; 1,039+ Individuals, Including 225 Children; 188,825 Lbs. Of Food Distributed (157,354 Meals)
- 2026 (Q1): Comparing Q1 2026 with Q1 2025: Food Demand +29%, We distributed 53,958 Lbs of food (44,965 Meals)

### HOME REPAIRS

- Launched Program 2022
- 51 Home Repairs Completed (2022-2025)
- 8 Home Repair Projects Completed Thus Far in 2026
- Common Projects: Roof Repair/Replacement; Accessibility Ramps; Flooring Replacement; Bathroom Modifications (ADA); Door And Plumbing Repairs; Hot Water Heater Replacement

### VOLUNTEERS MOVING MOUNTAINS

- Nearly **2 TONS OF FOOD DISTRIBUTED WEEKLY**
- **188,825 Lbs** Of Food Distributed In 2025!
- That's The Equivalent Of **157,354 Meals** Shared With Neighbors Facing Food Insecurity.
- *91% increase in food distribution compared to 2024*  
*Nearly doubling our impact in one year.*

### COMMUNITY POWERED

- **29.6%** of all food distributed came directly from our local community!
- Neighbors, churches, civic organizations, HOA groups, retailers, and local partners continue to make this mission possible.

*"Together, we are making a difference!"*

## NO HUNGRY KIDS PROGRAM RENEWED MISSION

*Making sure no child goes hungry is a responsibility we can all share. We invite local businesses, community partners, and individuals to support the No Hungry Kids program through gift card donations, financial contributions, sponsorship opportunities, or by helping us spread the word.*

### NO CHILD SHOULD HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THEIR NEXT MEAL...

Food insecurity affects thousands of children right here in our community. When families face job loss, illness, or financial setbacks, food is often the first thing impacted.

*Hunger doesn't just affect health— it affects learning, focus, and emotional well-being.*

### HUNGER IN OCEAN COUNTY

- 21,880 children live in food-insecure households
- Nearly 1 in 6 children in Ocean County face food insecurity
- 67,500 households struggle to consistently access food

### THE NO HUNGRY KIDS SOLUTION - FAST. FLEXIBLE. DIGNIFIED.

No Hungry Kids Works Through A Simple Partnership:

1. Schools Identify Families In Need
2. Starve Poverty Provides Grocery & Meal Gift Cards
3. Schools Discreetly Give Support To Families

### FAMILIES CAN BUY FOOD JUST LIKE ANY OTHER HOUSEHOLD

You Can Help Ensure No Child Goes Hungry By:

1. Donating Grocery Or Restaurant Gift Cards.
2. Donating To Starve Poverty No Hungry Kids Program.
3. Helping To Support The Program By Spreading The Word, Helping Us To Reach More Constituents.

**Schools Identify The Need. Starve Poverty Stewards The Resources.**

*Together We Make Sure No Child Goes Hungry.*



### DID YOU KNOW?

Across our communities, many families continue to face difficult choices between paying for housing, utilities, healthcare, and putting food on the table.

Food insecurity remains a reality for millions of Americans.

According to the most recent USDA data, approximately 47 million Americans—including more than 14 million children—lived in food-insecure households in 2024.

An estimated 18.3 million households, representing 13.7% of all U.S. households, experienced food insecurity at some point during the year.

### WANT MORE INFORMATION? CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE:

[www.starvepoverty.org](http://www.starvepoverty.org)

OR CONTACT:

**MICHELE O'BRIEN**

Program Coordinator - No Hungry Kids

P: 609-249-5392 ext. 110

E: Michele@starvepoverty.org

# BUILDING CAPACITY

*As community needs grow, we continue to invest in the people, resources, and infrastructure needed to serve more families with greater impact.*

## INVESTING IN IMPACT: HOW GRANT FUNDING IS EXPANDING OUR REACH

Growth requires more than vision—it requires the resources and infrastructure needed to respond to increasing community needs.

Thanks to grant funding and valued partnerships, we have been able to make important investments that strengthen our operations and expand our ability to serve.

### RECENT GRANT SUPPORT HAS HELPED FUND:

- A NEW REFRIGERATED VAN
- A NEW FREEZER
- EXPANDED STORAGE CAPACITY WITH AN ADDITIONAL CONTAINER
- EXPANDED TECHNOLOGY AND OPERATIONAL RESOURCES

These investments represent more than equipment—they represent increased capacity, stronger operations, and greater impact for the families we serve. Each improvement helps us operate more efficiently, preserve and distribute more food, strengthen our programs, and better meet the growing needs of our community.

We are deeply grateful to the foundations, organizations, businesses, and community partners who invest in our mission. Their support allows us to build sustainable solutions, strengthen our infrastructure, and continue expanding our reach to serve more neighbors in need.

We would also like to recognize Sam Doncaster, whose leadership as Grant Coordinator has played an important role in helping SPI secure and manage grant opportunities. Through careful planning, oversight, reporting, and relationship management, Sam helps ensure that grant funding is used effectively and responsibly to advance our mission and support future growth.

Because of these partnerships—and the dedicated individuals who help steward them—we are not only meeting today’s needs, we are building for tomorrow.



**SAM DONCASTER**

## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: STRENGTHENING OUR MISSION

As SPI continues to grow, we recognize that strong programs require strong leaders. One of the most important investments we can make is in the people who help guide our teams, support our volunteers, and carry our mission forward each day.

This year, we transitioned from traditional Executive Team meetings to a more collaborative Team Leadership model. By bringing our team leaders together on a quarterly basis, we are creating opportunities to strengthen communication, share best practices, solve challenges collectively, and align around the vision and goals of the organization.

These leadership meetings also provide dedicated time for training and development. Through leadership discussions, skill-building opportunities, and shared learning experiences, we are equipping team leaders with the tools, knowledge, and confidence needed to lead effectively and support the continued growth of SPI.

In addition to these quarterly gatherings, we have implemented regular one-on-one check-in meetings with team leaders. These 30-minute conversations, held bi-weekly or monthly, provide individualized support, coaching, problem-solving, and mentorship. They allow us to celebrate successes, address challenges, and ensure our leaders feel supported as they grow in their roles.

**BUILDING CAPACITY** is about more than expanding programs or acquiring resources—it is about investing in people. By developing leaders throughout the organization, we are strengthening the foundation of SPI and creating a sustainable path for future growth, service, and impact.

The work of SPI is made possible by people who choose to get involved. Whether you give your time, share resources, make a donation, or simply help spread awareness, your support helps us reach more families and respond to growing needs throughout our community.

To learn more, scan the QR code, visit [www.starvepoverty.org](http://www.starvepoverty.org), call 609-249-5392, or stop by our facility at 99 Route 72, Barnegat, NJ 08005.



Together, we are building stronger communities through compassion, service, and hope.

# COMMUNITY & WHAT'S NEXT

*The strength of our mission comes from the people who continue to show up—through volunteering, giving, advocating, and serving. Together, we are building a stronger future for our community.*

## ANNUAL STARVE POVERTY COMMUNITY PICNIC: SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH FROM 12:00 PM TO 3:00 PM

This special day is a celebration of all of us—our volunteers, our supporters, and the neighbors we are honored to serve—coming together as one community.

Join us for an afternoon of great food, music, connection, and fun in a welcoming, relaxed environment. This is a chance to build relationships, share stories, and celebrate the impact we're making together.

*No matter how you're connected to Starve Poverty, you belong here—and we would truly love to see you. Thank you for being part of this community.*

### EVENT DETAILS

**Date:** Saturday, June 13

**Time:** 12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Location:** 99 Route 72, Barnegat NJ 08005

## “YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE”

*Your support turns compassion into action!*

The Vision of Starve Poverty is to "Break the Chains of Poverty" by deploying people into specific communities to help meet humanitarian, educational, medical, social, and spiritual needs; targeting teams toward specific projects that benefit poverty-stricken individuals or groups.

### SPI IS FUNDED ENTIRELY BY DONATIONS AND GRANTS — we don't sell anything!

The diversity of nutritious foods, urgent home repairs, and disaster relief we provide is made possible by the generous support of our allies — both through time and donations.

*Together, we can 'Starve out Poverty.'*

Please Join us in our mission—

Below are some of the ways you can contribute and help us provide critical resources to our neighbors in need:

- \$25** your one-time generous gift can help provide **TWO** meals for **1** family.
- \$50** your one-time generous gift can help provide **5** meals for families and children in need.
- \$100** your one-time generous gift can help provide **10** meals for families and children in need.
- \$250** your one-time generous gift can help provide disaster relief supplies for **5** families in need.
- \$500** your one-time generous gift can help **provide skilled craftsmen** to perform essential home safety repairs and support disaster response efforts.

### WAYS TO DONATE

Donate online by clicking the link below or entering the URL into your web browser:  
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/donate-to-change-lives-2309>

OR

Scan the QR code below to make your donation.



We also gladly accept checks payable to:  
**Starve Poverty International**  
6 Norwick Dr.  
Forked River, NJ 08731

Please indicate your donation preference or designated program in the memo line of your check.

\*Starve Poverty International is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

### OTHER WAYS YOU CAN POWER SPI'S MISSION:

**VOLUNTEER:** Your time and skills can make an impact too!

**SHARE:** SPI's mission with your friends, family, colleagues and on your social media. Your advocacy can amplify our impact!

Please also consider becoming a monthly or yearly donor, every little bit helps, and we are so grateful for any and all support. If you would like to get involved, please reach out via email at [info@starvepoverty.org](mailto:info@starvepoverty.org).

**"You are making a difference" one life at a time!**