

# Community Soup Kitchen Newsletter



CHRIS BOPP, YALE, 1993

## Dear Friends and Supporters of CSK,

Witnessing the work being done by employees and volunteers of Community Soup Kitchen can be overwhelming - from our leadership and kitchen staff, to the dining room team, our drivers and the growing number of program managers in the field, we are surrounded by people acting in service to others, meeting each day with tireless energy and compassion.

Equally as overwhelming is the steadfast support of the grassroots community that supports this organization, and it is an honor to report to our donors on the impact of your contributions so far this year.

### **So far in 2024...**

In fulfilling our mission to 'feed the hungry, no matter the circumstances', **as of July 31st CSK has served 45,380 meals, an increase of 12% through the same time in 2023.**

While we solemnly acknowledge the rising levels of food insecurity throughout the community we serve, we also remain inspired by our ability to continually grow to meet the needs of our guests as efficiently as we can given the resources available to us.

In response to these changing dynamics across the city of New Haven and in pursuit of our vision to see that 'each and every individual has access to food, health services, and community engagement in a dignified and mutually respectful environment', in this newsletter we are proud to update you on three new programs that were launched in the first half of the year.

With gratitude for all of you,

CSK Board of Directors

## The Ladle Speaks!

### **New Programs at Community Soup Kitchen**

### **Youthful Spirit of Support**

### **Calling Volunteers to Help**

### **2024 CSK Soup-a-Thon on November 14th**

### **CSK Online!**

### **Our Gratitude**



## Childhood Hunger Initiative

In April, CSK partnered with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Tau Xi Omega Chapter (TXO), to support their Childhood Hunger Initiative Power Pack (CHIPP™), purchasing, storing and packing meals for food insecure students of the Helen Street Elementary School.

Each Friday during the school year volunteers packed, and CSK delivered, 65 backpacks. Each pack contains 4 full meals plus healthy snacks, allowing those children to remain fed over the weekend, until school meals become available again during the week.

This program will begin its second phase in September. We invite any of our donors with a special interest in helping to address childhood hunger to reach out for more information about how to help at [development@csknewhaven.org](mailto:development@csknewhaven.org).



## Newhallville Lunch Program

During May, and in conjunction with The V.I.L.L.E.G.E. and Mt. Calvary Outreach Center, we began serving meals from a fully-staffed satellite location at 5 Hazel Street in Newhallville. As many residents of New Haven know, Newhallville suffers at a disproportionate rate of poverty and food insecurity.

CSK is blessed to have the kitchen staff, food and kitchen capacity to produce a high volume of meals. We are also lucky to have the delivery capabilities that allow us to get those meals to the neighborhoods where they are needed, such as Newhallville.

Our meal service there has grown from 40 to nearly 200 meals per day in July, with those meals feeding both individuals and neighborhood families. We are indebted to the donors whose directed contributions allowed us to purchase a refrigerator, microwave, service utilities and a tent to make this program possible.





## CSK Public Shower Program

In July, thanks to the leadership of Father Stephen Holton, the extreme generosity of everyone at Christ Church, and the persistence of one of our most treasured volunteers, Francine Jaworowicz, we were able to launch the CSK Public Shower Program.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays between 8:30 and noon, anyone in need can register for private showers in the newly renovated area at Christ Church. Guests who register for showers also receive personal toiletry bags, fresh t-shirts and socks upon departing.

We look forward to the continued growth and success of this program, working in conjunction with agencies across the city that have expressed their appreciation for its existence as an essential resource for those in need.

For more information about CSK's Public Shower Program please check [www.csknewhaven.org/services/health-services.com](http://www.csknewhaven.org/services/health-services.com).

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## Youthful Spirit of Support for CSK

This summer we also had a visit from one of our newest supporters and an example of all the good things in the world, 7-year old Jackson Dailey.

Jackson has it in his heart to support causes he cares about and this year we were the fortunate beneficiaries of his efforts to go door to door in his neighborhood collecting donations on behalf of CSK for "Jackson's Recycle Rally".

He and his dad delivered a \$100 donation and took a tour of CSK with our Vice-Chair and volunteer, Dan Stamper.

Thank you to Jackson and we hope to see him wearing an apron in the kitchen with Lee one of these days soon!

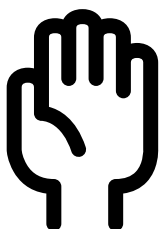


## Calling All Volunteers!

One of the many ways that we are able to operate CSK and serve so many meals efficiently is to mobilize the support of our volunteers.

As a note to anyone in our community who may be in search of specific opportunities to donate your time to CSK, we are currently in need of regular help to serve two important roles - Volunteer Coordinator and Guest Services Coordinator.

### Volunteer Coordinator



CSK is blessed to have hundreds of registered volunteers looking for opportunities to make a difference in the lives of our guests. As the needs within our community increase, there is more and more work to do.

CSK's Volunteer Coordinator would ideally be available on a regular basis to match work and projects that need doing with the people capable of doing that work. If you're someone who would be interested in taking on this very important role, please contact us at [development@csknewhaven.org](mailto:development@csknewhaven.org) - and thank you in advance!

### Guest Services Coordinator

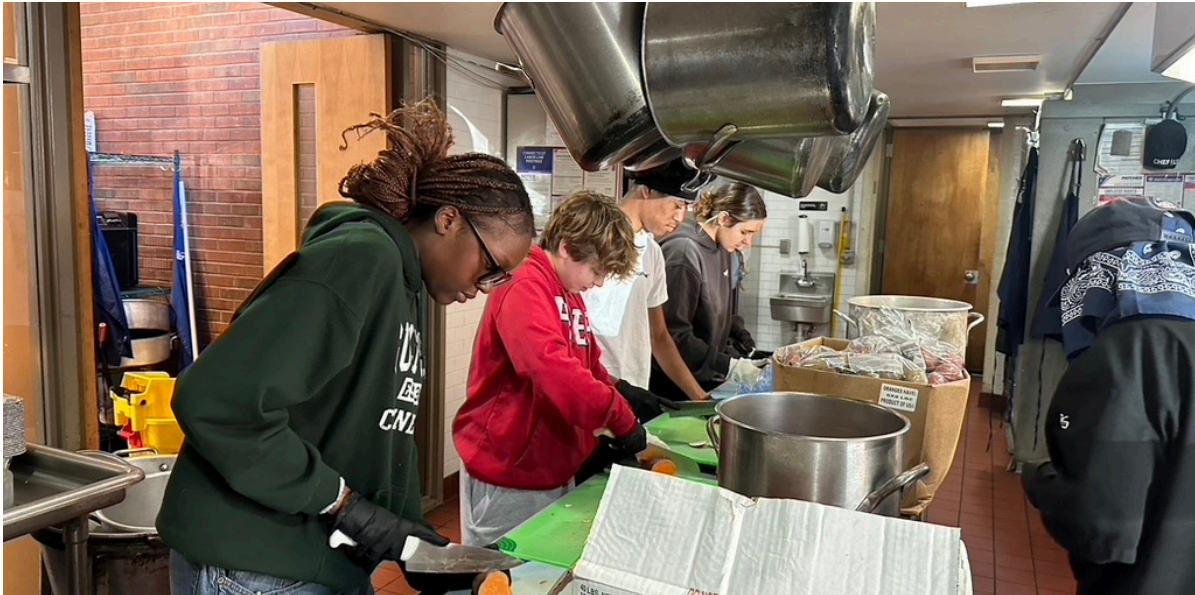


As our partner organizations expand in scope and number, so too do the opportunities to connect our guests with the essential resources they may so desperately need. Without this connection, many in need of help don't get it.

CSK's Guest Services Coordinator will assist in bridging communications between our guests in the dining room and partner organizations waiting to assist. Please contact us at [development@csknewhaven.org](mailto:development@csknewhaven.org) for more info!

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## Looking Forward...CKS Online and CSK Soup-a-Thon....

In case you missed it -- in an effort to become more accessible to our supporters, CSK has updated its website and social media channels! Please visit [www.csknewhaven.org](http://www.csknewhaven.org) to see more information about our programming, as well as to see our Digital Archive which chronicles the history of CSK in photos, videos and documentation (thanks to all who have contributed so far, and keep the historical documents coming!). You will also find efficient links for online giving, volunteer registration, in-kind donations and CSK merchandise.

The return of the CSK Soup-a-Thon will be held at 84 Broadway on Thursday, November 14th, beginning at 5:30pm and ending at 9:00pm. Join us for the best soups off the menus of New Haven's favorite restaurants, musical performances, hors d'oeuvres, drinks and more.

This December CSK will once again be teaming up with our friends at the New Haven Symphony Orchestra to bring in the holiday cheer at Lyman and Woolsey Halls...event details to follow soon!

## THANK YOU!

None of what we've accomplished so far this year would be possible without your continued support, in all the various forms those contributions take - we are grateful each and every day and hope that our work makes you proud of the organization you've chosen to support.

As we continue to serve CSK's mission, please know that you are encouraged to reach directly out with any questions, ideas or requests at [director@csknewhaven.org](mailto:director@csknewhaven.org) or by phone at 203-535-7670.

*When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed.*  
- Maya Angelou



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