

BERGEN VOLUNTEERS

2022 ANNUAL REPORT AND RETROSPECTIVE



1966

Bergen Volunteers was established by the Junior League with the purpose of facilitating connections between individuals and volunteer opportunities in Bergen County. Throughout our journey, we have undergone name changes to align with our evolving identity and mission, adapting to the changing landscape of social programs.

As you delve into this year's annual report, we cordially invite you to join us in a retrospective journey spanning over five decades of unwavering commitment and service.

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Dear Friend,

In 2022, our goal was to pursue new growth in the midst of persistent challenges brought about by the pandemic. As a result, we aimed to sustain our status as a community hub that fosters public and private collaborations and partnerships, while also expanding our social services. Whether we are receiving generous donations for our drives, assisting corporations with their social responsibility and leadership training, providing networking opportunities, or collaborating with individuals, businesses, nonprofits, and municipalities, our goal is to address the needs of all 70 County municipalities and beyond. Our staff and volunteers have contributed thousands of service hours to support veterans, unhoused individuals, survivors of domestic violence, children and youth, English language learners, seniors at risk, and those looking to redefine their retirement, and anyone in need of extra support. We are deeply grateful for your trust and stewardship, which have enabled us to make a positive impact on people's lives and fill critical social welfare gaps. As we build towards the future, we remain committed to serving our community with dedication and compassion.



NINA BACHRACH
Chief Executive Officer

Greetings All,

On behalf of the board of directors I am pleased to present our annual report for 2022. It has been an honor to serve as the chair of this dedicated group of individuals who are committed to advancing the mission of Bergen Volunteers.

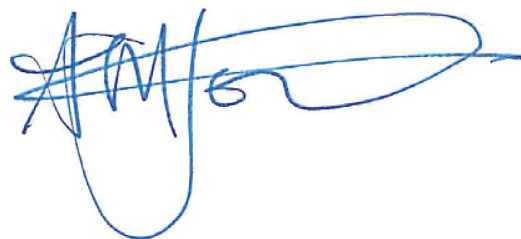
2022 marked a turning point for Bergen Volunteers. During the past year, we have achieved many significant accomplishments, thanks to the tireless efforts of our staff, volunteers, and supporters. We engaged with a consultant to help us create a plan to identify strategies that will best enable us to advance the mission of Bergen Volunteers. Both the staff and the board engaged in the process, committing to measurable goals, approving priorities for implementation, and making a plan to revisit the strategy on an ongoing basis as the pace of change will never be slower than it is today. We have an unprecedented opportunity to reposition Bergen Volunteers as the leading responsive nonprofit organization in addressing the needs of the community and promoting involvement in civic engagement.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the generous contributions of our donors and supporters. Your commitment to our cause has made a tangible difference in the lives of those we serve. We are deeply grateful for your continued support and look forward to working together to make an even greater impact in the future.

As we move forward, we remain steadfast in our commitment to our mission and vision. We will continue to strive towards creating a better future for our communities, and we are confident that with your support, we will be able to achieve even greater success. On behalf of the Board, thank you for your ongoing support of our organization.



ANN MEYERS PICCIRILLO
Board Chair



REDEFINING RETIREMENT

1972

Bergen Volunteers began sponsoring the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), which operated as an independent agency for over 20 years before returning to Bergen Volunteers' sponsorship in 2002. The program caters to retirees seeking meaningful volunteer opportunities that leverage their skills and life experience. It recognizes the invaluable contributions they can continue to make to the world.



2022 IMPACT

231

CLIENTS

95

REFERRALS

6

VOLUNTEER
ADMINS

"The program allows me to use my experience, meet new friends, and feel like I'm making a difference. It's easy to encourage other seniors to consider volunteering."

-Pat, Volunteer



CHORE

1977

Since its inception, CHORE volunteers have served more than 14,000 seniors and individuals with disabilities in need of home repairs. Our Rainy Day fund provides assistance to those who may not have the necessary budget to cover the costs of repairs, ensuring that they have access to the materials needed to make their homes safe.



2022 IMPACT

7719

VOLUNTEER
HOURS

1186

CLIENTS

35

VOLUNTEER
CREW MEMBERS

"Helping people in need
is the best experience.

You always gain much more
than you give. I also really enjoy
the many good people I have
met who work and volunteer
with Bergen Volunteers."

-Donald, CHORE Volunteer



MENTORING

1977



Bergen Volunteers' Mentoring program was introduced in 1977.

Since its inception, over 4,000 children and 500 caregivers have been matched with dedicated and supportive mentors. The Mentoring program offers one-on-one support to individuals, assisting them in reaching significant personal milestones.

2022 IMPACT

1742

VOLUNTEER
HOURS

42

MATCHES

25

NEW
MENTEES

"After my first mentoring meeting, my mentee commented to his mom that spending time with me was better than therapy. Feedback like that truly makes me feel valued and inspired."

-Dan, Mentor



CHEER

2017

Adopted from the more than 50-year-old Visiting Homemakers of Bergen County, the CHEER program enlists dedicated volunteers who provide weekly visits to home-bound seniors. Their compassionate assistance includes tasks like grocery shopping, running light errands such as picking up prescriptions, returning library books, or visiting the post office.



"If you're looking to change your attitude or perspective, the best way to do it is through service to others. Somewhere along the way, you realize you're helping yourself too."

-Alyssa, CHORE volunteer

2022 IMPACT
3955

VOLUNTEER
HOURS

76

CLIENTS

40

VOLUNTEERS



VITA

2017

Since its initiation in 2017, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program has provided complimentary tax preparation services to low-income individuals, seniors, and English Language learners. To date, VITA has assisted more than 550 individuals, resulting in savings of \$96,000 in tax preparation fees. Additionally, the program has facilitated refunds amounting to a cumulative total of \$751,392.



The volunteers who helped me with my taxes were very helpful and worked with great enthusiasm.”

–VITA client

“Excellent! Excellent! Excellent! Better than any other tax preparers.”

–VITA client

2022 IMPACT

147

CLIENTS

225

VOLUNTEER
HOURS

14

TAX
PREPARERS



BERGEN READS

2019

Bergen Volunteers adopted the Bergen READS program which combats illiteracy in Bergen County by training Reading Buddies to work one on one with students in grades K-4. Reading Buddies serve as tutors, advocates, friends and mentors, meeting individually with students each week. Buddies help elementary public schools students enjoy and improve their reading skills in a comfortable and friendly environment.



"The students are smart, curious, honest, and kind. They share stories about their weeks and remind me about how exciting it can be to learn something new. Reading to the students is wonderful, but the conversations we have about the books are even better!"

–Staci White, Bergen LEADS alumna and READS volunteer

2022 IMPACT

835

VOLUNTEER
HOURS

167

READERS

77

VOLUNTEERS



CORPORATE SERVICE

1981

Volunteers from the Workplace was established when CEOs requested assistance with service activities for employees, and since then, it has become a key activity, revolutionizing the business sector by offering Corporate Social Responsibility best practices and unparalleled opportunities for corporations to make a positive impact on society.



Corporates participated in:

- All Wrapped Up
- CHEER Yard Clean-Up
- Brown Bag Buddies
- Necessities Drives
- Tools for Schools
- Warm A Heart

1000+

HOURS
VOLUNTEERED

100+

CORPORATE
VOLUNTEERS

78

COMPANIES
PARTICIPATED



ALL WRAPPED UP

1996

All Wrapped Up, our holiday gift giving program, began more than 25 years ago. Through this program donors are matched with recipients who create holiday wishlists. To date, All Wrapped Up has matched 88,000 individuals and families with 19,000 community donors.



"After losing my wife, I worried about the holidays. She used to handle what little we had for our boys and turn it into gold.

I cried when I saw how generous the gift donors were. They got everything on my boys' lists. I am so thankful."

—All Wrapped Up Recipient

585
FAMILIES

950
INDIVIDUALS

830
DONORS

2022 IMPACT



GET CONNECTED

1999

Our "Guide to Volunteering" was published in 1999, and developed into a popular online resource for those seeking opportunities through our "Get Connected" database. The database serves as a vital link, connecting volunteers with a wide range of opportunities to get involved. As an agency member, when you sign up to list your opportunity, our extensive database attracts thousands of individuals who actively seek their perfect match.



"Thank you for providing me with this volunteering experience as a horse walker.

I never would have found it on my own."

–Catherine, Volunteer

2022 IMPACT

65800

OPPORTUNITY
VIEWS

5100

AGENCY VIEWS

3500

NEW USERS



BERGEN LEADS

2007

Bergen LEADS, our leadership development program, was created to provide insight into the challenges and opportunities facing Bergen County. The program boasts over 400+ alumni, all of whom have become active members in their communities. The LEADS year culminates with a capstone project addressing a topical issue. Solutions are presented during a live public forum, with the winning solution moving to stage 2, implementation.



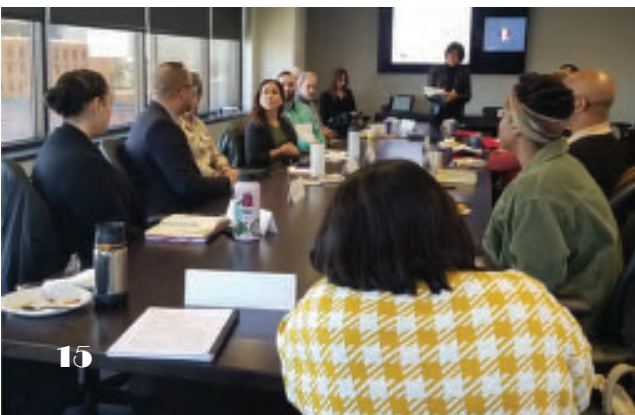
400+
ALUMNI

100+
COURSE HOURS

17
GRADUATING
CLASSES

"Bergen LEADS just keeps getting better! It's essential leadership and development components make a true, long lasting, and meaningful positive impact."

**–Donnalee,
Bergen LEADS alumna**



TEEN LEADS

2008

Teen LEADS and College LEADS were created as youth-oriented adaptations of the Bergen LEADS program.

These programs actively involve students in leadership development, offering them the opportunity to participate in their own leadership initiatives. Additionally, these programs provide seasonal enrichment activities like summer and school break intensives.



In addition to the in-school program, we launched Teen LEADS Summer Intensives in 2022 with our inaugural session reaching enrollment capacity!

"I'm really glad I took Teen LEADS. I want to have a career that helps people in the community, so this knowledge will greatly help me."

–Sara, Teen LEADS



SUPPLY DRIVES

Supply drives were conducted to support Ukraine, seniors, students receiving free and reduced lunch, and provide necessities not covered by SNAP. These drives were comprised of contributions from individuals, organizations, and corporations.

100+
COLD WEATHER
DONATIONS

2022 IMPACT
1000+
POUNDS OF
NECESSITIES

75
TOOLS
FOR SCHOOLS
PACKAGES



SPECIAL EVENTS

500+
EVENT
ATTENDEES

Bergen Volunteers' events brought out attendees by the hundreds. Events included our casino night themed gala, Friday Forums, the Wellness Challenge kickoff, the Volunteer Recognition Awards, and our program holiday parties. Additionally, our Lunch & Learn series had over 100 virtual participants.



AGENCY MEMBERS

AARP	Jewish Family and Children's Services
Adler Aphasia Center	Julia Anne Kirsch Foundation
Alternatives to Domestic Violence (Bergen County)	Let Us Mow Your Lawn
American Eagle Food Pantry	Million Reasons
American Red Cross	Never Alone Again
Annie Clyde Holt Food Pantry (Abundant Grace & Truth Church)	New Jersey Choral Society
Aviation Hall of Fame	NJ District 6 Little League
Bergen New Bridge Medical Center	North Jersey Villages, Inc
Bounce Out the Stigma	North Jersey Vineyard Church
Buddies of NJ	Norwood Food Pantry
BVMI	Palisades Park Police Department
Camp Sunshine/Snowflake	Paramus Fritz Behnke Historical Museum
CASA for Children of Bergen County	Paterson Habitat for Humanity
Center for Hope & Safety	Pony Power
Christ Episcopal Church - Food Pantry	Rebuilding Together
Christian Health	Ridgecrest Senior Citizens Housing Corp
City of Englewood	SCORE
Closter Nature Center	Spectrum for Living
Community Food Bank of New Jersey	Table to Table
CUMAC	Teaneck Creek Conservancy
Diabetes Foundation	Tenaflly Nature Center
Encounters in Black Tradition	The Arc of Bergen & Passaic Counties, Inc.
Families for Families	The Food Brigade Inc.
Feed the Frontlines (Ridgewood)	The Light Up Project
Flat Rock Nature Center	Touched by an Angel
Franciscan Community Development Center	Transition Professionals
Gift of Living	Tri Boro Food Pantry
Habitat for Humanity - Bergen	Unbridled Heroeos
HACA (Haitian Alliance for Community Action)	United Nations Association Northern New Jersey Chapter
Hackensack Recreation Department	Varick Memorial Food Pantry
Holy Name Medical Center	Vets Chat Inc. (The Vets Chat & Chew Program)
JCC of Northern NJ	

One of the major pillars of our mission at Bergen Volunteers is to partner with the nonprofit sector across the broader Bergen County region, strengthening our community. We are committed to becoming a strategic partner to all nonprofits by helping each organization to fulfill its mission.

For this purpose, we have developed an array of services and benefits for our agency members. These offerings are aimed at helping our agency members improve their effectiveness, thus allowing them to have greater impact on the communities they serve.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

LEADERS \$10,000+

Carmen Dominguez
Judy Gold
Suzan Gordon

INVESTORS \$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous +
Donna Orlando
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BENEFACTORS \$2,500 - \$4,999

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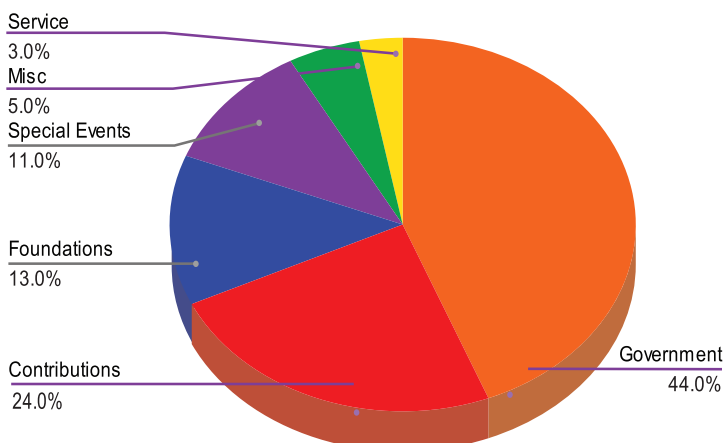
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*Indicates gift-in-kind support
+Indicates monetary and gift-in-kind support
Year indicates Bergen LEADS completion

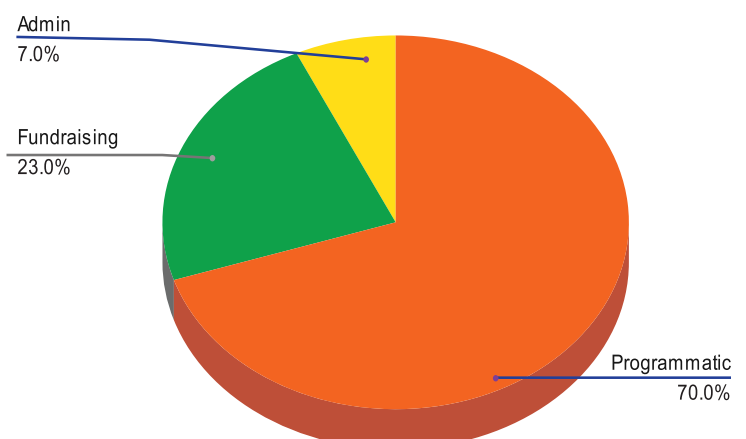
These gifts are valued at \$156,290.

768 Donors gave less than \$100 in cash totaling \$27,081.82.

Sources of Funding



Functional Expenses



CORPORATE DONORS

POWER OF VOLUNTEERS \$25,000+

Lillian Pitkin Schenck Fund
Synetek Solutions *

AGENTS FOR CHANGE \$10,000 - \$24,999

Bank of Hope
Benjamin Moore & Company +
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PSEG Foundation
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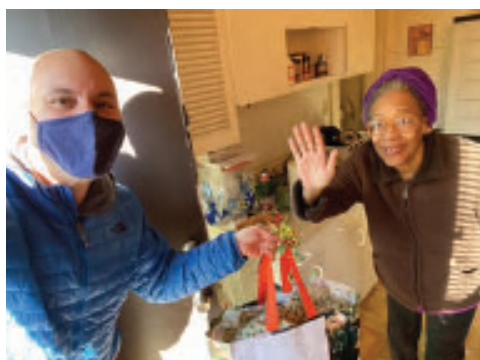
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United Way of Passaic County VC
Visions Federal Credit Union
Wake Up with Marci



Thank you for your support!



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