

### Save the date!

#### NH GIVES Fundraising Event: June 6-7

Help us reach our \$15,000 goal by contributing to MATS on that day.

Want to double the impact of your support?

Call us to find out how you can help create a matching challenge - 603-924-5033.

Please visit our website to learn more and make a monetary donation online at [www.MATSNH.org](http://www.MATSNH.org). Donations may also be mailed to MATS, P.O. Box 3053, Peterborough, NH 03458. To donate household items, please call 603-924-5033.

Please also consider subscribing to our monthly email newsletter, which includes news, events, our monthly column, and acknowledgement of the many people and community organizations that help us achieve our goals.

2023 MATS Trustees: Ernest Belletete, President; Denise Frankoff, Vice President; Sam Abbott, Treasurer; Nicole Judge, Secretary; Rachel Kipka; Mary Loftis; Scott McGovern; Julie Flood Page; and Jennifer Runyon

Thank you to former MATS Trustees: Peter Harrison, Bruce Simpson, and Jane Bowman.

To request shelter: Call the MATS office at 603-924-5033; email [MATS.peterborough@gmail.com](mailto:MATS.peterborough@gmail.com); or contact your town's welfare officer. For emergency shelter, dial 211.

MATS is a 501(c)3 organization and all gifts are tax deductible.

Please share this MATS annual report with a friend.



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The Monadnock Area Transitional Shelter's mission is to provide transitional housing, support and referral services to people who are homeless; to educate our community on issues of homelessness; and to advocate for possible solutions.

P.O. Box 3053 • Peterborough, NH 03458 • (603) 924-5033

#### MATS Annual Report 2022

April 2023

***A woman with two young children, and another baby on the way, is in an abusive relationship. She finds a safe home at MATS, allowing her to complete an internship that will lead to stable employment.***

***A woman in her 60s, who is disabled, must suddenly find a new home when the cabin she has rented is sold. MATS provides her with a safe living situation and help accessing resources while she waits for an affordable apartment to become available.***

As many people's lives began to regain some normalcy with the waning of the global pandemic in 2022, the persistent problem of homelessness in the Monadnock region, sadly, worsened.

MATS received phone calls from 183 people and agencies inquiring about shelter in 2022. This compares to 110 inquiries in 2021 and represents a 67% increase in people seeking housing assistance in the region. Of those 183 inquiries, 36 resulted in applications. MATS was ultimately able to provide shelter and assistance in 11 instances, two of which are highlighted above. This means that in 2022 MATS housed seven families - eight adults and 16 children and four single women. The ages of the children ranged from 18 months to 14 years.

MATS assistance includes more than just housing. We help with budgeting and offer counseling on employment, transportation, childcare, medical care, accessing government or private assistance, and resources for finding permanent housing.

In addition to the participants currently in the program, 11 previous participants reached out to our Program Manager Susan Howard, who assisted them with benefits, housing issues, and car repairs. Several previous participants donated items to assist other families. "They say it feels really good to give back to MATS," says Howard.

In 2022, MATS was able to finish the renovation of an additional transitional shelter, purchased in 2020. This building allows us to provide shelter for up to ten people concurrently. The need for a second shelter became clear due to the severe lack of affordable housing in the Monadnock region. Even when our participants had attained stable employment, transportation, and childcare, they were *still* unable to find housing they could afford.

MATS is encouraged by the renewed legislative focus on affordable housing in the state of New Hampshire and is hopeful that more housing will soon be constructed to serve those who need it. We urge everyone who cares about housing affordability and homelessness to join us to press federal, state, and local officials to support housing initiatives that address the current housing shortages and allow and / or incentivize the construction of affordable housing in NH.

We rely on the generous support of our community and greatly appreciate those who have supported us in the past. Your support has allowed us to remain financially sound so we can continue help others who are experiencing homelessness - giving them the tools they need to get back on their feet and be stronger and more resilient than before. We thank you!

**MATS Donors – Gifts acknowledged for January 2022 through December 2022**

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