



Bringing the housed and homeless
together in community

Annual Appeal



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PO Box 1444
Summit, NJ 07902-1444

908-273-0176

www.bridgesoutreach.org



Thanks to you,
**Marie has a
place to sleep
tonight.**

Dear Friend of Bridges,

Meet Marie: Your gift helped her find a home. And so much more.

I've always been independent and strived for a better life. I've had jobs in healthcare, in offices, and in retail. My life was good until my illness took over and I was unable to work. I had no one to take me in, so I ended up on the street. It was a very frightening time. When I finally found Bridges' Project Connect, the case managers there helped me put my life back together. Project Connect case managers assisted me with my ID and housing application, paid for both of them, and referred me to the agency that found my apartment. They provided me with furniture and clothing, helped me get medical help I desperately needed, and gave me bus passes so that I could get to doctors' appointments. Today, I am so happy to have a home of my own.

Thanks to your generosity, Bridges was there when Marie, and so many others like her, needed help.

In March 2014, Bridges established Project Connect in Newark. There, professional case managers work with homeless clients one-on-one to create an attainable set of goals that will lead them to better health, housing, jobs and ultimately, independence.

In the past three years at Bridges' Project Connect, we have helped thousands of men and women like Marie take the first steps to rebuild their lives. For some, it is assistance with an ID or job training, access to medical or mental health services, or a shelter. For 89 people and counting, it has meant a permanent home.

Your donation is needed now, more than ever.

Nearly 30 years ago, Bridges launched its first mobile outreach, bringing food, clothing and necessities to homeless people living on the streets of New York City. Today, we deliver 67,000 meals each year to 20,000 neighbors in need in New York, Newark and Irvington. Regardless of weather - blistering winds, heavy snow, pouring rain or extreme heat – our homeless neighbors count on us. In Newark, the combination of our weekly street outreach and services at Project Connect strengthens our relationships with the homeless. And every Friday, we open our doors to Summit neighbors in need and provide them with clothing and a shower.

What will your gift do?

Your gift will help people like Marie get back on their feet. Your gift will restore our homeless friends' faith in the power of a supportive community, a place where positive change, hard work and commitment are rewarded. Your gift will allow Bridges' distinctive yellow truck to deliver food and basic necessities to people living on the street. As our gift to you, we are pleased to share the enclosed poem, based on true events and penned by Seth Ruderman, Bridges Trustee.

On behalf of all those we help, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Pamela G. Gumpert and Coleen McCaffery
Co-Chairs, Board of Trustees

P.S. Thank you for helping us to make a difference in the lives of thousands of homeless neighbors like Marie. Matching gifts, recurring monthly donations, stock and planned giving all enhance the impact of your charitable donation.

The impact of your donations for the fiscal year ending May 31, 2017:

Street Outreach:		Project Connect:	
232 Runs (Street Outreach Visits)		1,613 New Clients	35 Permanently Housed
20,000 People Served	67,000 Brown Bag Lunches	112 Sheltered	37 Employed
30,000 Cups of Soup, Hot Chocolate and Lemonade Served	18,000 Pairs of Socks and Underwear Distributed	371 Enrolled in Medicaid	25 Mental Health Assessments
2,600 Run Volunteers	12,500 Cold Weather Packs Distributed	14 Enrolled in Substance Abuse Treatment Programs	1,561 IDs

Mission: Bridges connects the housed and homeless to establish relationships that lead to greater acceptance and understanding, social and economic growth, and wellbeing.

Bridges Outreach, Inc., is a NJ non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. All gifts are tax deductible as provided by law. EIN # 22-3190141.