



**New  
Board  
members**



**We  
deliver  
groceries**



**Thank  
you  
drivers**

# CONNECTIONS

**Spring  
2022**

**INTERFAITH  
VOLUNTEER  
CARE GIVERS  
OF GREATER  
NEW HAVEN**



*Cherry Blossoms in Wooster Square, New Haven.*



# Welcome

## Hello from Jane



*The captain of our ship Executive Director Jane Ferrall.*

I hope you love our brand-new look for “Connections” as much as I do!

As our designer told me, it should feel like a big bunch of flowers delivered right to your door.

With spring comes a sense of relief and renewal. None of us can know what the rest of this year will bring, but as I write this, the Omicron variant is finally fading away and we are praying that we’re over the worst of it now.

This issue brings news of not one but two new Board members— Denese Bellenger and Nancy Markey-Sercombe! Both these ladies will bring their expertise and energy to our 12-member Board.

You may not know it, but they meet every month, both as a full Board and through committees and task forces, to oversee

IVCG’s affairs and to help chart the best way forward for us.

If you are interested in serving on our Board or to help with governance in another way, please contact me.

We’d love to welcome additional client, volunteer and community representatives.

I also hope that you’ll consider participating in The Great Give, the New Haven-wide “days of giving” event on May 4-5 sponsored by one of our major funders, the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven.

The link is in this newsletter and we’ll also send it out via email. Your contributions to The Great Give help raise our profile and show the Foundation and other donors that IVCG’s clients and friends value our service.

This note wouldn’t be complete without a shout-out and the most sincere thanks to volunteers James Woollett, the incredibly talented graphic designer who developed this new format, and Board member Richard Davies, who made it happen on the technical side.

Springtime is such a great time for change and new beginnings!

Warmly,  
Jane

## Mark your calendars

The Great Give, sponsored by the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, is our biggest online fund-raising event of the year and takes the place of an annual appeal.

The dates are May 4-5.

To be a part of it, just go to [www.thegreatgive.org](http://www.thegreatgive.org) and search for our name.

You can support IVCG and other worthy groups.

If you don’t have online access, no worries - we are happy to accept a check with the memo “Great Give” anytime.



**A 36-hour, online-giving event to support local nonprofits**



*The Great Give returns May 4-5.*

# Hi Denese

## Welcome to our Board



*Our new Board member Denese Bellenger.*

Long-time New Haveners know the legend of the water fountain on the Green: If you drink from it, no matter how far you travel, you'll always return to New Haven.

Our new Board member, Denese Bellenger, drank often from the fountain as a young girl, and IVCG is lucky she did!

Denese grew up in New Haven and Hamden, and is a graduate of Hamden High School.

She attended Delaware State University and then returned to New Haven where she enjoyed a decades-long career in health and human services.

Most recently, Denese has been employed at Leeway as a Housing Case Manager and at Community Action Agency of New Haven in Family Services.

Denese has an adult daughter, who is a drama and dance teacher at Nathan Hale School. Her 8 year old grand-son is also a student there.

Denese's life-long dream is to visit Australia.

Maybe now that the pandemic is almost over that might become a reality.

She has a passion for the Special Olympics, and she volunteered there, working with the athletes for an amazing 40 years.

Denese's background of working with different populations—homeless, those who live with HIV/AIDS, and many others in need of care—make her a perfect fit for IVCG's program committee.

Her cheerful heart and can-do spirit will make her a wonderful addition to our Board.

## Get your groceries

After a three-month hiatus to obtain new funding (now being provided through the American Rescue Plan Act), IVCG's Grocery Bag delivery program returned with a bang in February.

Working together with the Agency on Aging of South Central Connecticut, IVCG receives the names of area seniors who would like a monthly delivery of fresh, healthy and free groceries (and continence products, too, as requested).

Loaves & Fishes, another

great New Haven non-profit, supplies two bags per senior per delivery. Included are one bag of fresh food (dairy, meat/poultry, fruit, vegetables, and bread) and one bag of dry pantry staples (beans, canned goods, tuna, dried fruit and pasta).

Every week we deliver something different, so you never know exactly what you'll get.

Volunteer drivers for this program commit to serving about one Saturday a month, and receive a route list with 8-10 delivery stops.

All deliveries are usually done on Saturday mornings. Both volunteers and recipients seem to find it to be a delicious thing to do!

**To register for food deliveries Call Chris Clark on (203-785-8533). To volunteer, please call Jane.**



*From dairy to pasta, from fruit to meat.*



# Hi Nancy

## Welcome to our Board



*Our new Board member Nancy Markey-Sercombe.*

We're very pleased to welcome Nancy Markey-Sercombe to our Board. She will add to the expertise, dedication, and creativity of our energetic community.

Nancy and her husband currently reside in South Glastonbury. She has lived most of her life in and around Glastonbury except for an exciting 5-year recent stint living in Gramercy Park, New York City.

A business graduate of the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Nancy's areas of professional expertise are in systems and project management, process improvements, and strategic planning.

Her career has taken her to Travelers, IBM, The Hartford, and Endurance/Sompo

International, among others. Most recently, she served as interim Marketing Director at Children in Placement, a New Haven non-profit that serves children in the foster care system.

She also works as a volunteer Guardian ad Litem with Children in Placement and with a faith community team that is sponsoring an Afghan refugee family.

In addition to this work, Nancy also volunteers at the St. Vincent DePaul soup kitchen and food pantry, where she made the connection that brought her to us.

In her free time, Nancy enjoys barre, Pilates, walking with friends, and loves to cook.

She has two adult children in the Boston area, and is about to become a first-time grandmother.

Nancy was drawn to IVCG and its mission because of her experiences helping seniors in her community.

Her experiences have taught her the importance of making connections and building a sense of community, no matter where one is situated in life.

Nancy hopes to bring her expertise in fund-raising, grant writing, outreach and strategic planning to IVCG, and all we can say is - we are thrilled to have your help in all those areas.

Nancy, welcome!

## We couldn't do it without you



*Volunteer drivers help us all.*

Our kind and caring drivers make possible so much of what we do— from delivering groceries to helping people get to medical appointments.

**If you'd like to register as a volunteer driver, call Jane Farrell today (203-230-8994).**



*We cannot say thank you enough.*

# Thank you

Thank you to all of our generous donors. Your contributions make a vast difference to our mission of providing rides, care and love to the many people we serve.

## Mae's Closet donors

Mae's Closet is a durable medical equipment lending bank serving the Greater New Haven area. Find out more: [www.carenewhaven.org/maes-closet.html](http://www.carenewhaven.org/maes-closet.html)

Apple Pickers  
Foundation

Marianna Astorino

Bill Cornelius

Gail Guy

Bill Heiple

Sharon L'Heureux

Stan Roman

In blessed memory  
of Ruth Ewaskio

Alpha Iota Sorority

Mary Beltramello

Mary Ann Comer

Our beloved  
community partners

Dunbar United Church

Immanuel Missionary  
Baptist Church

Trinity Evangelical  
Church.

## Interfaith Donors

Fran Audino

Jody Basilicato

Iona Beeson

Mary Beltramello

Joan Benson

Marjorie Bowen-  
Worthy

Bobbie Bromell

Ada Burrell

Vilma Capozzi

Caroline Cavazuti

Wendy Cegelka

Dorothy Clement

Louis A. Coppola

Elvira Costanzo

Richard Davies

Lynn T. Deschamps

Anthony DiGioia

Petranilla Duncan

Jennie Eisensmith

Jane Faitella

Frances Farrell

Alan and Marianne  
Fontana

Jean Frank

Louise G. Franklin

Robert Godowski

Theresa Gould

Rebecca Hamilton

Kathleen J. Hershman

Sandra Hilton

Rose Ann Iassonga

Fran Ifkovic

Pensri "Daisy"

Intarapanich

Alva Jeffreys

Joann Johnson

Mary L. Johnson

Evelyn G. Katz

Betsey Keating

Grace L'Manian

Martha Larson

Phyllis Liguori

Joan Lipman

Judy Manna

Augusta Mantia

Marlene J. Margolin

Marilyn McCormack

Sandra Mekdeci

Carol F. Mitchell

Joan Mongillo

Donald Nagel

Marie Natalino

Joyce Newton

Lauren O'Neil

Madeleine Paul

Rose Marie Perrotti

Marie Picarello

Joan Pisarra

Jean Quartiano

Audrey Richards

Jaclyn Rossetti

Beverly Russello

Leonara Russo

Lorraine Salerno

Brunno Savodelli

Judith Schneider

Nicholas Sepesko

Linda Shiffrin

Ellen Silver

Miriam B. Simpson

Rosemary Spring

Ruthena Tart

Roberta Thurrott

Maria Tineo

Linda Towbin

Frederick A. Tucker

Kate Walton

Dorothy Young

Carolyn Young

## Tee time

Now the weather is getting warmer you may see some of our volunteers wearing these colourful tee shirts.

Do not hesitate to say hello or if you are driving by, give us a wave.



INTERFAITH  
VOLUNTEER  
CARE GIVERS  
OF GREATER  
NEW HAVEN

30 Gillies Road,  
HAMDEN CT  
06517-2113

8.1.2 U.S. POST  
INFORMATION  
NON PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO.124

*Or current householder.*

# Give to the Great Give May 4-5

**Phone: (203) 230 8994 today**

**Email: [jferrall@carenewhaven.org](mailto:jferrall@carenewhaven.org)**

**Website: [www.carenewhaven.org](http://www.carenewhaven.org)**

  
THE  
great Give  
MAY 4-5, 2022

A 36-hour, online-giving event  
to support local nonprofits

 The **COMMUNITY** Foundation  
for Greater New Haven

 VALLEY COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION