

HOMEFRONT Happenings

SUMMER 2026
OUR 35TH YEAR!

A Setback Doesn't Have to Mean a Crisis

Sometimes a sudden emergency, like a house fire, leads to instability for a family. But more often, for a family that's living too close to the edge, it's one bump in the road that causes everything to unravel. **35 years of helping families in Mercer County has taught us: as a community, we can prevent homelessness by intervening even earlier. Your care and support makes it possible.**

That looks like:

Providing **food and diapers** free of charge at our Choice Market so a parent can save money for rent

Helping a parent get a **career certification** and find a **higher-paying job**

Developing more **permanent, affordable homes** with our partner, Homes by TLC

Enrolling a child in our **licensed childcare**, so they're enriched and engaged while their parents go to work

Keeping a family in their home by **negotiating with the landlord** and providing **rental assistance** after their work hours got cut

Supporting a family in our **Permanent Housing** during illness that takes them out of work

Helping a parent with **car insurance** so they can get to work and stay on top of their rent

As one of our clients, Lisa, told us after receiving rental assistance:

"This past year has been very difficult to make ends meet. I'm a single mom. The company I work for cut the overtime that I depend on. There is rent, gas and electric, a car payment, car insurance, medications, gas to get back and forth. On top of that, I did not have a working oven. This cost me a significant amount of money because now I had to buy meals for my kids. You saved my kids and I from eviction."

A Night of Hope Brought Our Community Together to Celebrate 35 Years

On Friday, June 5th, we celebrated HomeFront's anniversary and our collective impact at *A Night of Hope: 35 Years of Community & Care*.

The origin of HomeFront, what started as a group of friends and neighbors, is a reminder of what can happen when we come together as a community to help families facing homelessness and poverty. Thank you to everyone who has been part of the HomeFront story—and helping us write what's next.



HomeGrown Blossoms



We recently launched an initiative called *HomeGrown*, where the goal is to make growing food at home accessible to families. This growing season, dozens of families are doing exactly that — whether they have a window, a porch, or a yard. We're providing organic soil, gardening tools, protective equipment, educational materials, and access to diverse live plant and seed selections.

We're grateful for funding support from Mercer County, as well as from New Jersey Economic Development Authority's FEED NJ program.

OUR COMMUNITY CARES:

NJM Insurance Group

We want to thank—and recognize—NJM Insurance Group, the premier sponsor of HomeFront's **A Night of Hope**, our celebration of 35 years of serving families, held on June 5. NJM Insurance Group and its employees have been loyal partners and friends to HomeFront for decades, and their commitment continues to grow. In addition to sponsoring HomeFront events, NJM provides annual spring plantings that help make our Family Campus warm and welcoming, hosts fun-filled Wonderful Wednesdays for Camp Mercer, participates in our holiday drives, and supports our work in countless other ways. Year after year, NJM and its employees show up for HomeFront families, helping create brighter days and stronger futures.



BY THE NUMBERS

Last year, **30,321** unique individuals were helped by HomeFront, thanks to our caring community's support.

That's a significant part of the Mercer County community. A number like this can be so large that it's hard to grasp meaningfully. In other words...



That's the equivalent of filling the Trenton Thunder Ballpark **OVER FOUR TIMES.**

Did You Know That August is National Make-A-Will Month?

It's an opportunity to reflect on your future, your values, and your legacy.

You have the power to leave a lasting impact on the Mercer County community even after you're gone by joining HomeFront's Kitchen Table. By including a charity of your choice in your will, you can designate a specific asset, dollar amount, percentage of your estate, or even the remainder of your estate to support a cause you deeply care about. Adding a charity to your will can be accomplished easily by contacting your attorney or updating the document using sample language available at homefrontnj.org/planned-giving or through our partners at freewill.com.



Would you consider joining HomeFront's Kitchen Table or have you already left HomeFront in your estate?

We would love to hear from you: Contact Meghan Cubano, Chief Development Officer, at 609-989-9417 x107, or email her at MeghanC@HomeFrontNJ.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

LEARN MORE AT www.HomeFrontNJ.org

HomeFront's Treasure Trove: A place to find (or donate) unique bargains and vintage finds, located at 31 West Broad St. in Hopewell. Proceeds from all sales benefit our programs. Summer hours: Thur.-Fri. 10am-5pm, Sat. 1am-4pm, and Sun. 12pm-4pm. Visit homefrontnj.org/Treasure-Trove.
Note: Treasure Trove will close 8/20-9/10 for summer break.

See Treasure Trove at special events!

- » HomeFront and Treasure Trove will be tabling at the Hopewell Harvest Fair on 9/19
- » Treasure Trove will be open during Hopewell Tour des Arts: Sat., 9/26, (10am-4pm) and Sun., 9/27 (12pm-4pm)

On the Cover: Our newsletters feature work by artists in our therapeutic ArtSpace programs. This issue's painting is by one such artist.

Back to School Drive: Now through Aug 5: Ensure local students go back to school prepared, confident, and ready to learn.

Halloween Run, Walk, and Family Fun: Sunday, Oct. 25 at Carnegie Center, Princeton. Join us for 'spooktacular' fun for all ages!

Thanksgiving Food Drive: Beginning on Oct. 5: Donate and organize to feed families in need this holiday.

Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week: November 15-21: Learning opportunities all week about how you can help.

Holiday Wishes: Drive starts Oct. 5: Help make the holidays merry for local children impacted by poverty.

Note: We change some clients' names to protect their privacy.



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INSIDE —

*What prevents a
setback from
becoming a crisis
for a family*

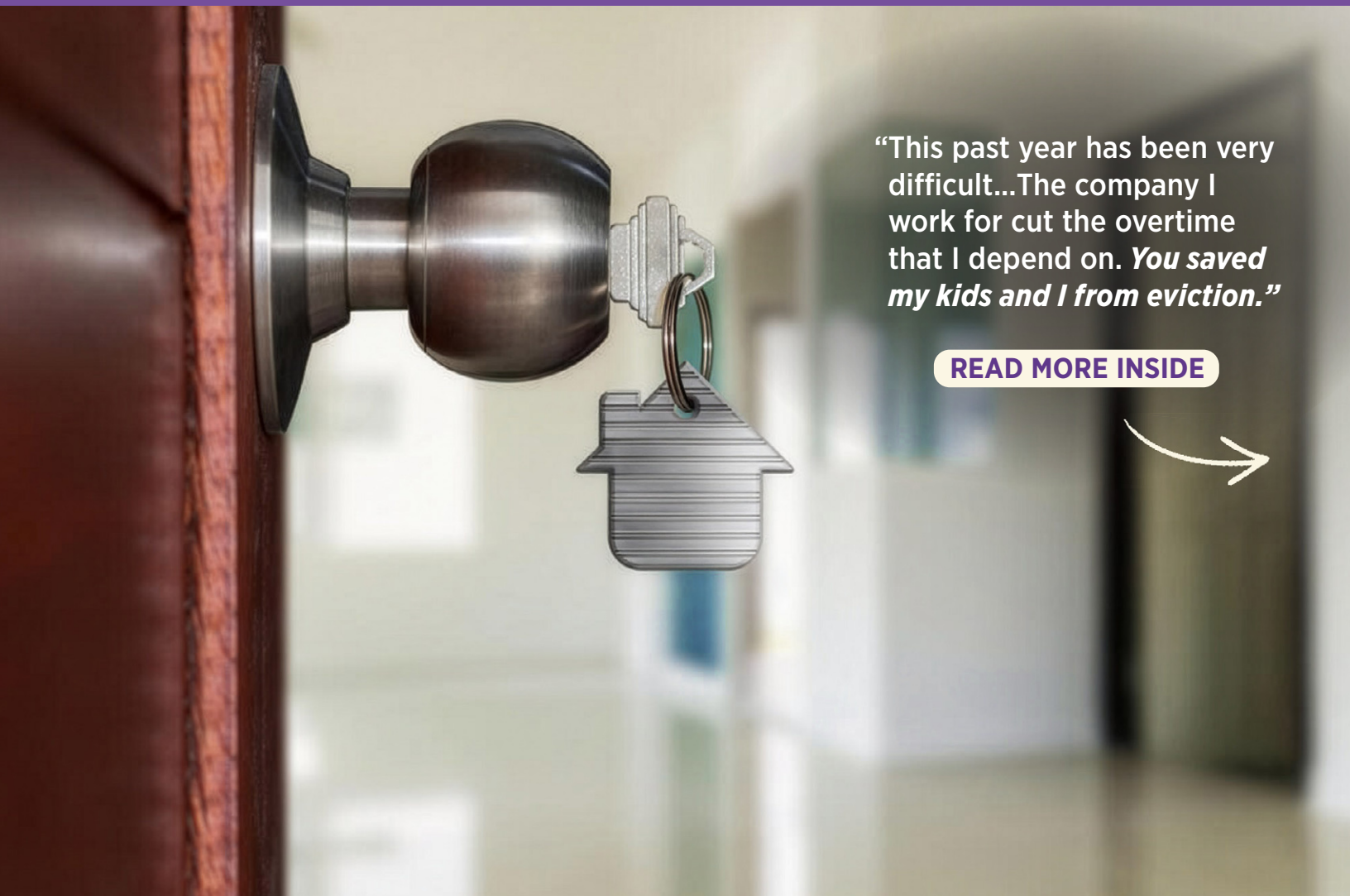


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Has any of your contact information changed? Want to sign up for HomeFront emails?
Send your name and updated contact info to GetInvolved@homefrontnj.org



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