



# BREAD AND BOARD

The NSKS Newsletter

[www.NSKS.org](http://www.NSKS.org)

The Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization providing meals, emergency shelter, food pantry and advocacy to homeless and low-income men, women and families with children.

The soup kitchen, at 2 Quincy Street, serves dinner seven days a week and breakfast five days a week.

*No one should be hungry or homeless in our community.*

*Spring 2020*

Just five years ago, this community helped us open our new facility at 2 Quincy Street, a state-of-the-art facility providing hot meals seven days a week and a food pantry serving 6,000 families a year. Today, we are both proud and grateful to announce 35 Spring Street will serve as the new location for our emergency shelter program, the next step in providing comprehensive emergency services to the single adults and families experiencing homelessness in our community.

The Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter has been providing emergency housing for nearly forty years. NSKS is leasing from St. Patrick's Church of Nashua the elementary school adjacent to the church for 40 forty years at \$1 per year. This school has been vacant for most of the past 40 years and is located a block from our community kitchen and pantry.



*The former Sacred Heart school building fronts Spring Street and is part of a 1.72 acre parcel that also includes St. Patrick Church, the Rectory, and the St. Patrick Parish Center, and is owned by the Roman Catholic Diocese. The school will be leased from the church and only the school building is being renovated as part of this project.*

## THE OPPORTUNITY of 35 SPRING STREET

Until the mid-70s, many Nashuans would have known 35 Spring Street as the home of Sacred Heart Elementary. While it hasn't served as an elementary school for over 40 years, the building has excellent bones and provides an exciting opportunity to provide the environment and resources necessary to help single adults and families with children move into permanent housing as quickly as possible.

## INCREASED CAPACITY

In an area with increased homelessness and scarce affordable housing, this project will allow us to provide clean, safe, energy efficient, centrally located emergency shelter for up to 32 individuals (a 45% increase over our current capacity) and up to 12 families (a 140% increase over our current capacity) and supported permanent housing for 12 individuals (a new program for NSKS). NSKS is the only shelter in the Nashua area that provides emergency shelter for single women or families with children.

## GREATER RESOURCES for the COMMUNITY

With four floors and more than 20,000sf of usable space, the building will allow NSKS to retain all of our existing services, increase the number of units of shelter for single women to 14, more than double the number of family shelter units to 12, provide 11 new units of supported permanent housing, and provide a much needed space for providing educational and other services for individuals experiencing homelessness in our community. Locating all of our shelter programs in one facility will allow for efficiencies in staffing and thus direct greater resources to helping people find permanent housing.



NASHUA  
SOUP KITCHEN  
& SHELTER, INC.



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Find us on Facebook: Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter, Inc.

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## A NEW DIGNIFIED PLACE TO SLEEP

### Increased capacity for families:

NSKS provides the only emergency shelter for families in the greater Nashua area. This new facility will allow us to more than double the number of emergency units for families. We will also be able to serve families with more than three children, something we cannot easily do at the moment.

### Increased capacity for single women:

NSKS provides the only dedicated space for single women experiencing homelessness in the Nashua area. The new facility should allow us to increase the number of beds available for single women.

### Handicapped access for all with an elevator reaching every floor:

Currently, we have to turn away most people using wheelchairs and walkers due to a lack of accessibility. Consistent access to emergency shelter for everyone is a critical need.



*Current hallway and staircase at 35 Spring Street will be renovated for full handicapped accessibility.*

## OPEN ROOMS & EDUCATIONAL SPACE

### Places to meet with support staff:

The new shelter will allow support staff to meet with residents in confidential and semi-confidential settings.

### Places to partner with other agencies and support services:

There are multiple organizations in Nashua doing excellent work, whether the Adult Learning Center, Greater Nashua Mental Health, or the Public Library. The new shelter will provide space for people to learn and grow.

### Space and resources dedicated to assisting young children and toddlers:

NSKS will partner with PAL and the Boys and Girls Club to provide a place for kids over the age of eight. The new facility will have space dedicated to young children and the families of young children for exploration and learning.



*The former classrooms on the upper floors will be renovated into open, welcoming spaces for clients as well as community members to meet and learn about financial literacy, parenting and life skills, or hold AA meetings.*

### Partnering with downtown congregations:

The new building is adjacent to St. Patrick's Church, shares a parking lot with the Church of the Good Shepard, and is a block from Main St. United Methodist Church. We anticipate developing a rich and mutually rewarding relationship with these and other congregations and renewing our partnership with communities of faith across greater Nashua.

## 2020 RACE SPONSORS

Sponsors help make our Race/Walk a success!  
Thank to our current sponsors as we go to print:

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## WISH LIST

Peanut Butter, Mac & Cheese,

Rice (any type/ brand. 50# bags appreciated and will be divided),

Canned/Boxed Soups or broths, Canned/Dry Beans

(kidney, black chickpea, etc.)

Cereal (hot or cold, any brand/ type)

Large diapers

Financial contributions

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Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter, Inc.

& visit our webpage for the latest news, needs and shout outs! <https://nsks.org/>

**Your support is important. It makes all of this possible. Those who depend on us thank you!!**