

CommunicAID

Caring for the community

577 West Street, Jamaica, New York 00111

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Our History

-CommunicAID was founded in 1994 by a group of citizens who were concerned by the rising number of homeless people in Jamaica, New York and by the lack of services available to assist them.

-Originally called "The Poverty Program", the group started out by providing food and shelter, however, the mission quickly expanded and began attacking the problem of homelessness on a larger scale. By helping those in need find work and housing, the homeless have an opportunity to escape that poverty status.

-CommunicAID was graciously donated a free office space in the Jamaica Medical Center which provided clerical support and communication services. Within a year, CommunicAID fundraised enough to expand the food pantries they worked with, leading to the development of "Food Banks United" by the volunteers; an affiliate of CommunicAID, responsible for all food and nutrition programs.

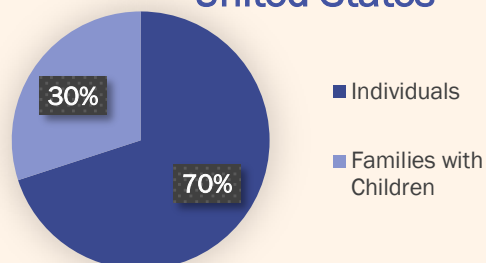
-By 1988, CommunicAID was able to establish the city's first homeless shelter on West Street and has since grown tremendously by continuing to develop and provide programs and services to the community.

What we strive to achieve

CommunicAID is a community driven, non-profit organization that takes on the growing problem of homelessness in America by providing food and shelter to those in need, while also helping impoverished individuals seek employment, housing, and education in order to escape that poverty status.

42 million people (1 in 8) will experience food insecurity in 2021 and there are currently **8.4 million** unemployed Americans.

Homelessness in the United States



The number of homeless New Yorkers alone is now **23% higher** than it was ten years ago.

- As of January 2020, there were **580,466** people experiencing homelessness in America, 70% being families with children
- In a city of more than 8.3 million people, nearly **one in every 106** New Yorkers are homeless.



Affiliate Organizations

Jamaica Council of Churches Jamaica Regional Literacy Coalition

Runs teen and adult literacy programs at local libraries and homeless shelter in the Jamaica region.

Food Banks United

Coordinates the activities of food banks in the Jamaica region.

Home for All

Coordinates the activities of homeless shelters and low-income housing developers in the Jamaica region.

Back-to-Work

Provides assessment, job training, counselling and placement services in the Jamaica region.

Government Agencies

New York department of Housing and Human Services
New York Department of Housing
Jamaica Housing Authority
Jamaica Transport Authority

Transportation Services

Jamaica Regional Bus Services
Jamaica Regional Cab Services

Current Projects

In efforts to expand and help neighboring disadvantaged communities, CommunicAID was given the opportunity to purchase the abandoned Mercer school property.

Our newest facility, the Mercer Street Satellite Center, is now occupied as a satellite office for CommunicAID staff operating in the Mercer Street area. It also provides office space for non-profit affiliates of CommunicAID. Some amenities include:

- Conference rooms for community education and meetings
- Counseling rooms at which CommunicAID and affiliate counselors can meet with individual clients
- 32-bed overnight shelter
- 60-person day shelter with food service
- 30-person long-term family shelter
- 12,000 square foot food pantry

Highlights since the opening of the Mercer Street Satellite Center

- The 1st Sunday of every month is an open house for the community to tour, learn programs, and volunteer opportunities
- Jamaica high school Key club adopted the Mercer food pantry, conducting fundraisers and foods drives
- CommunicAID received a monthly column, listing volunteer opportunities at both facilities
- 75% of students tutored in math and reading at the mercer center passed to the next grade

**With your
help, we
can impact
more lives!**

Mercer Center First-Year of Operation Statistics

	# staff	# volunteers	# people served
Food Bank	15	50	3,500
Homeless Shelters			
-Overnight	15	30	6,125
-Day shelter w/ food service	35	100	12,765
-Family shelter	10	25	135
Literacy program	10	350	300
Homes for All	25	75	680
Back-To Work training/job placement	20	100	375

Sources:

<https://endhomelessness.org/homelessness-in-america/homelessness-statistics/state-of-homelessness-2021/>

<https://www.bls.gov/opub/ted/2021/unemployment-rate-drops-to-5-2-percent-in-august-2021.htm#:~:text=The%20unemployment%20rate%20declined%20by,1arge%20decrease%20in%20July%202021.>

https://www.feedingamerica.org/sites/default/files/2021-03/National%20Projections%20Brief_3.9.2021_0.pdf