

NAUGATUCK YOUTH SERVICES, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



**FEBRUARY
2025**

Prepared by
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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters,

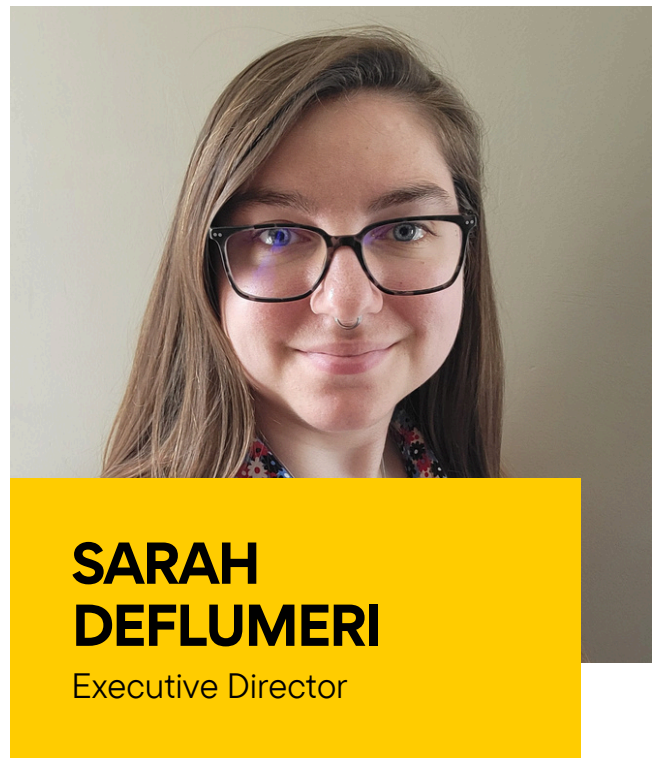
As I reflect on another year at Naugatuck Youth Services, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible community that surrounds us. This annual report is more than a collection of numbers and accomplishments; it is a testament to the resilience, creativity, and strength of the young people we are privileged to serve.

This year, our programs have reached new heights, empowering youth to explore their potential, build lasting connections, and contribute meaningfully to their community. These successes would not have been possible without your unwavering support. Whether you have volunteered your time, offered resources, or simply cheered us on, your belief in our mission fuels our work every day.

As we look ahead, we remain steadfast in our commitment to creating a brighter, more equitable future for every young person in Naugatuck. Together, we can continue to inspire, uplift, and empower the next generation.

Thank you for being part of this journey with us.

With gratitude,
Sarah DeFlumeri
Executive Director
Naugatuck Youth Services



**SARAH
DEFLUMERI**
Executive Director

722

Total youth served

\$580K

Total revenue

17

Programs offered



OUR COMMITMENTS

MISSION

Naugatuck Youth Services, Inc. is committed to:

- A leadership role in advocacy and action on behalf of youth development to promote family enrichment and a healthy community
- Ensuring all of Naugatuck's young people to realize their potential to be healthy, resilient, and awesome

VISION

Through a range of innovative programs and services, we focus on promoting positive youth development, mental health, leadership skills, and community engagement. We hold a safe, supportive environment where young people can grow, learn, and thrive. Whether through after-school activities, community events, mentoring, or youth-led initiatives, NYS is committed to making a lasting impact on the lives of the young people we serve and the community as a whole.

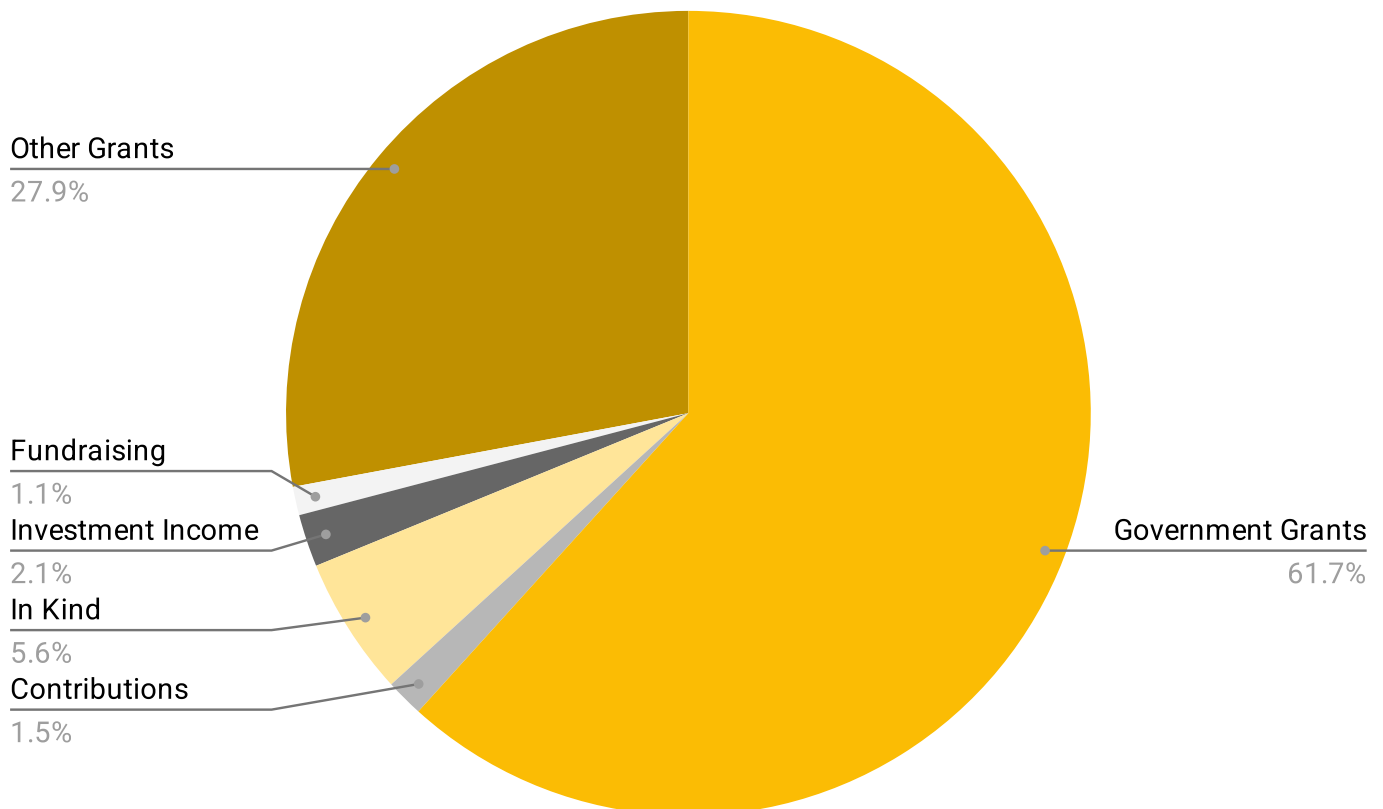
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

In the fiscal year 2024, Naugatuck Youth Services took in \$580,306 in revenue. Expenses were \$575,184 for the year. Adding the remaining balance, NYS finished FY24 with \$487,150 in assets.

NYS contracted Zackin, Zimyeski, Sullivan, a local accounting firm, to provide a financial review of the organization's practices. The review found that NYS is in alignment with accepted accounting principles and there was no material modifications needed.

Bookkeeping services are rendered in-house, with a contracted financial accountant, Raymond Rossi, reviewing periodically and providing support.

REVENUE BY TYPE





2024 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

NYS programs feature prevention, diversion, life skills, and positive youth development. Our goal is to be responsive to community needs, which includes implementing new programs as needed. In 2024, we expanded programming and created new community-wide partnerships to extend our reach.

NEW IN 2024

* In 2022, we started a garden in our outdoor space at 13 Scott St. This year, we expanded the garden program to include a worm farm for composted soil and expanded the garden offsite, supported by generous volunteers, a partnership with the Naugatuck Garden Club, and new grant funding!

* In partnership with the Borough of Naugatuck and Naugatuck Police Department, NYS hired a recovery coach. Leigh Disston joined the team in August and is able to connect people to recovery resources and assist with harm reduction in Naugatuck.

AWESOME NUMBERS

87

Youth diverted from the justice system



73

Youth employed in job sites in the summer



NAUGY YOUTH LEADERS CAMP



CAMP ACTIVITIES

Participants have lots of chances to make new friends and engage in activities such as leadership and team building exercises, nutrition and finance education, archery, canoeing and kayaking, a high ropes course, and ziplining. There is ample time to walk through the forest and enjoy the beautiful natural setting that Camp Jewell has to offer. Youth enjoy making friends and memories that last a lifetime.



WHAT DO YOUTH THINK ABOUT CAMP?

"Camp Jewell is an experience I look forward to every year, not only for the people, but the experience itself is so immersive. I got to throw myself into challenges with no fear and I laughed more that weekend than ever in my entire life. I was surrounded in a comfortable environment that makes me excited to go back to."

-Gracie Hossein, Junior, Kaynor Tech

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



COMMUNITY TRAININGS

By the numbers

2024-25 Narcan
administrators

47

2024 QPR
Gatekeepers

50

* NARCAN (or Naloxone) Training covers the history of the opioids epidemic, a closer look at types of opioids or medications of risk, signs of that someone is experiencing an overdose, and how to administer Narcan and call for help.

* QPR is a suicide prevention training that covers both national and local statistics, warning signs of suicide, and tips for how you can start a conversation with someone you are worried may be considering suicide. NYS provides this training for free to the community members and partners.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

By the numbers

2024 New
Partners

12

2024 New
Volunteers

22

* During our 2024 Summer youth employment program, we placed 73 youth between 32 Businesses in Naugatuck and surrounding towns.

* Our current community partners consist of 22 Businesses, 13 Non-profits, 19 Civic organizations, and 7 colleges/universities.

STEP UP NAUGY PREVENTION COALITION

Mike Aquino
Prevention Coordinator



1ST

Connecticut coalition to be awarded the CADCA Blue Ribbon Coalition award, identifying SUN as a national leader in prevention

2024 WAS A GREAT YEAR FOR NAUGATUCK'S PREVENTION COALITION: STEP UP NAUGY

Step Up Naugy accomplished a lot this year, from obtaining new grants to launching new prevention programs! SUN obtained funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for the Sober Truth on Preventing (STOP) Underage Drinking Act! The STOP Act funds SUN for four years at \$60,000 per year. SUN also obtained the Cannabis Grant through the Western Connecticut Coalition (WCTC), which funds coalition efforts to reduce cannabis use amongst youth in Naugatuck. That funding lasts 2 years and is \$57,000 (\$28,500 per year), aiming to produce mass media (billboards, posters, social media campaigns) using the Be In The Know campaign, a statewide campaign to reduce cannabis use. Gaining this kind of funding for the next 2-4 years is incredibly important to substance use intervention, educating the community on the dangers of youth substance use, and adding to the strong support system at Naugatuck Youth Services.

STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

STAFF ▼

Sarah DeFlumeri, Executive Director
Gina Valerio, Assistant Director
Michael Aquino, Prevention Program Coordinator
Joseph Taveras, Youth & Community Liaison
Lisa Hossein, Youth Development Specialist
Giulia Conceicao, Case Manager
Leigh Disston, Recovery Outreach Specialist
Eric Valedon, Job Coach

Jim Goggin, President
Stacey Hofmann, Vice President
Bernice Rizk, Treasurer
Sandra Heller, Co-Secretary
Michael Cocchiola, Co-Secretary
Ethel Grant
Nicole O'Connell
Stephanie Misiewicz Jenkins
DeWygee Williams
Kate Murphy
Mike Wawrzyniak
Amy Morrissey
Elma Solomon
Nathan Testone
Kimberly Gallo
John Rodgers

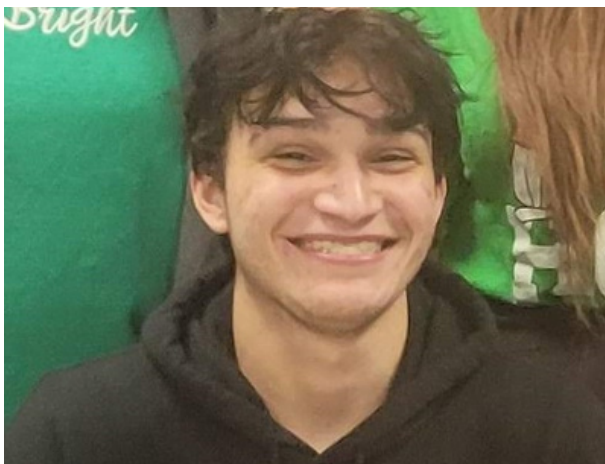
BOARD OF DIRECTORS ►



FEATURED STORIES

SAMUEL CAMARGO

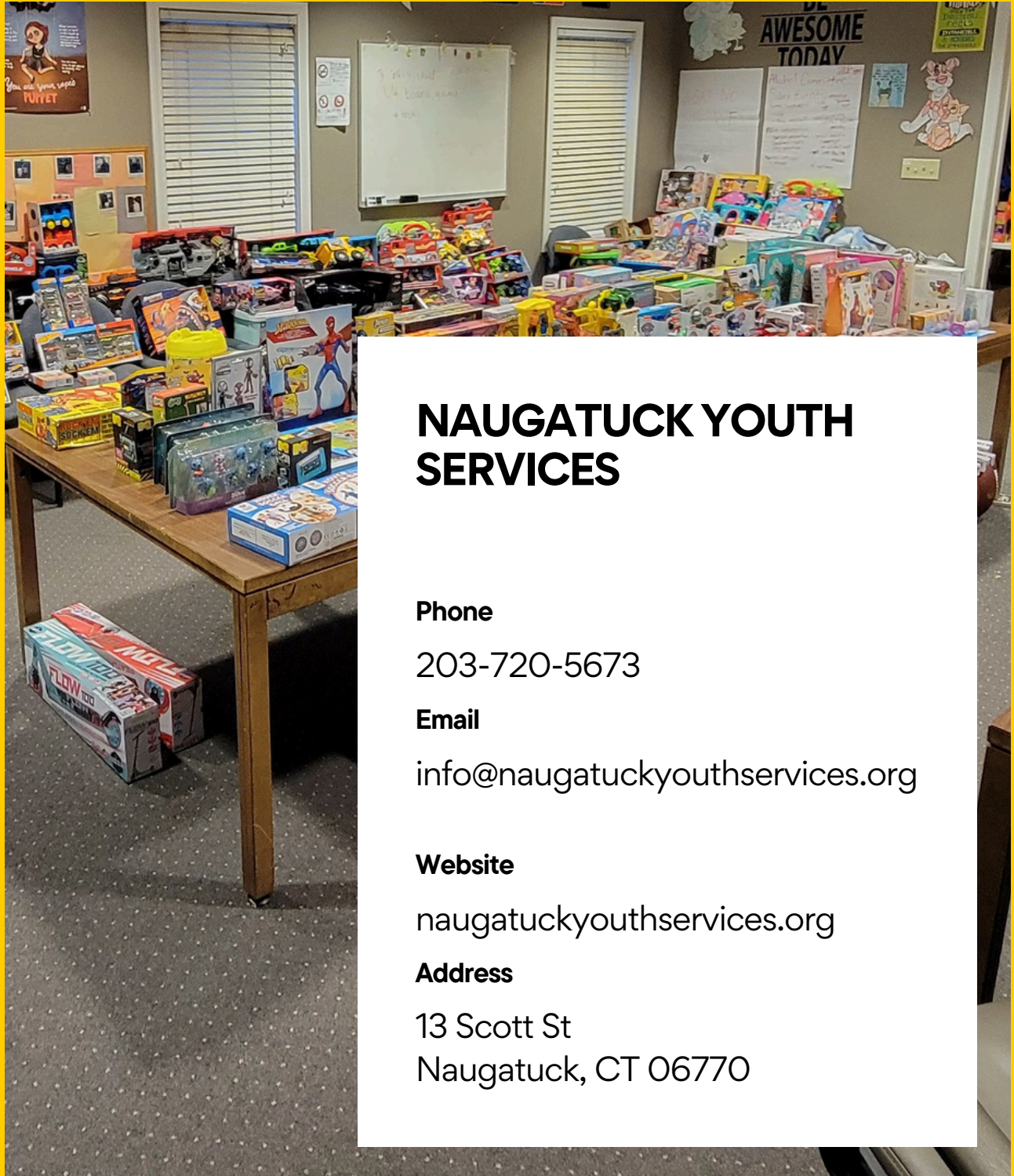
To put it bluntly, being introduced to Naugatuck Youth Services as a high school student changed the course of my life as a young Brazilian immigrant coming into the United States. In 2022, I was struggling with finding a sense of belonging in this country, and participating in NYS Youth Programs helped me overcome cultural barriers and internal struggles that I faced daily. I was able to make meaningful connections with others, get out of my comfort zone linguistically and socially, and feel part of a welcoming community full of people who saw my true potential. Now, as an adult who's honored to be a part of NYS Staff as a Case Manager, I still experience those same feelings every day; I am surrounded by outstanding people who elevate and inspire me, and I am grateful for being given this golden chance of doing something I love, with people I love. - Samuel Carmargo, Program Alumnus



CHRISTIAN KILLAM

"Naugatuck Youth Services to me can only be described as one thing, and that's a second family these people care in a way that other places don't, they care with all their heart and the connections you make, the lessons you learn, the people you meet, you will never forget i am glad i came across this place and i would not change a thing, and it has been one of the best things for me in my life."
- Christian Killam, Naugatuck High School, Senior

CONTACT US



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