



March 14, 2025

Have you ever petted a Madagascar Hissing Cockroach?

Visits from our friends at the [Audubon Society of Rhode Island](#) are some of our favorite! This week, our preschoolers learned about local pollinators like bees, moths, and other animals that help our ecosystem by spreading pollen.

However, this time, we did not meet a local animal. Our preschoolers got up close and personal with a *Madagascar Hissing Cockroach*! The kids will tell you: they aren't scary at all. The hissing sound they make is the sound of air leaving their bodies: a defense mechanism because they can't fly. Thanks again to our friends at the Audubon Society for such a fun experience with a very unique insect.





Why your gift to 401 Gives matters

We provide **more than 1.3 million meals** to our community each year. **11 of our 26 programs are dedicated to hunger relief.** Your gift to **401Gives** helps us provide Daily Breakfast, Daily Bread, our Food Pantry, the Mobile Food Pantry, Produce to the People, the Middletown High School Food Pantry, the Tiverton High School Food Pantry, Holiday Meals, Thanksgiving Meals, and Meal Delivery to Homebound Seniors.

On 4/1/25, we have both a Match and Challenge to inspire you to give: **MLK Board Members are offering a \$20,000 dollar for dollar match AND a generous friend will give us \$20,000 if 100 donors give by 4:01** pm on April 1st.

Thank you to the **Alliance for Nonprofit Impact** at the **United Way of Rhode Island** for presenting this amazing day of statewide celebration and generosity for nonprofits like the MLK.

[Click here to learn more about our Hunger Services Programs](#)

[Click here to visit our 401Gives page](#)



Connecting those who Serve

MLK Community Programs proudly invites **current and former servicepeople from all branches of the U.S. Military** to *Military Legacies*, an evening of community and comradery. Join us **Thursday, March 27 from 4 to 5pm** for an opportunity to connect with your peers, share stories, and inspire the next generation of military servicepeople.

[Click here to RSVP with Erin, our Community Programs Manager](#)



MILITARY LEGACIES



MLK Community Programs invites current and retired servicepeople from all branches of the military to gather for an evening of community and comradery (and charcuterie!)

Share stories with fellow veterans and inspire the next generation of military servicepeople

Thursday, March 27 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

MLK Community Center, Edward Street Entrance
20 Dr. Marcus Wheatland Blvd. Newport, RI 02840

Free and open to all in Newport County

RSVP by calling Erin Patel at 401.846.4828 x124 or epatel@mlkccenter.org



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
COMMUNITY CENTER

Don't Miss Lunch & Learn Next Week

Nothing better than a great meal and a show! Don't miss out on this week's Senior Lunch & Learn with our friends **the Ancient Order of Hibernians Men's Singers**. We're delighted the AOH Men's Singers are returning to the Center with their **medley of Irish and patriotic songs**.

Join us on **Wednesday, March 19 at Noon** for an afternoon of fun!



SENIOR LUNCH & LEARN

Join us and the Ancient Order of Hibernians Men's Singers for a delicious meal and a great performance!

Wednesday, March 19 @ 12:00 p.m.
 @ MLK Community Center,
 20 Dr. Marcus Wheatland Blvd.,
 Free and open to all in Newport County!

  **DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMUNITY CENTER**

REPORTING FROM MARCH BOOK MADNESS

March Book Madness brackets are starting to fill. Our After School students aren't playing basketball... **They're reading 16 books this month**, putting the books into a **bracket**, pitting them against each other. The kids read each book aloud with their teachers and vote on the best book. Here's the results from the first four match-ups.

Dragons Love Tacos BEAT *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs*

Yetis are The Worst BEAT *Miss Brooks' Story Nook*

Molly's Tuxedo BEAT *The Day Moon and Earth had an Argument*

A Giraffe and a Half BEAT *Hotel Bruce*

Stay tuned as the weeks go by for updates and **[Click here for the bracket!](#)**





Welcoming new MLK Volunteers



This week, our Volunteer Manager Rebecca Richard, led our newest volunteers in MLK Volunteer Orientation. We're excited to welcome them to the team. MLK Volunteers are essential to our programs. In 2024, **640 individuals** volunteered, providing **18,600 service hours**.

Our dedicated volunteers impact every program we offer, making a difference for over 8,000 people in Newport County. The MLK wouldn't exist without these selfless helpers.

If you're interested in volunteering [click here to reach out to Becky](#) or call 401.846.4828 ext. 103

Hearty Soup Needed!

We need hearty, ready-to-eat soups (rather than condensed soups).

It's still chilly outside, and there's nothing like a nice warm bowl of soup to warm up. We still need hearty, healthy soup for our Hunger Services Programs. We need your help to keep providing essential meals to our community!

We receive donations Monday – Friday 8:30 – 5:00 at the Loading Dock. Ring the bell at the Donations and Deliveries door and we'll be glad to receive your donation. **Don't have time to shop? You can make a donation to the food pantry and we will do the shopping for you. [Just click here!](#)**



Give to the Food Pantry

Beep! Beep! Here Comes the Mobile Food Pantry!



Here's next week's Mobile Food Pantry Locations:

Tuesday 3/18/25:

Park Holm Newport, RI 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

AHEPA II Apartments, 87 Girard Ave. Newport, RI 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.

Residents Only

Thursday 3/20/25:

Donovan Manor, 19 Chapel St. Newport, RI 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Edgar Ct. Cul-de-sac, Newport, RI 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

All are welcome. You do not need to reside in the neighborhood to use the Mobile Food Pantry. Please remember to bring your reusable bags.

PROGRAM CALENDAR

[Download March calendar Here](#)

[Descargue el Calendario](#)

[del Marzo Aquí](#)



Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}

{{Organization Address}}

{{Organization Phone}}

{{Organization Website}}

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Volunteer

Give



powered by the Alliance for Nonprofit Impact
at United Way of Rhode Island

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