



# 2024 Annual Report



# Our Mission

New Alternatives is dedicated to reducing homelessness among LGBTQ+ youth and young adults in New York City by addressing areas critical to their development and well-being including housing, physical and mental health, education, and employment.

With a strong focus on harm reduction and long-term support, we offer a broad range of direct services and referrals to meet the needs of our clients and advocate on their behalf to ensure they survive and thrive.



**2024** was a year of exciting progress for New Alternatives. Thanks to the support of our donors, staff, and volunteers, we welcomed many new clients and pivoted to meet the evolving needs of New York City’s growing migrant population. This report highlights our achievements across the year and reflects our collective impact as a community dedicated to the wellbeing of LGBTQ+ youth.

## Devon’s Journey To Independence

Devon joined New Alternatives during the summer of 2023. At the time, he was 23, homeless, struggling with a severe learning disorder, and feeling hopeless about his future, but with consistent case management and personalized care, Devon started to take small steps toward obtaining housing like going with staff to get his NYS ID. As he accomplished these smaller goals, he began to feel better about himself and more confident. With renewed determination and after spending 18 months in a shelter, Devon finally obtained an apartment of his own. His perseverance exemplifies the success that is possible with the right support and guidance.

## Looking Ahead

As we move into 2025, we have welcomed a new full-time social worker, Jonathan Schwartz. With Jonathan's help, we are increasing our capacity for case management and supportive counseling. Our goals for the year include strengthening our agency's infrastructure and sustainability by seeking additional funding to hire staff who can focus on fundraising and administrative tasks. We are also approaching the coming year aware that this will be a difficult time for many, especially our migrant and transgender clients. We will continue to stand in solidarity with the most vulnerable members of our community and will not waiver in our commitment to protecting every young person who walks through our doors. With your ongoing dedication to New Alternatives, we will make these goals a reality, and we thank you for being a vital part of our mission. Together, we are changing lives and building a better future for LGBTQ+ youth in need.

## OUR IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS



**287** youth  
accessed drop-in services



**51** dinners  
1,544 Sunday dinner check-ins

**139**

**new clients**  
joined us for the first time

**595**

**take-out meals**  
for case management



**21** clients  
moved into housing



**377** check-ins  
for our weekly life skills group

**693**

**case sessions**  
to address client needs

**88**

**check-ins**  
for our HIV peer group

## **1,544 Dinners Served**

A cornerstone of our community outreach, our weekly Sunday dinners provide nourishment and connection for our clients. These meals go beyond food, fostering a welcoming environment where individuals can also find clothing, hygiene supplies, harm reduction supplies, group activities, HIV and STI testing, and a sense of belonging.

## **693 Case Management Sessions**

In case management, we work with clients to assist them with any problems they are facing. From housing assistance to employment support and crisis intervention, these individualized sessions address our clients most critical needs.

## **595 Take-Out Meals For Case Management**

Our case management meals provide a hot lunch to any client who shows up during walk-in hours in need of assistance.

## **377 Life Skills Workshop Check-Ins**

Our engaging and informative life skills workshops cover a range of topics to help clients move toward stable adulthood including physical health, setting goals for success, conflict resolution, and emotional regulation.

## **287 Unique Clients Served**

Each client we serve represents a unique story of resilience and hope. This year, we were privileged to assist 287 young adults, providing them with the resources and guidance they need to thrive.

## **139 New Clients**

Our reach continued to grow as we welcomed many new clients into our program in 2024. This included migrants from 20 different countries ranging from Afghanistan to Venezuela. Many of whom came to the United States seeking safety as LGBTQ+ individuals persecuted in their home countries.

## 88 HIV Group Check-Ins

Our specialized support group offered a safe space for clients living with HIV to connect, share experiences, and receive critical resources.

## 21 Clients Moved Into Housing

We celebrated as fifteen clients achieved the milestone of moving into independent housing, and six additional clients transitioned into supportive housing. We extend immense gratitude to our many angel donors who provided these young people with household essentials for their new homes.

## Recreational Activities

We offered numerous recreational activities over the past year including movies, shows, museums, holiday celebrations, laser tag, barbecues, ice skating, kayaking, and more.

