

A NEW HOME FOR HOPE

The campaign for Beth-El Center



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a Capital Campaign?

The Capital Campaign for Beth-El Center is a targeted intensive fundraising effort designed to raise significant funds to build our new Beth-El Center that will be located at 995 Bridgeport Ave. in Milford, CT. The Capital Campaign funds will be used to finish constructed spaces, such as adding technology to offices or bedsets to family suites, as well as underwriting the cost of programming, and to sustain of the Beth-El Center over the long term through an endowment.

Who is involved in a capital campaign?

There are a lot of moving parts to a capital campaign, and these are managed by the executive director, the board of directors, a building committee including outside experts, and a development committee including our chief development officer and a capital campaign consultant. To gauge community support for the developing plan, a feasibility study was conducted to objectively look at strengths and areas of opportunity within the organization and our fundraising abilities.

A Capital Campaign Steering Committee and Cabinet has been selected to drive the campaign. The executive director and Board of Directors will manage this project from conceptualization, regulatory approval, and construction through opening.

Why are you building new instead of renovating and reconstructing your existing building?

Our current building located at 90 New Haven Avenue is in need of renovation and lacks the capacity and capability to expand our footprint to provide the facilities and services needed for a comprehensive program in the Greater Milford area. Our Building Committee and Board of Directors looked at all options and concluded that building new would be optimal for the future growth of Beth-El Center.

When will the new Beth-El Center be built?

We have just signed the contract to purchase 995 Bridgeport Avenue and have received a unanimous vote from Milford Planning and Zoning Department in June 2024 to move forward with the project. We estimate we will be ready to break ground for the new building in Summer 2025. Once we break ground, it is estimated that it will take eight months to complete the new Beth-El Center building.

How much will the new Beth-El Center cost?

We anticipate that the total cost for the new Beth-El Center including land acquisition, construction and furnishings, and equipment will be approximately \$14 million.



How will Beth-El Center pay for the new building?

Beth-El Center has been awarded construction grants from the State of Connecticut and other entities that will offset much of the construction of the new building. We will need funds to cover the cost of all pre-development and post-construction, including furnishings, fixtures, equipment, telephone, computers, fire prevention, ADA compliant bathrooms, interiors, landscaping, asphalt, new programs and services, childcare services and our playground.

What will the building look like?

Plans continue to evolve, but you can see the current renderings by scanning the QR Code.



What will be in the new building?

The new and redesigned space for the new Beth-El Center will feature dedicated areas for essential services like the community kitchen, shelter beds in a new configuration, permanent supportive housing and life skills, continuing education and workforce development spaces. It will also include indoor and outdoor meeting spaces, a chapel, an inspirational art gallery, a boutique, a childcare center and children's playground. The new Center will operate 24/7 365 days each year just like the current model, but we will expand our winter shelter program to support unsheltered homelessness year round.

How much do we need from Donors in our Community?

We want everyone in our community to have the opportunity to be part of the Capital Campaign to build the new Beth-El Center.

Our Building Hope Campaign has a goal of \$1.5 million and will need the support of our entire community to be successful.

Do you have to have a lot of money to give to a Capital Campaign?

Every gift is important. We offer different options including monthly giving and pledges up to five years to maximize your donation. No matter what size your gift is; you will be Building Hope for the Future.

How will you afford to operate the new Center once it is built?

Our new Center will have great efficiencies to offset some of the increased expenses. Additionally, current granters have agreed to elevate their support to match our increased services capacity. We will also use our current building at 90 New Haven Avenue as an asset to be used to support the new building. We also hope that our supporters will step up to sustain the additional costs of operations..

Who has oversight? How will you make sure the project comes in on budget?

The Beth-El Center Board of Directors have approved this capital project and will regularly monitor project expenses. Working with the Executive Director, Jennifer Paradis, all expenses will be closely monitored and reported back to the Building Committee and Finance Committee of the Board of Directors who have ultimate oversight of the project.

OUR PLANNED NEW FACILITY BY THE NUMBERS:

36,170

PLANNED SQUARE FOOTAGE OF NEW CENTER

\$1.5 MILLION

FUNDRAISING GOAL FOR CAMPAIGN

SUMMER 2026

ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE

24/7, 365

AROUND THE CLOCK SERVICES AT NEW CENTER TO SUPPORT UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

12

EMERGENCY SHELTER BEDS FOR INDIVIDUALS

10

EMERGENCY SHELTER UNITS FOR FAMILIES

11

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING UNITS



Beth-El Center

To learn more about how you can support this transformative project and help build A New Home for Hope, scan the QR code or visit www.bethelmilford.org.

