

## **CELEBRATING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES**

**Middlesex United Way** 

In 2024, Middlesex United Way proudly supported Middletown Pride with a Community Impact Grant, amplifying its ability to serve the LGBTQIA2S+ community. Middletown Pride held a record 25 events during the 2023-2024 grant cycle, the highest number since it began. Funding provided by Middlesex United Way helped allow the organization to engage over 300 people across the Middlesex County Community. Scan the QR Code below to visit Middletown Pride's website.

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PRIDE

Thousand Dollar

## LEADING THE WAY

"WHEN I STARTED MIDDLETOWN PRIDE, I WAS SO THANKFUL AND SO SURPRISED ABOUT HOW MANY PEOPLE HERE IN THE MIDDLETOWN COMMUNITY WERE JUST SUPER ACCEPTING... AND NOT ONLY DID THEY INSTANTLY GET INVOLVED FROM THE START, THEY SAID: 'OKAY, BUT LET US DO MORE AND WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO?' WE'VE SEEN THAT TIME AND TIME AGAIN WITH MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY JUST SHOWING UP EVERY YEAR."

> Christopher Forte Founder, Middletown Pride



## **QUEER SWIM SUCCESS:**

A trans masculine individual felt safe and welcomed at Middletown Pride Queer Swim event, a crucial step for someone previously anxious about public spaces. They are now a regular attendee of Middletown Pride events.

## PRIDESGIVING DINNER:

A participant who was estranged from their family found solace and support through Middletown Pride's Pridesgiving Dinner, sharing the holiday with their chosen family and strengthening their connection to the community.