

180 in Your District

Highlights from the communities we serve

About 180 in Your District

Welcome to the inaugural edition of *180 in Your District*, a snapshot of 180 Turning Lives Around's work across Monmouth and Ocean Counties and the impact we're making together in the communities we serve.

This special print edition highlights major milestones, events, and initiatives from Fiscal Year 2026 (July 2025–June 2026). Beginning next year, *180 in Your District* will be delivered digitally to your inbox every January and July, providing a twice-yearly overview of key activities in your district, along with a look at what's ahead.

While this publication features many of our most significant accomplishments, it represents only a small sample of the work taking place every day. From prevention education and survivor services to community outreach, volunteer engagement, and fundraising events, there is so much more happening across Monmouth and Ocean Counties.

We are deeply grateful to our county and municipal leaders for your continued partnership and unwavering support. Together, we are creating safer communities and brighter futures for survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

What's Coming Up

There's always something happening at 180, and our milestone 50th anniversary year (2026–2027) will be especially full of opportunities to engage, celebrate, and support survivors.

We invite you to follow along and stay connected by visiting our events calendar – use the QR code to the right – for a complete listing of upcoming programs, awareness initiatives, and special events. We look forward to seeing you throughout the year!

180 Events
Calendar



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How Your District Can Get Involved

This October, during **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**, please help 180 “Paint Every Town Purple” by displaying a banner on a building or across a roadway. We’re aiming to reach all city hall buildings and other prominent community spaces across Monmouth County.



Hang a Banner
for DVAM



To offer your support, please provide your name and contact info by scanning the QR code above, or contacting Sophiana Avedis at SophianaA@180nj.org or **201-699-9044**.

50 Events for 50 Years: *Help Us Bring Our Community Together in Support of Survivors*

In 1976, 180 Turning Lives Around began with a simple mission: to create a safer, stronger future for survivors and families. Fifty years later, that commitment remains as strong as ever. As we celebrate this milestone, we invite you to host a fundraising event and help us reach our goals of **50 events for 50 years** and **raising \$50,000 to directly support survivors and the services they rely on**. Please share this initiative with businesses, community organizations, and constituents in your district.

Example Events:

- Point of Sale / Round-up at the Register
- Percent of sales back to 180 (designated event or span of time)
- Ticketed event with proceeds benefiting 180 (classes, performances, tournaments...)
- Gifts in honor of a special event or milestone (wedding, birthday, bar/bat mitzvah...)

For more information or to get involved, please contact events@180nj.org

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Recap: Fiscal Year 2026 (July 2025 – June 2026)

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District 10

Counties: Monmouth and Ocean

Municipalities: Bay Head, Brick, Brielle, Island Heights, Lavallette, Manasquan, Mantoloking, Point Pleasant, Point Pleasant Beach, Sea Girt, Seaside Heights, Seaside Park, South Toms River, Spring Lake, Spring Lake Heights, Toms River

At the close of 2025, **180 expanded our transitional housing program into Ocean County** through new partnerships with HABcore and Homes Now, both located in Brick.

The **HABcore** property consists of two neighboring homes with a total of 10 bedrooms, providing a safe, supportive, and empowering environment for single women rebuilding their lives after experiencing domestic violence, sexual abuse, human trafficking, or stalking. We currently have five residents living at the property, with two more expected to move in over the coming weeks.

Our partnership with **Homes Now** ensured the continuation of a vital community resource. For 25 years, the organization's 17-unit property had been operated by Dottie's House as transitional housing for families fleeing domestic violence. When Dottie's House closed on October 15, 2025, 180 acted swiftly to assume operations, ensuring that current residents experienced uninterrupted housing and support during the transition. The site continues this legacy under a new name, Harbour Light, and is currently serving 11 adults and 23 kids.

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Throughout January, **Livoti's Old World Market** did a Round Up at the Register campaign, raising over \$13,000 for 180 across their stores in **Aberdeen, Brick, Englishtown, Freehold, and Middletown.**



On January 10, **New Jersey Natural Gas** hosted a service day at the HABcore property in Brick, where 11 volunteers completed hands-on projects including furniture rearrangement, deck construction, deep cleaning, and the installation of energy-efficient thermostats and shower heads, helping ensure the property was welcoming, move-in ready, and equipped to support its new residents.



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On May 14, the Harbour Light property in Brick welcomed volunteers from **Keller Williams** for RED Day, the organization's annual day of service. A team of 50 Ocean Living agents and 20 vendors spent the day beautifying the property for residents through a variety of projects like painting, cleaning, landscaping, and flower planting. They also generously donated backpacks filled with essential items, bathing suits, towels, and a new basketball hoop.



On May 23, six community members from across the state participated in the annual **Spring Lake Five Mile Run** to benefit 180, bringing awareness to our mission and raising \$3,000.

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District 11

County: Monmouth

Municipalities: Allenhurst, Asbury Park, Bradley Beach, Colts Neck, Deal, Eatontown, Fair Haven, Freehold Borough, Freehold Township, Interlaken, Loch Arbour, Long Branch, Neptune, Neptune Township, Ocean Township, Red Bank, Shrewsbury Borough, Shrewsbury Township, Tinton Falls

On September 21, 180 took over the **Red Bank Broadwalk**, with art, music, and activities to spread awareness about domestic violence. Support from the **Red Bank RiverCenter**, **Red Bank Visual Arts Committee**, **Woodhouse Spa**, and **Middletown High School North** helped to make the day a success.

Asbury Park, **Long Branch**, and **Red Bank** hung awareness banners and “painted the town purple” for **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** in October. Businesses participated in a variety of ways, including hanging window clings, lighting buildings purple, donating a percentage of sales, and selling purple ribbons.

140 pumpkins donated by **Saker Shop Rite** were displayed at 180’s **Family Justice Center** Annex Building adjacent to the Monmouth County Superior Court in Freehold, as a visual representation of the total number of final restraining orders granted to survivors of domestic violence in Monmouth County from January-October 2025.



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On October 18, the sixth annual **Fair Haven Witches & Wizards Paddle** benefited 180.

On November 7, the **Monmouth University Anchor Bowl** brought together a variety of groups across Greek Life, student government, and health science majors, for a volleyball tournament benefiting 180.

Throughout January, **Livoti's Old World Market** did a Round Up at the Register campaign, raising over \$13,000 for 180 across their stores in **Aberdeen, Brick, Englishtown, Freehold, and Middletown.**



On February 5, 180's **Pet Bowls Project** took place at **McLoone's Pier House** in Long Branch. This annual event aims to raise awareness about the dangerous connection between animal abuse and domestic violence. 71% of pet owners entering domestic violence shelters report that their abuser had threatened, injured, or permanently harmed their family pet. 180 believes that no one should have to choose between their own personal safety and leaving their pet behind – **we offer the only pet-friendly shelter in the state.** It was an unforgettable night of awareness, art, and community, with over double the turnout from past years! We're grateful for the support of McLoone's, our incredible pottery artists, the PNC Foundation, student artists from Middletown High School North and Red Bank Regional National Art Honor Society, The Slow Cookers, Autumn Elise Gallery, and Amanda Kristy Media.

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On March 1, **Fourth Wave Fest** returned to Asbury Park for its third year, bringing the community together to support 180. This all-women-led music festival raised awareness while celebrating women, women's history, and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. Fourth Wave Fest is produced by Monmouth County-based musician **Carlotta Schmidt** and her manager, Heather Bedenko. Over 250 attendees supported the festival and enjoyed high-energy performances, food by **MacroBites**, and resources from 180's Amanda's Easel and 2NDFLOOR Youth Helpline programs. This event was made possible by support from local organizations, including Garden State Equality, the Kiwanis Club of Asbury Park, the Jersey Shore Jazz & Blues Foundation, JBJ Soul Kitchen, the Vin Gopal Civic Association, and WAGE International. Top donors of the event included **Sills Cummis & Gross PC**, **Advocare Pediatrics**, and **Starfield Companies**.



In March, 180 partnered with Brooks Chandler, dedicated volunteer and junior at Ranney School, to pilot **Hope in Dark Light**, a movie night created for survivors and their loved ones, with plans for it to become an ongoing program at 180. 40 client families joined us at **Basie Cinema House** in Red Bank for an evening of fun, healing, and connection.

Every October, in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, 180's Amanda's Easel creative arts therapy program unveils a **survivor-led awareness art exhibit**. The October 2025 exhibit, *Crystal Clarity: Seeing the Future Free from Abuse*, powerfully illustrates personal journeys of healing, resilience, and hope for a future free from abuse and was on display throughout Monmouth County in 2026. From March 30–April 13, it was on view at **Two River Theater** in Red Bank.

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180's Survivor Advisory Board partnered with the **Mental Health Association of Monmouth County** and the **Count Basie Center for the Arts** for an educational series, *Beyond the Connection*, to equip participants with practical tools to engage with individuals in crisis and confidently connect them with appropriate resources. The workshops took place at **The Vogel**, Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank in March and April and continued virtually in June.

From April 25–30, 180 hosted its third annual ***What Were You Wearing?*** survivor exhibit at **Monmouth Arts** in Red Bank. Featuring outfit displays inspired by the anonymous stories of 13 local survivors, the exhibit challenged the harmful myth that clothing or behavior causes sexual assault. Instead, it powerfully reinforced that sexual assault is a crime of power and control—and that the responsibility always lies with the perpetrator, never the survivor. More than 50 guests visited the exhibit to reflect, learn, and stand in solidarity with survivors.

On April 29, 180 staff and partnering organizations, including **Monmouth University** and **New Jersey Natural Gas**, participated in Denim Day, an annual day of awareness around sexual violence that aims to eliminate victim-blaming. 180 team members wore denim at events across the state, including our **Sexual Violence Symposium** at the **Monmouth County Sheriff's Office** in Freehold.

On May 1, 180 board members and staff attended the “Women Making a Difference” luncheon hosted by the **Junior League of Monmouth County**. We were proud to nominate Survivor Board Member and dedicated 180 volunteer, **Ashley Reid**. Ashley plays an integral role at 180, spearheading awareness campaigns such as Paint the Town Purple, partnering with the Mental Health Association to educate participants on supporting individuals in crisis, and serving on both the Development and Gala Committees. She is also Co-Chair of the Survivor Board. Ashley was among fierce competition. The winner, selected from 15 deserving women, was **Robin Klein**, a longtime supporter and friend of 180. Congratulations to all of the inspiring women nominated!

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On May 6, 180 hosted our annual **Mother's Day Boutique**, welcoming over 60 survivors and their children for an evening filled with care, joy, connection, and unforgettable moments. Thanks to a generously donated space at Bell Works from the **Holmdel Township Police Department**, families enjoyed a variety of activities, including a therapy dog visit, tarot card readings, chair massages, permanent jewelry from Forever Golden, flower bouquet making, delicious dinner from **26 West on the Navesink**, and a Nespresso coffee bar supported by Williams Sonoma of Shrewsbury. A special thank you to **Carol Stillwell** and **Melissa Lowry** for their sponsorships and to every volunteer, donor, and supporter who brought so much magic to the evening. We'd especially like to recognize the tremendous volunteer efforts of **Atrium Staffing**, **Guardian Life**, and **Monmouth County Daughters of Ireland**.



On May 10, **The House of Hair by JMEDIiii** in Shrewsbury hosted a private salon experience for survivors served by 180. Each attendee was treated to the service of their choice, from cuts and blowouts to full highlights and balayage. The House of Hair by JMEDIiii team also made a generous donation to 180 and provided gift bags and prizes, making for a special day of self-care and pampering. **The Social Conscious Project** donated a delicious lunch from **Olive & Oak**, making the day even more memorable.

On May 12, 180 proudly participated in JBJ Soul Kitchen's eighth annual **Day of Hope Walk** in Red Bank, joining fellow partners, advocates, and supporters in raising awareness, fostering connection, and celebrating the power of hope and collaboration. Events like this remind us that meaningful change happens when communities come together in support of one another.

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On May 15, 180 welcomed 10 volunteers from **Trinity Hall** across two of our sites. At the Family Justice Center in Freehold, volunteers assisted in creating a warm and welcoming waiting area for the survivors we serve. This thoughtful effort supports our ongoing mission of providing a safe, calming environment where clients can feel more at ease while navigating difficult and unfamiliar circumstances. By fostering a space centered on comfort and compassion, the Family Justice Center continues working to ensure survivors feel supported throughout their healing journey. At the main office in Hazlet, volunteers helped to sort and organize donated items for our Care Corridor, a pantry area providing non-perishable food, hygiene and personal care products, clothing, diapers and baby formula, and other necessities for our clients. By ensuring these essential resources are organized and readily accessible, the Care Corridor continues to provide critical support that helps clients meet their immediate needs while building stability on their path toward safety and healing.

In June, 180 participated in **New Jersey's 34th Annual Statewide LGBTQ+ Pride Celebration in Asbury Park** and hosted an outreach table at **Red Bank's Pride in the Park**.



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District 12

Counties: Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean

Municipalities: Allentown, Englishtown, Helmetta, Jackson, Manalapan, Matawan, Millstone, North Hanover, Old Bridge, Plumsted, Roosevelt, Spotswood, Upper Freehold

Throughout January, **Livoti's Old World Market** did a Round Up at the Register campaign, raising over \$13,000 for 180 across their stores in **Aberdeen, Brick, Englishtown, Freehold, and Middletown.**



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District 13

County: *Monmouth*

Municipalities: *Aberdeen, Atlantic Highlands, Hazlet, Highlands, Holmdel, Keansburg, Keyport, Lincroft, Little Silver, Marlboro, Middletown, Monmouth Beach, Oceanport, Rumson, Sea Bright, Union Beach, West Long Branch*

Over the summer, 180 Board Member Rick Kolber generously opened his home for our **Sunset on the Navesink** event. It was a pleasure sharing our mission and the impact 180 has on our community with our supporters and elected officials, who help make this important work possible every day.

On August 16, the **Atlantic Highlands Yacht Club** hosted their 21st annual **Ms. Race**, an all-women sailing race benefiting 180, raising over \$35,000 for our organization. For the first time in the race's decades-long history, 180 chartered the **Seastreak** ferry as a spectator boat for the event, allowing guests to enjoy a front row seat to the exciting competition on the water.



In October, 180 hosted a seasonal festival and **Halloween celebration** at our safe house, supplying fun, food, and a safe environment for our clients to go trunk-or-treating and enjoy the fall season. Thanks to all who donated Halloween costumes for the youth we serve.

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Our annual **Holiday Boutique** took place in December and was an extraordinary success – **we served over 200 families, including more than 450 children!** With the support of many volunteers, donors, and sponsors, 180 helped survivors find joy during the holiday season and transformed the space into a winter wonderland. Survivors and their families were greeted with a coffee bar and barista, meals, music, massages, and a festive atmosphere. We are especially grateful for our legislators who came to support our Elves' Workshop and our sponsors for making the event possible!



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On January 29, we hosted Pouring with Purpose, a curated wine and food pairing. It was a wonderful way to kick off 2026, welcoming many new supporters to the 180 mission. We are grateful to **Michelle Faustini** for sharing her passion and guiding us through an unforgettable tasting of Faustini wines – with 20% of wine sales benefiting 180 – and to **Melissa Lowry** for so generously opening her beautiful home and hosting such a fantastic, exclusive evening! We are thrilled to say this event was completely sold out, a true testament to the power of community coming together with purpose. Special thanks to our food sponsors, the **Vin Gopal Civic Association** and **Carolyn DeSena**, whose delicious contributions made the night even more memorable.



On March 8, the 180 team proudly walked in the **Rumson St. Patrick's Day Parade**. It was a beautiful day of celebration and connection with our neighbors across Monmouth County. Thank you to the Parade Committee and everyone who helps make this tradition so special. We are grateful to be part of a community that supports one another and stands with survivors.



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On April 23, we held our **special 50th anniversary Gala, *All That Glitters Is Gold***, honoring long-time partners **Bob Garrett and the Hackensack Meridian Health Team, Monmouth Park Charity Fund, and Mayor Tony Perry**. Through the generosity of our sponsors, supporters, and attendees, **we raised \$500,000 for our extensive programs and services for survivors and families!** We extend a heartfelt thank you to our Gold Sponsor, **Net Lease Capital in partnership with Greystar**, for their leadership and commitment to this important work. **The presence of our elected officials at this event reflects their commitment to 180's mission and the communities we serve.** As we celebrate 50 years of impact and service, we recognize that this work would not be possible without our leaders who stand alongside us to create change and build a safer future for all.



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District 30

Counties: *Monmouth and Ocean*

Municipalities: *Avon-by-the-Sea, Belmar, Farmingdale, Howell, Lake Como, Lakewood, Wall*

In April, **New Jersey Natural Gas** participated in Denim Day, raising awareness and collecting donations in support of 180's services. Now in its 10th year at NJNG, this tradition continues to engage employees in supporting survivors and promoting awareness. NJNG extended this effort by leading a week-long series of educational and awareness events across New Jersey Resources sites in Wall.

