

People



ECIP Spotlight: Serving meals, hope and kindness at RI Dream Center

As part of Amica's ongoing commitment to support employee-driven community work, the Employee Community Involvement Program (ECIP) provides grants to nonprofit organizations where employees and their spouses volunteer.

This month, we're featuring **Mark Sherring** (Lead Rating Systems Analyst, Actuarial), whose volunteer work with the Rhode Island Dream Center supports its mission to bring hope, essential resources, and community care to individuals and families facing hardship across Rhode Island.

For volunteers like Mark, that mission comes to life in simple but meaningful ways: preparing meals, serving those in need and offering care when it's needed most.

Every Monday after work, Mark spends three hours prepping food and delivering meals to community members in need. In addition to his weekly volunteer work, Mark helps with two special events each year: the summer barbecue and the annual Thanksgiving dinner, each serving about 200 people. Last year, Mark spent more than eight hours cooking 16 turkeys the Saturday before Thanksgiving, returning the next day to help prepare side dishes and serve meals.



For Mark, the opportunity to connect with people leaves the greatest impression. "I get to serve people, pray with them and just talk with them," he says. "Seeing the smiles and hearing 'thanks for coming' puts a smile on my face."

The gratitude Mark encounters from those he serves is something he never takes for granted. "I can't count the times on holidays that I've heard, 'Thank you for coming. I haven't eaten all day,'" Mark shares.

His experiences have reinforced how quickly circumstances can change for anyone. "I think about how any member of my family, or even I, could be on the street at any time."

By dedicating his time and energy to the RI Dream Center, Mark provides more than meals. He helps ensure that hundreds of Rhode Islanders feel seen, supported and cared for all year long.

Mark would love to connect with anyone interested in supporting the RI Dream Center. For more information on ECIP, [visit the ECIP page on the intranet](#).