The Helpers Fund's Annual Holiday Drive 2025

Now, as the cold weather begins to set in, and the leaves are on the ground, we think about the holidays that will soon be upon us. Our thoughts turn to the hustle and bustle of preparation; the shopping, the baking and cooking, the gathering of friends, the parties, the dinners with family, and the stories exchanged of things gone by.

However, not all individuals or families think of these holidays in the same way that most of us appreciate them. They find themselves anxious, nervous, with hopes that have little chance of ever being fulfilled. They are times of stress and financial concern.

Who are these individuals and families? Some may be neighbors of ours, or people we see on the street or at the market. But they are people living below the poverty level, jobless, maybe recently unemployed, may be disabled, may be disabled veterans, or just some one who has run into sudden bad luck.

The Fund's Drive

From the beginning of our organization we have seen The Helpers Fund as a way of changing some of those concerns at this time of the year, not solve the problems, but a way of indicating that we'll try to make things a little better, even if it is only for a short period of time. Whether it is supplying food for the holidays, or providing winter clothing to the children of the family, or helping solve one, maybe two financial problems that have left the family confused and at a loss, whether it is the result of an accident, or lengthy illness, we'll try to help and make a difference.

As in the past, we have five areas to choose from to make it easier to make a donation. We are attempting to offer more choices for your assistance to more specific areas. For instance, the Fund now supervises the Chestertown Food Pantry and there is a box to check if you want to direct your donation to that specific service. There is also a box for "Food Assistance: which is in addition to the "Food Pantry" box. In many cases there is a need for additional food assistance for the holiday; sometimes it is to help the family struggling to make ends meet, but their income places them above the poverty line and therefore ineligible for food stamps, or a family in need that has recently moved into the area, but has not fulfilled the residency requirements for social services; or the veteran on VA Disability whose monthly food stamps are not enough and needs a helping hand .

Making a Difference

Help us lend a hand to those less fortunate during the holiday period. Below are the areas you might wish to make a donation to. Just check a box, or boxes, and your donation will be placed in that category and used in that manner. You may either write a check made out to "The Helpers Fund, Inc.," make a donation by credit card by filling out the form on this flyer, or you may make a donation on our web site through Pay Pal, or a credit card donation on this same site.

☐ Food Making a donation to this area will provide food for a family in need who may not be eligible for assistance from the Chestertown/Helpers Fund Food Pantry, but qualify for assistance because of the nature of an emergency situation.

☐ Clothing Donations will provide winter clothing for those in need. Clothing such as winter jackets, jeans, hats, gloves, sweat shirts and turtlenecks will be provided to members of the family from, new-born to 17-year-olds. Adults will receive two items, children will be allowed four items as well as one toy.

☐ Heating Those facing heating problems whether they are being assisted by HEAP (Home Energy Assistance Program) or have been unable to receive assistance, may receive emergency fuel allotments, particularly with homes having young children.

☐ Chestertown / Helpers Fund's Food Pantry: You may donate directly to the Food Pantry by making out a check to "Chestertown / Helpers Fund's Food Pantry". Donations will be used exclusively for Food Pantry use. This assistance will continue past the holiday period.

☐ Discretionary: Funds in this account may be used during the holiday period as the Fund feels situations warrant. Discretionary donations will be used during the holiday period as well as into the New Year depending on conditions and need.

Credit Card Application: Card Type _____

Card Number

_____ _____

Month Year Signature
Expiration

_____ _____

3 Digit Security Code E-Mail Address

_____ _____

Amount To Be Charged Phone Number

_____ _____

Name Address

If you are sending a check, please make the check payable to "The Helpers Fund, Inc., or if you are making credit card payment using the form above, fill out the required information, and return it in the enclosed envelope. If you have misplaced the envelope please return your donation to:

THE HELPERS FUND
PO BOX 691
CHESTERTOWN, NY 12817

WWW.Helpersfund.org

The Helpers Fund is a 501(c)3 charity certified by the Internal Revenue and governed by the IRS Regulations governing charities. The Fund is incorporated under the laws of New York State's Department of State, and is registered with the New York State Bureau of Charities.