



The Helpers Fund Always Ready With A Helping Hand

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Chestertown, NY 12817

What we've
been up to!

Fall 2019



The spring and summer of this year have involved doing many of the same things that we do each year. However, this year we did in fact do a couple of things that we believe will go a long way in making the lives of some of the folks in our area a little more comfortable and healthy. More about that later.

The requests for assistance were for the most part normal and not out of the ordinary. The reality is that we were able to meet all of the bonafide requests that were presented.

Spring and summer assistance included:

General Assistance

- Provided financial assistance to an elementary school aged child to resolve dental issues identified at a preventative care clinic held at North Warren Central School
- Paid for emergency gasoline purchases for people requiring medical visits
- Provided financial assistance for medically approved prescriptions, visits and health support items
- Paid \$2250 in scholarship payments

- Provided emergency rent and food to an individual with limited financial stability.

Food Pantry



- Approximately 40 families served each month
- Our fresh meat allocation at each food pantry distribution continues and is well received by clients
- Shared over \$4900 in Farmers Market coupons and TOPS gift cards to be used for fresh vegetables, dairy products and household needs not normally distributed at the food pantry

As always our success in providing this nutritional assistance is a result of the very generous support of our donor base.

You are encouraged to share our purpose and mission with friends and acquaintances that might know of someone who needs our assistance.

North Warren Backpack Program

We have awarded over \$5400 in financial support to continue the Backpack Program effort through the 2019-2020 school year.

This effort ensures that students participating in the program will have food through the weekend.

This support has been provided to students that met requirements that were established by the North Warren Central School District.

Students from Chestertown (12), Pottersville (17) and Horicon (1) are active in the program.

Ms. Jessica Bartlett of the North Warren instructional staff is an enthusiastic supporter of the effort and works tirelessly to make sure that the children are served in a positive and respectful manner.

The Helpers Fund believes so strongly in the value of this program that it has continued this effort and support for the 4th consecutive year with the support of Shannon and Larry Taylor.

"Dinner for Two" Raffle

This year marked our 18th annual "Dinner for Two" raffle. Its very positive results supported its position as one of our most anticipated events. The funds raised through this effort went directly to helping us meet the commitments of our mission.

The raffle provides an opportunity to win a number of gift certificates to local restaurants in the Tri-Lakes and Lake George area.

This years winners were:

First Prize Rich Scanlon - Chestertown

Second Prize Helen Nicolas - Chestertown

Third Prize Ron Gill - Chestertown

We thank you all for your support with this program and look forward to continued success with next year's effort.

5-10K "Race for Hunger"

This year's event once again took place as part of the "Adirondack Marathon Distance Festival" under the able direction of our Race Director, Todd Waldron.

The race was run on September 21st and as in years past, began at the Town Hall on Main Street in Chestertown.

One hundred sixty four (164) runners and walkers took place in this years event. All that participated experienced a great race with wonderful weather and outstanding camaraderie.

Special thanks to the many volunteers who assisted at this years event where they maintained water stations and provided directions to runners.

2019 Thank You BBQ

This years Thank You BBQ was again held at Cronins Golf Resort. A total of 71 people attended the event which was our largest group to date.



A report was read about the activities of the Fund since August of last year. A Q&A session followed the presentation.

All those in attendance spoke positively of the efforts of the past year and enjoyed an evening of business, socializing and good food.



2019 Scholarship Program

This year the Helpers Fund was able to award a total of 4 scholarships to worthy graduating seniors. These scholarships are paid out in two installments, the first half at graduation and the second half at the start of the students' second semester.

This year's recipients and the colleges that they are attending are:

Chloe Howe at SUNY Adirondack

Sydney Gagnon at Hartwick College

Victoria Campbell at SUNY Plattsburgh

Alison Bruce at SUNY New Paltz

Our congratulations and best wishes to these students as they begin the pursuit of their college degrees.

****New Effort****

Helpers Fund / HHHN Medical Assistance Program

Earlier this year, a long time resident of Chestertown, Susan Jensen, passed away unexpectedly.

Friends, relatives and associates of Susan made memorial contributions to the Helpers Fund in her memory. A rather significant amount of monies were raised through this effort.

The Helpers Fund used this very generous support to meet an identified need in the community. That need was to assist people at the federal poverty level in the payment of medical bills.

Hudson Headwaters has a program for those individuals at the poverty level to receive medical care, on a sliding scale.

With this in mind, the Helpers Fund started a grant to Hudson Headwaters called the "Susan Jensen, RN Memorial Fund" with the sole purpose of providing assistance to residents of Chestertown, Pottersville and Brant Lake that meet the federal guidelines for poverty assistance.

The Helpers Fund has provided a grant to cover medical assistance in three areas:

The first area is one of financial assistance directed towards co-pays that the qualified individuals must pay.

The second part is a year end reimbursement of prescription costs incurred by those qualified individuals. Hudson Headwaters provides \$350 of funding for prescriptions to each individual in the program on an annual basis. The Helpers Fund effort will provide assistance in the shortfall between what the HHHN provides and the total amount spent by the patient.

The third element is the provision of medical supplies, only at the Chester Health Center and only for residents of Chestertown, Pottersville or Brant Lake. These supplies are provided to individuals that require items such as testing equipment for diabetes, blood pressure machines or wound care.

HHHN will administer the funds and provide clients with a letter explaining that the Helpers Fund, through the Susan Jensen, RN Memorial Fund, has either paid their normal sliding scale payment, reimbursed them for the cost of prescriptions during the year or provided them with the medical supplies they require and do not have the where with all to pay for.

Reports on utilization will be provided on both a quarterly and a year end basis so that we can track the benefit gained and the ongoing cost.

We are very excited about the prospects of this new program and feel that it is a worthwhile compliment to the dental program which we initiated in May of this year. We are confident that these programs will have a positive impact on both the overall health and well being of the folks who participate in this effort.