



The Helpers Fund Always Ready With A Helping Hand

6318B Main Street, P.O. Box 691

Chestertown, NY 12817

What we've
been up to!

Fall 2021



Our year is coming to an end and with it, hopefully, an end to the restrictions we have encountered due to Covid-19.

Our exposure to Covid has allowed us the opportunity to experience the thoughtfulness and generosity of both people in our community and visitors to our community. We have seen a true concern being expressed for our neighbors and the less fortunate of our locality.

As you might expect, a number of individuals in Chestertown, Pottersville and Brant Lake have faced challenges during this period. Thanks to the support from our donor base the Fund was available to help those in need... and we did.

We have been able to provide a "helping hand" with food distribution through our food pantry. Additionally, we provided emergency food to people that are not part of the food pantry.

We have assisted people that needed transportation to and from medical appointments. We have helped people keep their automobiles safe so they could continue to work and make their daily travels a little less stressful.

All that we have been able to do has been a direct reflection of the support

and commitment of the community at large and the financial support of our donors.

THANK YOU!

Here are some of the areas that we have been able to offer help:

General Assistance

- We have continued our "partnership" with Hudson Headwaters Health Network by providing financial assistance to a number of individuals and families for medical visits, dental procedures, prescription co-pays and medically necessary materials. This assistance was provided to people in Chestertown, Pottersville and Brant Lake and totaled more than \$3000. This magnitude of support was provided even with medical visits and dental care being limited as a result of the pandemic.
- Supplied \$2000 in heating assistance during this period to both individuals and institutions within our community.

Food Pantry

- More than 40 families from Chestertown and Pottersville have participated in the Food Pantry since our last newsletter.

- Purchased and distributed turkeys, hams and over 350 pounds of fresh meat at semi-monthly and holiday food distributions.
- Shared over \$1500 in TOPS cards as well as vouchers to be used at the Farmers Market to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables.
- The TOPS cards are to be used for the purchase of food and household goods not provided in the food pantry. This includes items such as dairy, produce and personal healthcare items.

This is a brief overview of some of the successful actions that were taken to assist our neighbors since our last report.

Special Project

A local citizen asked for assistance in repairing the roof on her mobile home. After inspecting the mobile home it was determined that repairs to the existing roof were not feasible and a "Peaked Roof" would be required to straddle the mobile home to protect it from the winters snow load as well as to prevent the leaking which was occurring when it was raining.

The job was approved and is currently under development. Photos were not available as of the writing of the newsletter but will be presented in the spring.

Backpack Program

The "Backpack Program" was renewed for another year. As a result of this program 30 children at North Warren Central School will receive a supply of food each Friday so they are able to have nourishment over the weekend.

This is the third year that the Helpers Fund in partnership with a couple from Adirondack, has sponsored this program. It is expected that we will continue this effort, which we have been involved with for five years, into the future.

The program cost approximately \$5000 per year.

Annual Thank You Dinner



After a one year hiatus, we had our annual thank you dinner at Cronins Golf Resort in Warrensburg.

A total of 59 people attended this years event and all seemed to enjoy the socialization, hot dogs, hamburgers and soft drinks.

It was seen as a small step back to normalcy.



Breaking bread with like minded people.

Annual Holiday Drive and Gift Distribution

The annual holiday drive is underway and the gift distribution program has remained



without change. We will continue to provide two items of clothing to each adult and four items of clothing and one toy to each child under 18.

We are expecting a growth in participation this year over previous years.

Your continued support of this years fund drive will be greatly appreciated.

Thanks for your support Nora!



Nora Mongan giving deposit bottles to the Helpers Fund. Nora has contributed several hundred dollars to the Fund in each of the past several years as a result of her collection and redemption of deposit bottles.

"Dinner For Two" Raffle

Our 19th annual "Dinner for Two" raffle was conducted in June of this year. It was again a very successful event

First Prize – Lorraine Altman of Schroon Lake

Second Prize – Laura and Richard Klinski of North River

Third Prize – Susan and Thomas Sliva of Chestertown

The Fund thanks you for your support of this annual event and hopes to see you back next year.



The Board at the drawing of Dinner for Two

2021 Scholarship Winners

This year a total of 4 Scholarships were awarded.

The recipients were:

Melena Gereau attending Russell Sage College

Jasmina Brown attending SUNY Adirondack

Ezra Heath attending Clinton County Community College

Danielle Kersey attending SUNY Oneonta

We wish each of our recipients the best of luck and success in their future endeavors.

Outreach

If you know of someone who may need assistance, please do not hesitate to refer them to the Helpers Fund so we can determine their eligibility for assistance.

Ask them call our line at (518) 494-5565 where they can request an application. The application will be sent to them without delay.

Have a wonderful holiday season, Be Safe, Stay Well and as always ... Thank You!