



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 2023



General Information

The Fund has been quite active since our last newsletter in the spring of this year. Most of the activity that we have been involved in was similar to that which we have experienced in the past.

Your support of our organization has played a critical role in assuring that the needs of the underserved in the community are taken care of.

Some of our activities during the past several months are listed below:

General Assistance

- We have expanded our assistance in the Schroon Lake facility by providing a supply

cabinet of required medical supplies that are disseminated to patients with limited financial abilities. This cabinet is similar to the one we have been providing to the HHHN Chestertown facility for the past several years.

- Our "partnership" with Hudson Headwaters Health Network continues to provide 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, Brant Lake and Schroon Lake.
- Provided funding for clearing and removing fallen trees that were downed by a wind storm impacting areas of Brant lake. The elderly occupant of the home was unable to pay for the required cleanup.



Some of the damage caused by storm in Brant Lake

- Continued our support of High Peaks Hospice to cover expenses incurred, and not reimbursed, by insurance companies covering individuals

in Chestertown, Pottersville and Brant Lake.

- Provided \$1500 in financial assistance to a young woman requiring medical supplies used to administer required medications.
- Continued providing utility assistance to individuals requiring assistance in our area.
- Provided more than \$500 in gasoline to individuals requiring travel to receive dialysis and other medical services outside of our area.

Food Pantry

- More than 30 families from Chestertown and Pottersville have participated in the Food Pantry since our last newsletter.
- We have continued our purchase of fresh meat for distribution at semi-monthly food pantries.
- Provided TOPS cards totaling more than \$3700 to participants in the Food Pantry. The cards are used to purchase food and household goods not provided by the food pantry. These items include dairy, produce and personal healthcare items.
- Provided more than \$1000 in emergency food and TOPs card distributions to

address short term needs of individuals.

- Distributed more than \$800 in coupons that were redeemed for fruit and fresh vegetables at the Chestertown Farmers Market.



Ro Rounds and Kathy DeBartolo at the Farmers Market

This is a sampling of some of the actions taken in support of a number of our most needy neighbors since our last report.

During the past 5 months The Helpers Fund has expended more than \$26,000 to support less fortunate people in our community!

Your support and generosity, as always, is appreciated!

Scholarships

Scholarships were awarded this year to the following individuals:

Blaise Bearor who will be attending SUNY Morrisville
Kaitlyn Stonitsch who will be attending SUNY Cobleskill
Zoe Bennett who will be attending North Country Community College

General Assistance to Organizations that support our mission

Since our last newsletter the Fund has made contributions to two organizations that support our mission and have assisted us in the past in areas that we have not covered.

The first organization that we contributed to was Lake George WIN. This is an organization that has assisted us in situations where assistance was requested but we did not have expertise in the necessary services.

The second organization was the Adirondack Mission Soup Kitchen. This organization both makes and distributes, each week, homemade soup to folks in need of nutrition. We felt that this organization was a great compliment to efforts we provide through the Food Pantry.

We thank these organizations for the support they provide the community and that they have provided to the Helpers Fund in meeting the needs of some of our individuals requesting assistance.

WGY Christmas Wish Grant

During the summer months we were requested to make a brief presentation at the annual meeting of the East Shore Schroon Lake Association (ESSLA). We welcomed the opportunity to speak about the fund and some of the things that it has done to help people in the community during their time of need.

That presentation resulted in our receipt of a WGY Christmas Wish grant provided through the iHeart organization as well as general donation from attendees.

The Fund is appreciative of the support we have received from ESSLA and give our most sincere thank you to iHeart and their charitable organization.

Back Pack Program

The Helpers Fund is once again sponsoring North Warren Central School's Backpack Program. This will be our 6th year of participation in this very worthwhile program.

This year, as with all other things, the cost to sponsor the program increased. The cost increased substantially, experiencing a 69.7% increase over the preceding year.

The Fund believes strongly in the mission and objectives of the Backpack program and signed on to sponsor it for the coming school year.

In assuming this substantial increase in cost, the Fund would like to express its

sincere gratitude to the two individuals that have supported this effort since its inception.

Dinner for Two

The Dinner for Two raffle was held this past summer and, as always, it was well received.

This years winners were:

1 st Prize	Helen Nicolas of Chestertown
2 nd Prize	Shep Peck of Chestertown
3 rd Prize	Pam Scavera of Schroon Lake

Congratulations to this years winners.

Thank You BBQ

This year's BBQ was held at Cronin's Golf Resort as is has been in past years. The evening was well attended, although inclement weather caused the event to be held indoors instead of on the patio.

The festivities were hosted by Nancy Fregoe and well received by the attendees.

Outreach

If you know of someone who may need assistance ask them call our line at (518) 494-5565 where they can request an application.

If they should require assistance in completing the required documentation a Board member will gladly assist them in the completion of the application.

**Be Safe, Stay Well and as always ...
Thank You!**