



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!

Spring 2019



The fall and winter of 2018-2019 has been a busy time at the Helpers Fund. It included efforts on our annual Holiday Drive, the selection, purchasing and distribution of Christmas gifts to folks in our community and providing assistance with heat, food, medical and electric service.

The requests for assistance were for the most part associated with the normal flow of requests but there were a couple that we had not experienced before. The reality is that we were able to meet all of the bonafide requests that were presented

During this same period we identified a need in our community that had not previously surfaced. As a result we initiated a program in cooperation with Hudson Headwaters Health Foundation that we believe will benefit a number of people in our community both in the short and long term. More about that later.

Fall and winter 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 delivery of propane, kerosene and oil for heat
- Provided financial assistance for medically approved prescriptions
- Provided emergency payments to National Grid
- Paid \$1000 in scholarship payments
- Provided emergency rent, food and National Grid electric payment to an at risk family with limited financial stability.

Food Pantry



- Between 50 and 75 families served each month
- Our fresh meat distribution at each food pantry distribution continues to be very well received
- Provided special Thanksgiving meals to 29 families, special Christmas meals to 27 families and special Easter meals to 30 families. This distribution is in addition to the semi-monthly food pantry distributions
- Shared over \$3000 in 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 nutrition assistance is a result of the very generous support of our supporters.

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 are nearing the end our third year of support to the North Warren Backpack Program. This program has provided support to 30 eligible students throughout the past year and has ensured that these students 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) were 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 committed to underwrite the program for an additional two (2) years which will include funding through the 2020-2021 school year.

Annual Holiday Drive

The 2018 Holiday Drive continued to demonstrate the generosity of our supporters.

We are confident that our programs to support those most in need in our community will continue because of this successful fundraiser.



Noel Cassabone at the Gift Distribution

Annual Holiday Gift Distribution

The effort to supply and distribute clothing to those in need in the community has been a hallmark of the Helpers Fund effort during the Holiday Season.

With the generous assistance of the parishioners of St. Isaac Jogues Roman Catholic Church we were able to supply requested clothing to 21 children under the age of 18.

A total of 27 adults received items of clothing that would help them meet their personal need in the new year.

The Fund continued its effort to provide at least one toy to each child so their Christmas morning might be a little merrier.

This annual effort provides four items of clothing to each child and one item of clothing to each adult that places a request thru the Food Pantry. It is an extremely meaningful program and allows folks to stay a bit warmer during the cold winter months.

“Dinner for Two” Raffle

Our 18th annual “Dinner for Two” raffle is underway. It continues one of our most

anticipated events. The funds raised through this effort go 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.

As in previous years the prizes are:

First Prize 12 - \$50 gift certificates

Second Prize 6 - \$50 gift certificates

Third Prize 3 - \$50 gift certificates

We hope you will support our efforts in making this the best year yet for “Dinner for Two”.

5-10K “Race for Hunger”

This year’s event will once again take place as part of the “Adirondack Marathon Distance Festival”.

Our event will take place on Saturday, September 21st and begin at the Town Hall on Main Street in Chestertown.

If you would like to participate or volunteer please contact our Race Director, Todd Waldron. Todd can be reached by e-mail at thwaldron73@hotmail.com.

Stewart’s Holiday Match

Stewart’s Holiday Match is an annual collection program, matched by Stewart’s Shops, to help kids all year long.

The Helpers Fund is proud to have been awarded and received an increased grant in 2018. We thank Stewart’s for all of their support to the local community.

We have previously been awarded grants from Stewart’s since 2015

*****New Effort*****

Helpers Fund / HHHN Dental Assistance Program

The Fund identified a need in the community to assist people at the federal poverty level in the payment of dental bills.

Hudson Headwaters has a program for those individuals at the poverty level to receive dental care, both maintenance and elective, on a sliding scale.

Beginning in May the Helpers Fund has joined forces with Hudson Headwaters in a pilot program to provide financial assistance for those individuals in the dental program that meet the sliding scale requirements.

The Helpers Fund has provided a grant to cover the dental maintenance of these people as well as a set amount that can be used for elective treatment.

HHHN will administer the funds and provide clients with a letter explaining that the Helpers Fund has paid for their normal sliding scale payment.

HHHN provides Dental care to 442 patients in the Chestertown, Pottersville and Brant Lake areas. Of that total, 39 people qualify for this pilot program.



L-R Jessica Rubin, Lynne Hagmann, Marc Miranda, John Hagmann

All monies associated with this grant will go directly and only to qualified patients from Chestertown, Pottersville and Brant Lake. Any monies not distributed this year will roll into the next year.

Reports on utilization will be provided on both a quarterly and a year end basis.

We are very excited about the prospects of this new program and the impact it may have on both the oral and overall health of the participants.



Noelle McCrum presenting a contribution from

The Adirondack Mountain Club Cold River Chapter