



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 2023



General Information

It has been a busy time at the Fund since our last newsletter in the Fall. We have been actively assisting all eligible people that have requested assistance in our area.

We have found ourselves addressing issues that have been commonplace over the years while resolving needs that were new to us and not previously encountered.

Some of our activities are listed below:

General Assistance

- We continue our "partnership" with Hudson Headwaters Health Network by providing financial assistance to a number of individuals and families for medical visits, dental procedures, prescription copays and medically necessary materials. This assistance was provided to people in Chestertown,

Pottersville, Brant Lake and Schroon Lake.

- Provided funding for the replacement of an elderly woman's hot water heater that no longer functioned.
- 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.
- Purchased a mobility scooter for an amputee in Pottersville.
- Provided more than \$4500 in heating and utility assistance to citizens requiring assistance in our area
- Provided cash assistance to an individual in Schroon Lake who was the victim in fatal residential fire.
- Provided dentures to an individual in Brant Lake
- Provided financial assistance to an individual to purchase medication for an ongoing and critical health situation.

Food Pantry

- More than 30 families from Chestertown and Pottersville have participated in the Food Pantry since our last newsletter.
- Continued our purchase of fresh meat for distribution at semi-monthly food pantries.
- Provided TOPS cards to participants in the Food

Pantry. The cards are used to purchase food and household goods not provided in the food pantry. These items include dairy, produce and personal healthcare items.

- Completed distribution of holiday meal ingredients for both the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.
- Provided emergency food and TOPS card distributions to address short term needs of individuals.

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 6 months The Helpers Fund has expended more than \$33,000 to support less fortunate people in our community!

Your support and generosity, as always, is appreciated!

Scholarships

Payments of the second half of last year's scholarship award was paid out to qualified recipients.

Planning and preparation is underway for this year's scholarship award process. As was done last year, we expect to provide a total of up to three scholarships for graduating seniors in both the North Warren Central School

and Schroon Lake Central School Districts.

This year will be the first award of a scholarship to honor Mr. Carl Lamm, the individual who founded the Helpers Fund in Chestertown.

Annual Holiday Drive and Gift Distribution

The annual holiday drive in 2022 was a major success for the Helpers Fund. As our major fundraiser of the year, we are very gratified by the generosity and support which was shown by our donors.



Katie Shaw of Queen Village Campground and Lonnie Shenefield of The Bullhouse with toys they donated to this years clothing and toy distribution

As we have done for many years, The Helpers Fund provided Christmas gifts for members of our community that might have otherwise had a less than merry holiday season.

This year we were able to serve more than 26 families with 86 adults and children during the holidays. We provided each of the adults with two pieces of clothing of their choice. Children were given four items of clothing. Additionally, each child received one toy to make their Christmas a little more joyful.

As a result of your generosity, the joy of the holidays was a reality to many people that might otherwise not experience that happiness.

NWCSD Childrens Dental Clinic

The Helpers Fund has sponsored the annual spring dental clinic for children in North Warren Central School for the past two years.

The Hudson Headwaters dental team was at the school for 5 days in March. During these sessions the team provided examinations, cleanings and education on dental health to 38 students.

This service is provided to both improve the dental health of the students as well as increase their awareness of what they should be doing to maintain and improve their dental health.

"Dinner For Two" Raffle

Our 22nd annual "Dinner for Two" raffle is currently underway. Our usual format is being followed with the first prize winner receiving twelve (12) \$50 gift certificates to local and area restaurants. Our second place winner will receive (6) \$50 gift certificates and our third place winner will receive three (3) \$50 gift certificates.

Ticket will be distributed using our usual mail process. Additionally, raffle tickets may be purchased at the Main Street Ice Cream Parlor in Chestertown.

We encourage you to participate in this year's program. It is a great way to support the Helpers Fund and possibly sample some of the areas best restaurants.

Community Service Assistance



The North Warren CSD has a program of community service assistance that students must complete before they graduate from high school.

The fund was approached by Ms. Riley Mosher, a sophomore at the high school, to volunteer time assisting in office work.

Without hesitation we took Riley up on her offer to assist and used her to file correspondence that had accumulated in the office.

Thank You Riley!

Stewart's Shops Grant

The fund was the recipient of a "Holiday Match" grant from Stewarts Shops.

This annual program is conducted by Stewarts and awards are made to organizations that serve children in their communities.

The Fund is appreciative of the support we have received from Stewarts Shops and hopes to be a recipient next year.

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.

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!**