

# **Greater Sullivan County Community Relief Fund**

## Impact Report April 1, 2020- March 31, 2021



Funded items for additional food storage and enhanced distribution for Got Lunch! Newport

#### Acknowledgements

Greater Sullivan Strong would like to thank the many funding partners who have donated to the Community Relief Fund. Without your generosity, many of the Greater Sullivan County community partners, whose work supports some of our most vulnerable populations, would be unable overcome the challenges of COVID-19 and thus unable to provide their services. We thank Dartmouth-Hitchcock Population Health, Dartmouth-Hitchcock Philanthropy, the Endowment for Health, New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, and the many local donors of Greater Sullivan County.

In addition, Greater Sullivan Strong would like to acknowledge the work of our fiscal agent, Sullivan County and our fundraising entity, Sullivan County United Way for their dedication to the region. These organizations both came forward in a time of need to help support the local community in preparing for and recovering from the challenges caused by COVID-19. We are grateful for their continued partnership.

As we continue in the mission of Greater Sullivan Strong, to activate in times of crisis to increase community capacity, health equity, and resiliency, these partners allow our region to continue to be...

# Greater Sullivan STRESSIG

## **By The Numbers**

	52 Number of non-profit requests granted	Over \$149,000 have been granted to non-profits in Greater Sullivan County to support families and individuals experiencing difficulties during the pandemic through the Relief Fund
	<b>150</b> Seniors	A local senior center was able to purchase about 100 meals per week, new puzzles, and chess sets for seniors to help tackle social isolation and ensure food security.
	800 People	A local food hub was able to serve nearly 800 people through partnerships with food pantries and school backpack programs with regular and reliable access to healthy local food, including fresh produce and fresh baked bread.
R	<b>57</b> Headlamps	A Behavioral Health program serving Greater Sullivan County was able to purchase and distribute headlamps and batteries to utilize for safe outdoor appointments and services out in the community during the darker winter hours.

#### Organizations That Have Been Provided Funding Support

#### **Family Supports**

TLC Family Resource Center Baby Steps Family Assistance Valley Court Diversion Program Sullivan County Humane Society Southwestern Community Services Shining Success Millie's Place



#### **Food Access**

Got Lunch! Newport Claremont Soup Kitchen Kearsarge Kares Kearsarge Food Hub Charlestown Community Garden Kearsarge Lake Sunapee Community Food Pantry Colby-Sawyer College Sullivan County Nutrition

#### Maintaining Older Adult Health

Maple Manor Apartments Claremont Senior Center Kearsarge Council on Aging- Chapin Center ServiceLink Lake Sunapee VNA and Hospice



### Health and Other Organizations

Sullivan County Oral Health Collaborative Headrest, Inc. West Central Behavioral Health The Center for Recovery Resources The Greater Claremont Chamber of Commerce Community Clothing Closet at SAU 43

## **Got Lunch! Newport**

Got Lunch! delivers groceries to food insecure families, using Covid-safe protocols. We have doubled the number of families and children during the pandemic and served 274 unduplicated children in 2020. Given the doubling of our size and the prospect of the church reopening we are in need of: additional shelving for storage, a rolling cart for moving packed boxes & bags to the parking lot, large coolers on wheels for frozen meats, cheese, etc. in preparation for packing, plastic bins for food storage and boxes & reusable fabric bags for delivery.



## West Central Behavioral Health

We were also able to promptly distribute headlamps to our Claremont and Newport staff for both clients and staff to utilize for safe outdoor appointments and services out in the community during darker winter hours. Funding to provide safe transportation and safe outdoor activities in the dark has helped both clients and staff to feel safer, allowed clients to continue receiving essential mental health treatment, and (we hope) helped clients and staff to avoid contracting COVID-19.

57 headlamps were purchased and distributed to West Central clinicians and case managers in the Claremont and Newport offices. Clients, therapists, and case managers were able to use the lamps for outdoor services in the community, with the added benefit of exercising while talking. Headlamps were sanitized after each use. An estimated 15 clients utilized these headlamps on a regular basis (weekly), while others utilized them periodically. Headlamp use was not as high as anticipated, and some of the headlamps will be redistributed to InSHAPE clients (an exercise program for those living with severe mental illness) to allow for outdoor exercise after dark.

# What our Community Partners are Saying about the Community Relief Fund

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The Community Relief fund was absolutely instrumental in our ability to expand our food security programs and meet this growing need. - Kearsarge Food Hub VCDP has significantly upgraded its internet service... <u>We are no longer</u> <u>bogged down by outages or dropped</u> <u>connections when video-conferencing.</u> The relief dollars helped remedy out COVID-19-related challenges immediately. The funding process was simple and guick.

The generosity of the COVID-19 Community Relief Fund has continued to support our organization to allow us to provide senior services and to serve meals twice a week to seniors in Claremont and the surrounding communities. As we plod through this pandemic, we are looking for alternative activities for our seniors. Adding more puzzles to our library will be welcome by many seniors.

#### Valley Court Diversion Programs

This help was critical in allowing clients to continue to receive services – especially those lacking the equipment or social skills for remote videoconference appointments.

#### **Claremont Senior Center**

With your generous contribution, we were able to distribute snacks within 10 days of being made aware of the increasing need. - River Valley Community College West Central Behavioral Health