



## An Update from MUW President Liz LaRose

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### Dear MUW Supporters,

The 2023 *Imagine What We Can Do Together* annual campaign is well underway! Because of your generosity, we are 32% to our \$1,518,000 goal! If you have made a gift already, we thank you! If you would like to make a gift, click [here](#).

In recent newsletters, we've shared examples of how your support impacts people in our region. Today we'll take a deeper look at the challenges of ensuring financial security for our neediest neighbors.



### Our Community's Financial Situation is Dire

MUW tracks the percentage of individuals living at or below the federal poverty line in our region, which helps us set priorities and determine how to best support the organizations in our area providing support to those living in poverty. In 2021, the Federal Poverty Level for a family of four was \$26,500\*.

***In 2021, 9.9% of Cheshire County residents lived at or below 100% of the poverty level. Cheshire County ranked 9th out of the 10 counties in NH in the percentage of residents living in poverty\*\*.***

Read that again. It's a staggering situation that affects the well-being of too many individuals and families today and will impact the health of our region for years to come. Read more about financial need – and the impact of your gifts – in the [MUW 2022 Community Impact Report](#).

### Why it Matters



MUW is hosting a [Business After Hours](#) event with Greater Monadnock Collaborative and Monadnock Community Early Learning Center (MCELC).

Wed, October 18th  
5:30-7:00  
MCELC, 5 Community Ln  
Peterborough

Check out the [details here](#) and mark your calendar!



Click [here](#) to see past issues of our newsletter!

I know the need for financial security and access to basic necessities such as housing, food, and medical care seems obvious to all of us. Fortunately, you, our generous donors and volunteers, have stepped up! Last year, your donations supported:

- The County Emergency Housing Collaborative (CCEHC) with a grant of \$76,000. 510 residents received emergency housing assistance through CCEHC
- The Monadnock Food Pantries Collective (MFPC) with a grant of \$90,000. 2,196 visitors to local food pantries serving 22 towns received food through MFPC
- 5 childcare centers with grants totaling \$110,000. 257 children received tuition assistance for quality, affordable services at MUW-supported childcare centers

It seems overwhelming at times. But you've proven that when we work together, we can address our toughest challenges and make our communities stronger! And I know we'll continue to do so.

Sincerely,  
Liz LaRose, President

\*Source:

<https://aspe.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/documents/d2eececdc1ca66dfd41ca1d2a524e076/HHS-Poverty-Guidelines-Fed-Register-2021.pdf>

\*\*Source:

<https://www.census.gov/data/datasets/2021/demo/saipe/2021-state-and-county.html>

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