A Campaign Update from Liz LaRose

Dear Friends of MUW,

As we say “goodbye” to 2020, I’d like to share some good things that we accomplished this year. We came together as a community to make sure our neighbors in need had the support they deserved. You donated (many of you gave more than once), volunteered, and advocated on their behalf. It may take years before our community fully rebounds from the Covid-19 pandemic, but your dedication helped keep it whole.

Your support of the Covid-19 Relief Fund and the Better Together Campaign helped our partner agencies shift to meet their new realities and the realities of their clients. These dedicated professionals woke up to a different world in mid-March but it did not stop them from carrying out their missions. Kudos go to each and every one of them for shifting so rapidly. I’m proud to share with you just a few of their enormous accomplishments in 2020:

Monadnock Food Pantry Collective
- The members of the Monadnock Food Pantry Collective quickly pivoted to drive-through/curbside delivery methods and all but one member pantry continued serving their clients without a break.
- The pantries provided Holiday boxes in November and December and will continue to serve their communities, albeit in a revised fashion, throughout the pandemic.

Monadnock Region Afterschool Collective
- 83 families were provided with food support
- 25 staff took advantage of online professional development
- 335 youth were provided with weekly summer activity packets and another 100 per week were provided with face-to-face summer programming
- 358 children participated in face-to-face afterschool support, an additional number supported remotely.

The Grapevine (a member of the Monadnock Alliance for Families)
- Nearly 1,500 people were served representing 16 towns in our region.
- When schools and businesses were forced to close this past March, The Grapevine quickly adapted to this new reality:
  - Programs and Support groups for parents and teens as well as home visiting moved to a virtual setting.
  - Outreach to get people’s basic needs met was done through increased communication and

Not yet a donor?

We are close!
We are at 95% of goal and need to raise only $62,000 more! Individual gifts and workplace campaigns continue to arrive daily and we hope to announce a successful finish during the week of January 18th.

Stay tuned for more updates!

Follow us on our social media!
There are some easy options for you:
- **Text MUW to 41444**
- **Donate online**
- **Transfer Stocks and Securities**
- **Donor Advised Fund**
- **Mail a check to:** 23 Center Street Keene, NH 03431

PLEASE NOTE:
With the importance of social distancing, we are limiting the number of hours that our staff come into the office to process gifts received via US Mail. We are asking donors to use our safe, secure donation portal whenever possible. However, we gratefully accept checks from anyone who prefers to donate in that manner and we will ensure that they are processed in a timely manner.

Cheshire County Emergency Housing Collaborative
- 65 households were provided with direct client assistance to avoid a housing crisis.
- To ensure that community members remained safe, all shelters enhanced their cleaning protocols and educated clients about hand-washing and social distancing.
- To adhere to social distancing requirements and safely house community members, three sites were quickly adapted as overflow shelters.

Winchester Learning Center
- 60 to 80 children were served in 2020.
- All staff remained employed and secure in their jobs.
- The Center remained open with generous support from our community.
- Families were provided with basic needs items such as diapers and wipes and food gift cards.
- Through our outreach efforts and the generous support of the community, 119 children received toys for Christmas.

Happy New Year to all! I’m grateful to live in this caring community and look forward to all of the great things we can accomplish in 2021!

Sincerely,
Liz LaRose
President

Thank you to our generous sponsors:

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