



SHARE UPDATE

NEWS FROM SHARE OUTREACH

Issue 4

Fall 2012

Debating the State of Poverty

The campaign season brings out lots of statistics about the poor: the number of Americans on food stamps, the percentage of children receiving free lunch, and how welfare recipients should be allowed to spend their money. This list goes on, as does the debate about how the government should support those in poverty. While the rhetoric is heard on radio and television commercials, read in the op/ed pages, and debated in blogs, the fact is that those who are hungry or homeless or without medical care need our attention *today*. They are not as interested in policy changes as they are in feeding their families and keeping a roof over their heads.

The summer is both a joyful and a sobering time for SHARE. Lots of children come with their parents to the SHARE Center for food or help with rent, electricity, water, or medicine. We get to see children full of wonder and promise, just like our own, but we understand that they live in poverty and struggle for the things most of us take for granted. SHARE can assist these families only because of your support and while the government discusses how and how much poor families should be helped, SHARE offers them a true safety net.

On behalf of the families who received a week's worth of groceries from the food pantry, thank you. Those total over 1,000 for the first six months of 2012. From the family whose dad was diagnosed with a serious illness when he went for an employment physical and is now unable to work, thank you. While they piece their financial life back

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UPCOMING EVENTS

October 1, 2012

Sign up to adopt a SHARE family for the holidays

December 1, 2012

SHARE Holiday Fair 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM at the SHARE Center

SHARE Welcome New Board Members

SHARE Outreach recently welcomed several community members to its Board of Directors. Joining board members Cynthia Dokmo, Wil Sullivan, Kirsten Durzy, Brenda Nadeau, Kathy Sharkey, Carrie James, Marilyn Peterman, and Jody Stephens are:

Paul Spiess of Amherst has a long history of community and civic volunteerism, having served in the NH legislature, on the Board of the Endowment for Health, and NH Citizen's Health Initiative. He is currently Director of the NH Fiscal Policy Institute and President and Director of the Souhegan Valley Interfaith Housing Corporation. Mr. Spiess serves as SHARE's Treasurer.

Richard Rowe of Brookline is President, U.S. Government Products, Crane Currency, Div. Of Crane & Co. Mr. Rowe is a Board member of the Greater Nashua Boys and Girls Club and brings to SHARE's Board extensive experience in business and strategic planning.

Milford native, **Janet Langdell**, brings a background in community health nursing and strong civic involvement. Ms. Langdell is currently Chair of the Souhegan Valley Transportation Collaborative, Milford Planning Board, and Nashua Regional Planning Commission.

Shannon Chandley of Amherst is active in many civic organizations and a Board member of the Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains. Ms. Chandley is a former NH state legislator.

Local builder, **Steven Desmarais** of Amherst, is a 26 year member of the Milford Rotary Club and long time board member of the Souhegan Valley Boys and Girls Club and Opportunity Networks. Mr. Desmarais is currently a member of the Nashua Region Advisory Board for the NH Charitable Foundation.

Robert Grunbeck of Amherst is a local real estate developer and co-trustee of the Grunbeck Family Foundation. He currently serves on the UNH Hospitality Advisory board and is a former member of the Amherst School Board, Mount St. Mary's School Board in Manchester NH and a past President of the PSPA at Phillips Academy, Andover.

SHARE Honors Carolyn Momenee

For over 20 years, **Carolyn Momenee** has been the heart of SHARE. Serving in many capacities, Carolyn was co-director of SHARE for many years with founder, Mariette Facques. Today, Carolyn serves as the Food Pantry Manager.

Carolyn's nine children have blessed her with a multitude of in-laws and grandchildren. She and her husband, Dave, now retired, are able to spend lots of time enjoying them – a great testament to a wonderful family. This fall, Carolyn will be easing out of her duties with SHARE and enjoying retirement with Dave, allowing her to focus on family. The SHARE staff, volunteers, and clients will miss her sense of humor and commitment to those in need in the Souhegan Valley.

SHARE Golf 2012

The fourth annual SHARE Golf Tournament was recently held at the Souhegan Woods Golf Club in Amherst. More than 60 golfers came out on a somewhat rainy summer day to support SHARE. Special thanks go to tournament organizers John Milan, Tyler Nadeau, Barbara Powers, and Brenda Nadeau and to local businesses including, Kevin Stephens of Union Street Grill who donated the lunch and members of the Milford Masonic Lodge who served as grill masters.

Mission Statement

The mission of the SHARE Program is to provide food, clothing, and emergency financial assistance to area families in need, who do not qualify for government assistance, or for whom that assistance is insufficient or delayed in coming. SHARE also collaborates with other organizations to provide access to services and information, with a goal to promote self reliance, while maintaining the dignity of clients.

How to Help SHARE

- **Food and Clothing**

Donations for the **Food Pantry** can be made at the SHARE Center during business hours, at local churches, or at bins in Milford Shaw's, Stop n' Shop, and Market Basket grocery stores, and Curves in Milford. The Food Pantry accepts nonperishable foods, paper goods, and personal hygiene items as well as toilet paper and large size diapers. During the fall, SHARE welcomes donations of items for holiday food baskets such as juice, canned vegetables, gravy, and stuffing.

Gently used, in-season clothing can be brought to the **Clothing Barn** during their shopping hours. The Barn is always in need of new underwear and socks, as well.

- **Adopt a Family**

Adopt a family in need for the holidays. Call the SHARE Center at **603-673-9898** or email holiday@sharenh.org for more information.

- **Furniture and Household Goods**

Designate SHARE as the recipient of profits from your consigned goods. Donations of furniture and home goods in good, clean condition are welcome at Consigning for Good located at 172 South Street, Milford. Call **603-249-9481** for more information.

Dancing the Night Away

Take a small group of friends who love dancing to live music, mix with their favorite band, add a pinch of commitment to those less fortunate, and you have evenings full of good times for the benefit of SHARE.



Dance committee members (from left): Chris Fournier, Wendy Mace, Brenda Nadeau, Steve Keskinen, and Colleen Moynihan, enjoy an evening with the Transistors at Hampshire Hills for the benefit of SHARE.

Late last year, friends Steve Keskinen, Chris Fournier, Colleen Moynihan, Wendy Mace, and Brenda Nadeau — all followers of the local band, the Transistors — decided it would be great to host the band for an evening of fun and dance for the benefit of SHARE. With the support of Hampshire Hills and many local businesses, dances were held in January and May, raising close to \$7,000 for SHARE.

Debating the State of Poverty (continued from page 1)

together, SHARE is able to help with rent, food, and medicine. Thank you for allowing us to help so many keep their electricity, heat, and water. Thank you from those we assist with prescriptions. Many of them are awaiting Medicare or Medicaid benefits or some sort of prescription assistance. Your support has allowed us to ensure SHARE clients do not go without needed and often life-saving medications.

Researchers and politicians will continue to debate why people are poor and how we can best help them. This is important work, and the hope is that some day, there will be better ways to help people out of poverty. Until then, we need to continue the work that allows those who are poor, the basic necessities of food, housing, water, electricity, heat, and medicine, which allow them to live with the dignity all people deserve.



SHARE Outreach, Inc.
1 Columbus Avenue
Milford, NH 03055

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SHARE Center:

Main Office, Food Pantry, and Financial Assistance

1 Columbus Avenue
Milford, NH 03055

Telephone: 603-673-9898

www.sharenh.org

email: **info@sharenh.org**

No longer interested in receiving SHARE Update?
Call **603-673-9898** or email **info@sharenh.org** and
we will be happy to remove you from our mailing list.

SHARE is a community agency that depends on
many volunteers. Call or email the SHARE Center
if you would like to help.

How to Make a Financial Gift to SHARE

SHARE is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, Federal
Tax ID #20 4743388. All donations are tax-deductible.
A financial donation is the most flexible gift of all. There
are several ways to make a gift:

- Make a check payable to SHARE Outreach, Inc. and
mail to 1 Columbus Avenue, Milford, NH 03055
- Stop by the SHARE Center and make a cash, credit card,
or gift card donation.
- Make a secure online donation by visiting the SHARE
website, **www.sharenh.org**.

Call the SHARE Center to find out more about
planned giving.

facebook

The SHARE Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM and
Friday from 8:30 AM – 12:00 noon. The SHARE Clothing Barn, located on the property
of St. Patrick Church, 34 Amherst St. in Milford, is open Tuesday and Saturday from
10:00 AM - 12:00 noon and Wednesday and Thursday from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM