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Mary's and Aliyah's Accomplishments

February 27, 2023

From August 29, 2022 and until June 24, 2023, the Needy Fund has two Commonwealth Corps interns, Aliyah Pires and Mary Stetson, who assist with community engagement and client services tasks for the organization. In return, they gain professional development skills and opportunities for their own growth.

The Commonwealth Corps is a state-funded service internship program, run by the Massachusetts Service Alliance, that focuses on expanding volunteerism and strengthening community engagement. Program host sites are throughout the state—from Western Massachusetts to Cape Cod—and members have various backgrounds, ages, and skills. The Needy Fund was selected as one of the Commonwealth Corp's 16 host sites for the 2022-2023 program year.

Pires and Stetson have been helping with a multitude of projects in various areas of the organization:

- Client services: created a detailed guide of community resources to refer clients to that will continuously be updated moving forward, and is used by the client services team; they are also helping the client services team by sending resource letters and food assistance; and finally, they are fielding phone and email client service requests and processing client applications
- Outreach and social media: creating social media posts to grow the organization's social media presence, particularly on Instagram; have launched the Needy Fund's first newsletter; and have updated and created content for its website
- Fundraising and development: assisting with donor thank you letters; applying for event sponsorships; and event planning
- Volunteerism: helping plan the Needy Fund's upcoming volunteer program!

Finally, Mary and Aliyah are working on documentation of projects for posterity: transcribing processes and procedures that will help the Needy Fund continue all of the work they have done, once their service terms are completed.

The Needy Fund is grateful and fortunate to have Mary and Aliyah on our team!