



Your Giving in Action

SPRING 2024

2023 RECAP Another busy year made possible because of you!

Did you know that our small but dedicated staff fielded over 8,000 calls for assistance last year?

And while it's not possible to accommodate every request, your support enabled us to extend a helping hand to more than 4,150 neighbors, providing crucial financial aid, and preventing further financial hardship.

Many of the services we're able to provide are possible thanks to the invaluable partnerships we've cultivated with other organizations across the Cape & Islands. These collaborations form a robust network of support that extends far beyond our direct assistance, further stabilizing those in need and ensuring they receive comprehensive help.

You make a tangible difference in the lives of your neighbors right here on the Cape, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket, and we are humbled by your continued support.

Our mission

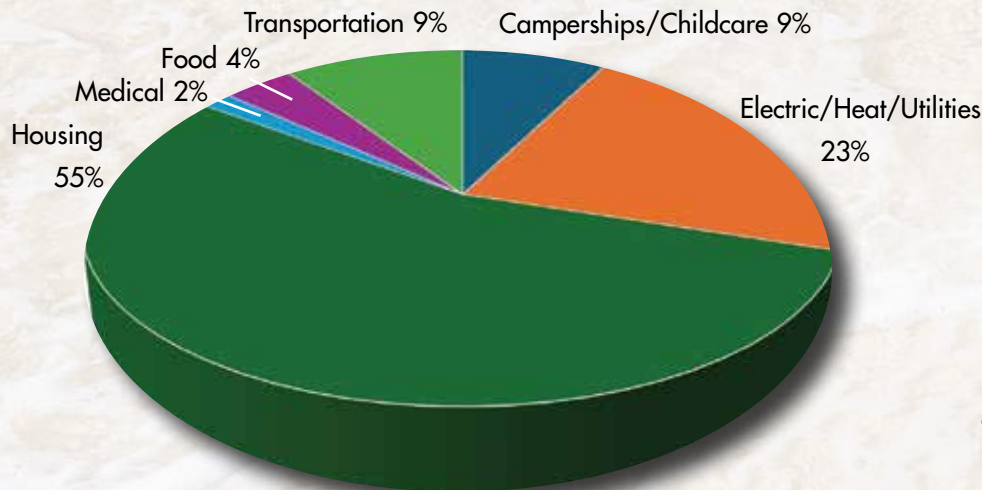
To provide urgent financial assistance and resources to our Cape & Islands neighbors.

Our vision

To foster a thriving Cape & Islands community where basic human needs are met.



How Your Support Helped Your Neighbors



*Thank you
for your
continued support!*

You helped a cancer patient with her rent!

Mary*, a woman fighting stage 4 cancer, called the Neighbors Fund for assistance with rent.

She had lived at the same address for over a decade and her landlord, sympathetic to her situation, told her he would not raise her affordable rent.

Unfortunately, that changed when the house was sold, and her new landlord raised the rent 60%. Despite the fact that she is nearing 80 and undergoing treatments, Mary still manages to work 2 days per week.

However, while she lives humbly and could manage the previous rent, this increase was too much for her to bear.

While Mary is seeking a more affordable housing



option, she reached out to the Neighbors Fund to see if we could help her with the difference between the old and new rent.

She was so afraid of being put out on the street with no place to live and recover after her treatments.

Your support allowed us to cover her rent difference, plus we put her in touch with elder services, senior housing, fuel assistance and other organizations on Cape Cod and the Islands to further stabilize her situation.

Mary never lost a roof over her head, so she was able to continue her treatments.

You made a difference to your neighbor Mary!



A local veteran needed help and you were there!

Never having to reach out for help before, Bob*, a veteran, was referred to the Neighbors Fund when two unfortunate and costly events occurred simultaneously: he needed an urgent dental procedure to improve his health, and his car broke down.

Without his car, Bob would not be able to get to and from work and dental and medical appointments. And without the dental procedure, he risked further illness.

Although Bob thought his savings might be able to cover the cost, he had to make a tough choice because paying for both was not an option.

Luckily, thanks to neighbors like you, we were able to help Bob get his teeth and his car fixed.

Bob can smile again because of you!



Run for Team Neighbors Fund!

We're looking for a few people to run (or walk) this year's Falmouth Road Race, which takes place on August 18.

The Falmouth Road Race is our largest in-person fundraiser of the year, which raised \$20,506 in 2023 – the most yet!

As a member of Team Neighbors Fund, you'll receive a free running bib, singlet, entry fee and our deepest appreciation! In exchange, we ask all runners to raise \$1,000 by inviting friends and family to support them.

As costs for basic needs such as food, utilities, and housing continue to increase, our services are needed more than ever.

For more information or to register, please contact our Falmouth Road Race Coordinator Aliyah Pires at ajp@neighborsfund.org.

You helped Elaine move into a new home!

No matter how long you've been on Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard or Nantucket, you know that our seasonal economies present unique challenges for residents, particularly those who rely on tourism for their livelihoods.

So as we get closer to summer, the Neighbors Fund anticipates an influx of calls from people struggling with the increased and fluctuating cost of living and housing, in particular.

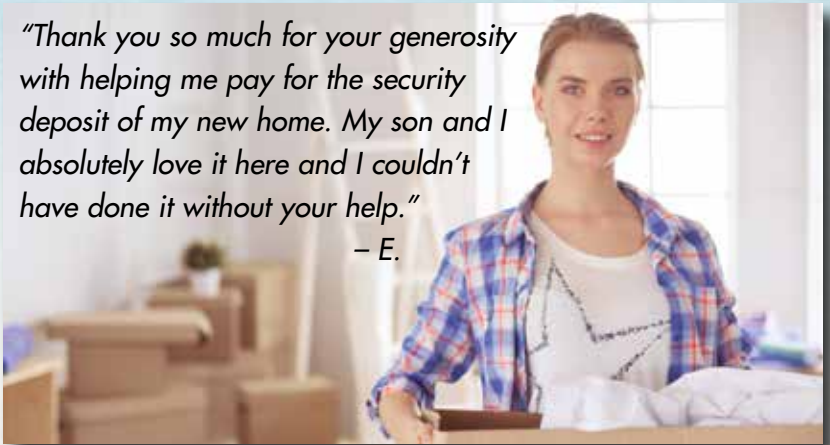
During the peak tourist season, rental prices skyrocket, making it difficult for year-round residents, especially those who live paycheck to paycheck, to find and afford stable housing.

The impact of moving multiple times a year can be profound, especially for children, disrupting their education and making it challenging for them to form lasting friendships and establish support networks.

To make matters worse, there's also the additional financial burden of moving, like

"Thank you so much for your generosity with helping me pay for the security deposit of my new home. My son and I absolutely love it here and I couldn't have done it without your help."

– E.



coming up with first and last month's rent, moving expenses, and utility setup fees.

Such was the case for a single mom, Elaine*, who got caught in the cycle of moving between winter and summer rentals. She and her small family had to move every 9 months or so.

Elaine contacted the Neighbors Fund and we provided her with referrals to affordable housing resources that could help her find a more permanent living solution. We also assisted with a partial security deposit and some moving expenses, so repeated moving will be a thing of the past!

Because of you, we were able to help! Thank you!

* names changed for privacy reasons

Words of Gratitude from Recipients of Your Generosity

“You made a difference. Sometimes when the world seems hard, so very, very hard and the situation seems impossible – one can reach out and a kindness is extended and the world once again is warm. Thank you.”
– N.

“THANK YOU! For helping my daughter and I through a horrific time, I am a true believer in paying it forward. Thank you ALL for your help – I'm healing and have you to be thankful for being part of that process.”
– J.D.

Thank You!



“Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your help and funding, I am so very grateful for folks like you who truly care about humanity.”
– Mrs. B.

Will you help make Camperships and Childcare possible this summer?

What happens when school is out and you're working more than 40 hours a week? Your children may be thrilled, but summer is also your busiest season. You certainly can't leave your children home alone. And while school is free, camp is not!

Last summer, thanks to the generosity of people like you, the Neighbors Fund provided campership opportunities to more than 100 Cape and Islands children, ensuring that their parents could continue to work.

For Angie*, a single mother living and working in the outer Cape, sending her young daughter to camp was a necessity. The financial assistance provided by the Neighbors Fund allowed Angie to start a new job and kept her daughter in care until she enters kindergarten in September.

We also receive calls for help from parents whose kids are too young to go to camp. They are struggling to cope with monthly childcare expenses that surpass their rent or mortgage payments.

Such was the case for Melanie*, a working mother who recently went through a divorce and is now raising three young children on her own. She considers herself lucky to have found a loving and safe daycare for her children. But the monthly childcare costs exceeded her monthly rent payment, and she received no child support.

As a result, Melanie found it incredibly challenging to make ends meet while juggling the demands of full-time work and single parenting. In her determination to provide for her family, she started looking for a part-time job to supplement her income and cover her bills.



Recognizing her struggle, the Neighbors Fund was able to assist Melanie with her childcare expenses, offering some relief from her financial distress, in addition to providing her with a list of referrals and resources.

Only with the support from donors like you, can we help parents provide a safe environment, a healthy meal, much needed social connections, and physical activity for their children, right here on Cape Cod and the Islands.

Now as the summer nears, we're gearing up to help more families like Angie and Melanie with camperships or daycare assistance, but we can't do it without you!

Please consider a special gift today.

Ways to help:

MONTHLY GIVING CLUB

By starting a monthly recurring gift, you'll help the Neighbors Fund 12 months a year. It's safe, secure and the most effective way to support your neighbors in need. And you can change your gift at any time just by writing or calling us.

Get started at neighborsfund.org/monthly

LEAVE A LEGACY

When you include the Neighbors Fund in your estate plans, your generosity will have a transformative impact on our work—today and far into the future.

Learn more at neighborsfund.org/giving

To contact us about other ways to help, send an email to giving@neighborsfund.org or call Ellen Miller, Director of Development, at 508-778-5661 ext. 105.

Thank you for your support!