



The Hamilton Foundation (THF) was created to help meet unexpected, urgent, and short-term needs of Hamilton residents due to job loss, death, divorce or catastrophic illness.

THF does not replace traditional government programs or social service organizations, but helps people in ways that those programs cannot. It also maintains a directory of over 60 regional social service agencies and refers people to those programs when appropriate.

The inspiration for The Hamilton Foundation came from concerned citizens who have personally seen fellow townspeople with urgent needs for financial support. It is a common misconception that Hamilton is a universally affluent community. Severe economic and personal distress -- both short-term and long-term -- does exist here.



What kinds of help does THF provide?

Through financial support and referrals, THF helps Hamilton residents when unexpected emergencies occur.

THF provides up to \$750 for urgent, short-term problems such as:

- É Mortgage or rent assistance
- É Emergency home repairs
- É Emergency heating and utilities
- É Temporary transportation
- É Food and nutrition
- É Child care
- É Children's scholarships
- É Home health care
- É Prescription medicine and medical supplies

THF also provides referrals to government agencies and private social service organizations that can provide additional services or longer term support.

Who is eligible?

All residents of Hamilton.

How do people in need request help?

Call the THF Coordinator,

Jane Wetson at 978-233-1816

Can a request be made for someone else?

Yes. The THF Coordinator investigates all requests for help and brings the request to the THF Board for approval.

Who will know of a request for help?

Strict confidentiality is maintained. The THF Coordinator, or her designee, is the only person who knows a recipient's identity.

How is financial assistance provided?

Payments are generally sent directly to vendors or creditors, but cards for food and gasoline are also provided.

Are any tax dollars used for this program?

No. THF is entirely funded by private donations.

How can I contribute to THF?

Contributions by check made out to:

The Hamilton Foundation

should be sent to:

The Hamilton Foundation
c/o Hamilton Town Hall
PO Box 429
577 Bay Road
Hamilton, MA 01936

Contributions are tax deductible.

Who are our neighbors in need?

In the past year, Hamilton residents received over 1600 food orders (40% of the total) from the Acord Food Pantry.

During this school year 160 children in the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District are receiving free or reduced price lunches. This represents 9% of enrollment.

Since THF was formed in 2005, over 190 requests for support have been met. This represents more than \$80,000 in payments for electricity, heat, rent, housing repairs, mortgages, phone bills, and cards for food and gasoline.

Recent emergency grants include payments for:

- É oil bill for elderly couple on fixed income
- É utility bill for single mother with three children
- É rent for young couple with recent job loss
- É carpentry repairs for an elderly woman
- É unexpected medical bill for a disabled elderly man
- É food and medicine for a recently divorced woman and her children

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Other Available Resources

Hamilton Housing Authority
978-468-3981

Hamilton Council on Aging
978-468-5595

Acord Food Pantry
(W 9:30-11AM, Th. 6:30-7:30pm, Sat. 9-11 am)
978-468-7424

Senior Care Inc. (M-F, 9-5)
978-281-1750

Action, Inc. (M-F, 9-5)
978-282-1000

SeniorCare Meals on Wheels & Elder Dining Site (M-F, 9-5)
978-281-1750

HAWC (Domestic Abuser Hotline)
800-547-1649

Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program
978-922-2110

Mass Health
800-841-2900

SNAP Nutrition Assistance Program
781-338-6480

Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance
978-825-7300

Commonwealth Care
800-841-2900

Salvation Army
978-922-4522

SafeLink Wireless
800-723-3546



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www.hamiltonma.gov/HamiltonFoundation.htm



*Neighbors
Helping
Neighbors
in times of need*