



Chatham Ecumenical Council

Helping Prevent Homelessness

November 20, 2020

Dear Neighbor,

Thank you so much for your past support of the Chatham Ecumenical Council Helping Prevent Homelessness. With your help, so far this year CECH has provided over \$41,000 in assistance to 26 families in Chatham and surrounding communities. A few typical examples:

- A single parent with four children accumulated unexpected debt due to the COVID-19 virus. CECH paid her October rent of \$974 so that she was able to catch up on her remaining bills.
- A young couple were asked to leave their current home because the owner is selling the property. One partner is disabled and has been out of work. CECH paid the \$1,400 security deposit for a new rental. They are now self-sufficient and both are back to work.
- A father of two lives in a multigenerational household with his wife, children and elderly mother. He normally works as an in-home energy efficiency technician and his wife is working 28 hours a week as a Nurse. He was just diagnosed with COVID-19 and his family will have to remain in quarantine for up to 14 days. His wife will not be able to work and bring in needed income. CECH paid \$1,400 toward their rent while he fights this virus and the whole family is in quarantine.

CECH believes the best way to cope with homelessness is to help prevent it - by providing emergency financial support for those dealing with such hardships as unexpected medical costs, lost jobs, and seasonal unemployment. For many working people, one emergency can tip a family from the stability of a home to the brink of homelessness.

CECH works closely with the Homeless Prevention Council, Chatham Council on Aging, Lower Cape Outreach Council, Chatham Food Pantry and St. Vincent de Paul to identify neighbors in need and ensure that grant recipients meet our high standards of eligibility. CECH has helped almost 1,500 families avoid homelessness since its inception in 1993, raising and distributing more than \$1.45 million, with minimal administrative expense as an all-volunteer non-profit organization.

Thank you for your past support. This letter is a follow up to our annual letter in June. As we approach the holiday season, we are asking for your help and empathy, holding our neighbors in your hearts. Enclosed is a remittance envelope for donations by check; donations by PayPal can be made through our website: <https://cechomelessprevention.org/>. With sincere gratitude,


Diane D. Kennedy and Neill Taylor co-presidents

CECH is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. No gifts, services or special benefits are being provided to you in return for your contribution to CECH.

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[CECHomelessprevention.org](https://cechomelessprevention.org)