

## **2019 ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE WEBSTER COMMUNITY CHEST**

I continue to be inspired by the overwhelming number of people in Webster who have supported the Webster Community Chest's Mission of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors." Without all of your support, it would not be possible. This year's Annual Report reflects our continued dedication to helping those in need in our 14580 community.

The organization has been very fortunate to have a compassionate and knowledgeable Benefits Counselor, Mary Ellen McDowell, now entering her 22<sup>nd</sup> year with the Webster Community Chest (WCC). We welcomed new Board members Bonnie Reynolds, Diane Staub, Christina Sleva, and Dan Gillen. They joined Board members, Jeff Arcieri, Paul Cordy, Mary Fran Grenier, Michael Grenier, Andy LaManna, and Dan Robinson. Each of them willingly share their talents to expand the work of our organization.

In 2019, 1217 calls or e-mails were received. Two seniors received short term funding for their Meals on Wheels (82 meals total). 37 Webster children had a WCC scholarship to attend a week of summer camp and 24 families received financial assistance during their time of crisis or emergency.

In 2019 the Chest awarded monetary awards in memory of Shirley Miller. Shirley was the Benefits Counselor for 23 years. The 2019 awards went to four local high school graduating seniors: Rebecca Barnes & Jack Bickford from Thomas High School, and Cecelia & Mackenzie Carney from Schroeder High School. Winners were chosen based on their significant community service.

The Chest also provided funding to a number of organizations that provide services to Webster residents. In 2019 they included: Thomas High School for the startup of an in-school Food Cupboard, WASPS (Webster Association of Senior Program Supporters) for wheelchair transportation, the Webster Museum received a donation of shelves, the Webster Assembly of God Church for their Free Community Dinner held on Thanksgiving, the Webster Central School District Annual Webster Senior Citizens Day, SEPTA (Special Education Parent Teacher Association) Scholarship Program, and the Spry Middle School Veterans Dinner.

The Annual Fund Drive, which begins in the fall each year, raises the majority of the needed funds to support our services. We thank everyone who contributed. In addition, many local organizations sponsored fundraising events or made significant donations to benefit the Chest. Highlights included the United Church of Christ Caring Concert, Webster Central School District's Empty Bowls Project, DK Dance Recital, Webster Council of Churches Festival of Choirs, Webster Presbyterian Church, the Mason's Spaghetti Dinner, the 9 Mile Point Club, and Kittleberger's Sip & Shop Event. We thank everyone for all fundraising support. All individual and group donations are always very much appreciated!

In March, we raised over \$4000 for the Chest with our own fund-raising event - - our fourth Greater Rochester (Marshmallow) PEEP Show. Although the PEEP art works show is free, attending families, local businesses, and individuals made generous donations. Over forty volunteers joined with the WCC Board to put this show on to the delight of everyone. The 2020 PEEP Show is scheduled for March 28 & 29<sup>th</sup>.

In 2020, with your generosity and dedication to making Webster a "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" community, the Webster Community Chest will continue to work tirelessly towards serving our 14580 community.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Tompkins, President