

COMMUNITY SERVICES COORDINATOR



Aileen Buford
Community Services Coordinator

The Community Services Coordinator (CSC) position was established in 2005. Primarily funded by a grant from the Community Chest, the purpose of the less-than 20 hour a week position is to assist Concord and Carlisle residents, 60 years and under, in accessing information on a broad range of local, privately funded and State services including financial and fuel assistance programs.

The Community Services Coordinator continued to aid individuals and families in accessing needed services on a variety of fronts. Referrals for Concord and Carlisle residents over the course of the year went from 554 the previous year to approximately 600 in 2011.

Referrals were made to food assistance programs, home mortgage counseling programs, job assistance agencies, counseling services, tax assistance programs, Concord Cares, energy efficiency programs, fuel assistance, scholarship information, lower-income legal services, disability advocacy and support services and after-school and camp programs.

Emergency referrals related to housing, food assistance and utility assistance continued in 2011 and the CSC provided short-term case management to those families and individuals in crisis, working closely with such agencies as Hugh Cargill Trust, Society for St. Vincent de Paul and the Clergy Laity Group to provide families in need with emergency financial assistance.

The Community Services Coordinator also continued to collaborate with community agencies that provide assistance to Concord and Carlisle families. The CSC

assisted with the Gaining Ground Farm's Food for Families program which served over 45 families free organic produce between April and September and also continued visits to Open Table, Inc. making contact with challenged Concord individuals and families and providing referrals to a variety of needed services. The CSC also worked collaboratively with Concord Public Schools to provide outreach to challenged families.

The Community Services Coordinator continues to be a point of contact in conjunction with Council on Aging, Police and Fire Departments for the Concord Cares Emergency Fuel Assistance Program, which provides 75 gallons of home heating oil to any Concord resident who is in emergency need.

Residents can contact the Community Service Coordinator by phone or schedule a confidential appointment, either in the office or their home, to discuss their particular referral needs.

For additional information or assistance please contact:

- ♦Community Services Office at 105 Everett St.
♦978-318-3034
♦abuford@concordma.gov
- ♦on the Town website: www.concordma.gov
click on "Community Services"
on the "Town Departments" tab

YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR

Erin Duggan, Youth Services Coordinator

The position of Youth Services Coordinator for Concord and Carlisle was launched in January of 2011 with funding from the Community Chest. Coordinator Erin Duggan was hired to help improve the quality of life for Concord and Carlisle school-aged young people. She assists children by finding counseling for, and providing advice about, the problems they are struggling to deal with.

The Coordinator develops and maintains programs that enhance physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual well-being for children as well as adults. Examples of these programs are: Middle School Pick-up Sports on Tuesday afternoons, Parent communication evenings, Open Microphone Night for High School students at Reasons to be Cheerful in West Concord, the "Kindness is Everywhere" program, and Pursuit of Happiness.