

the Concord-Carlisle Community Chest and Youth Services gift drive for distribution to over 36 Concord families and 3 Carlisle families for Christmas assistance.

The CSC makes contact with challenged Concord individuals and families and provides referrals for a variety of needed services. The CSC works collaboratively with Concord Public Schools, Concord Housing Authority, the Domestic Violence Services Network, Minuteman ARC, the Concord and Carlisle Councils on Aging, the Concord-Carlisle Community Chest, the Concord Carlisle Youth Services Coordinator, the Concord Veteran's Agent, the Society of St. Vincent De Paul, Hugh Cargill Trust, the Salvation Army, Concord's First Parish Church, the Concord Police and Fire Departments, the Concord Masons, the Concord Municipal Light Plant, Concord Recreation, Open Table, Concord Adult & Community Education, the Concord Library, Concord Cares team, Carlisle public schools, the Concord Planning and Development Dept., the Concord Health Department, SMOC, SNAP and Mass Health.

The Community Services Coordinator continues to be a point of contact in conjunction with Council on Aging, Police and Fire Departments as well as Concord's Veteran's Agent and Youth Services Coordinator 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. Also, the CSC is a referral source for the Beacon Santa program, the Silent Fund program, the Good Neighbor Energy Fund program, SMOC fuel assistance and SNAP food stamp program.

In conjunction with the Concord-Carlisle Youth Services Coordinator the Community Services Coordinator revised, printed and distributed the Concord Community Social Service Resource Guide.

Residents can contact the Concord Carlisle Community Services Coordinator by phone, email 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 the Community Services Coordinator at 978-318-3034 or abuford@concordma.gov or www.concordma.gov/community.

YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR & YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Jeffrey Campbell, Chair
Teri Dugan Frost
Suzanne Giles
Jennifer Lannan
Patricia Vasilliadis
Jennifer Clarke, Youth Services Coordinator

The Youth Services Coordinator position for Concord and Carlisle was launched in 2011 with funding from the Concord-Carlisle Community Chest (CCCC). It is supported by the Youth Coordinator Advisory Board (YAB). Jennifer Clarke completed her first full year in this role, having started in 2013.

The Youth Services Coordinator's (YSC) mission is to identify and broadly communicate to Concord and Carlisle families all of the resources and programs currently in place that support the social, emotional, and developmental needs of our youth. With particular focus on the middle and high school population, the YSC will serve as a clearinghouse of information and a skilled networker, a facilitator of new and existing initiatives, and a high profile public advocate for youth in our communities.

Working from a strategic plan approved by the Youth Advisory Board, activities for 2014 revolved around three priorities: 1) suicide awareness and prevention; 2) stress reduction and mindfulness; 3) substance abuse prevention. The YSC served as participant, facilitator, or direct co-sponsor of the following community programs and events (not a complete list), in partnership with agencies and organizations listed:

- Health & Wellness Fairs at Concord-Carlisle High School (spring & fall)
- Rotary Club "Reality Fair" for CCHS seniors (life skills exercise/ role play)
- Published first Concord Social Services Resource Guide in conjunction with Community Services Coordinator and Town of Concord summer intern. This 62-page A-Z resource listing is available online and in hard copy versions.
- Out of the Darkness Walk for Suicide Prevention, co-sponsored with the New England chapter, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP). This event raised \$20,000 for AFSP who in turn offered Suicide Alertness training to our communities.

- Worked on the Healthy Concord Youth Stress Advisory Committee to bring stress reduction and mindfulness education and training to community partners and youth.
- Youth Substance Abuse & Care Coalition – a group of community-wide stakeholders who meet quarterly and hold facilitated discussions to share concerns, priorities, perspectives, actions underway, actions needed, etc.
- Community Chest Holiday Gift Drive assisting 36 families, representing 87 children.

In addition to these events, the YSC launched and kept updated a Facebook page; instituted a quarterly e-newsletter with Community Services; set up a full listing of resource links under Youth Services on the Town of Concord's website; published a wallet sized laminated Youth Resource Card; and was a very frequent contributor to the *Concord Journal* with upbeat articles highlighting achievements of our youth.

A highlight for Youth Services in 2014 was the development of outreach materials to educate residents about resources and services available to youth and families. Residents can request the new Youth Resources Wallet Card, 2014 Social Services Resource Guide or join the Youth and Family Services newsletter listserv by visiting www.concordma.gov/youth or contacting Jennifer Clarke at jclarke@concordma.gov.

HUGH CARGILL TRUST COMMITTEE

J. Raymond Andrews
 Paul LoVecchio
 Susan Eckel
 Christopher Corkery
 Judy Terry

In 2014, the Hugh Cargill Trust Committee continued to implement the mission of the Trust, established over 210 years ago by Concordian Hugh Cargill. The Trust's purpose is to provide short-term emergency assistance to residents of the Town in times of financial need. The Committee acts on behalf of the Board of Selectmen in receiving and reviewing requests for assistance and in distributing funds in accordance with the provisions of the Trust. Concord residents request aid by leaving a phone message at the Town House: 978-318-3100, ext. 2030. Calls are returned promptly. All requests are kept confidential.

Funds totaling \$140,890 were received in 2014 from the following sources: The Hugh Cargill Trust Fund: \$15,074; Private donations to the Hugh Cargill Fund: \$11,210; the Concord Municipal Light Plant: \$14,000; Board of Selectmen Tax Relief Fund: \$100,586; Concord Cares: \$20; these generous contributions from the above mentioned sources were crucial to the Committee's efforts to meet the ever-increasing needs of Concord residents. The Committee met 12 times and approved 77 grants totaling \$22,558 from the Hugh Cargill Trust and donor fund. The average grant was \$293. The majority of approved requests were for the payment of utility bills (electricity, oil, gas, telephone and water). In addition, grants were approved for the payment of rent, car repairs, medical expenses, and insurance. The Committee also administered the abatement program for municipal curbside recycling and waste collection funded by Concord Public Works.

The Hugh Cargill Trust Committee has been designated by the Board of Selectmen to administer the tax-relief fund from monies raised in response to the Town's annual appeal. Forty seven Concord residents received a reduction in their Real Estate Tax bill each quarter. That quarterly reduction was increased from \$250/quarter to \$275/quarter. The total allocation in 2014 was \$50,225.

The Hugh Cargill Trust also keeps track of the funds dispersed by Concord Cares for citizens in need of emergency fuel assistance. The total funds dispersed in 2014 were \$3,254 to eleven Concord citizens. The Trust does not authorize these distributions. That is done by other Concord services such as the Community Services Coordinator, the Police Dept., Fire Dept., the COA and others.

The Committee continues to make known its existence and its mission through local communications such as the *Concord Journal* and the Adult & Continuing Education publications and contacts with the Silent Fund, the Community Services Coordinator, the Concord Housing Authority, the Council on Aging, the Recreation Department, the Community Chest, Open Table, the Salvation Army, local clergy, and other groups.

In light of the current economic conditions, the Committee anticipates 2015 could be another difficult year for many residents. We welcome private donations to continue the mission of providing short-term, emergency assistance to Concord residents. Donations may be sent to: The Hugh Cargill Trust at the Town House, P.O. Box 535, Concord, MA 01742. All contributions are tax-deductible.