Lend a helping hand to North Country, Lakes Region homeowners

CCNH’s Hand-in-Hand program gears up for sixth season

Keeping up with household chores can be challenging for any family. When you are a senior citizen, disabled or living on a low-income, it can be overwhelming.

Because of donors like you, Catholic Charities NH is making a difference. Our Littleton and Laconia district offices are gearing up for the sixth season of our Hand-in-Hand program that helps North Country and Lakes Region homeowners with minor repairs and yard work.

Parish & Community Services staff are recruiting area high school student volunteers to assist elderly, disabled and low-income property owners with projects that they may no longer be able to do or cannot afford to do. They include homeowners like Lucy.

A widow who lives on her own, Lucy last year was recovering from knee surgery that prevented her from tending to her yard. Weeds overtook her garden, which was in dire need of mulching and replanting.

North Country area high school volunteers spent one week last July clearing and restoring Lucy’s garden bed. One student even surprised her by digging out a fire pit – something Lucy always wanted.
Grant Recognition

Thank you to the following organizations that recently awarded grants to support Catholic Charities NH’s programs and services.

- The Lisa Libraries .............................................. $1,000, OUR PLACE (in-kind)
- PhRMA .......................................................... $1,000, OUR PLACE
- Vermont Mutual Charitable Giving .................... $2,500, Counseling Services
- Speedway Children’s Charities-NH ...................... $3,000, OUR PLACE
- NH Charitable Foundation ................................. $25,000, Immigration Legal Services

Hand-In-Hand Continued

“It’s those unexpected things, like building that fire pit, that make this program so beautiful,” says Christina Bertin, parish and community outreach coordinator for Catholic Charities’ Littleton district office. “Connections are made and relationships are built.”

The Hand-in-Hand program in Littleton will take place from June 17-22 this year. Bertin hopes to have 25 to 30 North Country high school student volunteers and several adult supervisors registered by May 25. Students will be assigned to work in teams, tackling projects such as painting, deck repairs, clearing brush, garage clean out and landscaping. Bertin is also looking for homeowners who live in northern Grafton County, Lancaster and Jefferson who would benefit from this program.

Hand-in-Hand enables residents to stay in their homes longer, provides youth with the positive experience of knowing they are helping neighbors who struggle to maintain their properties, and forges valuable friendships across generations.

The Hand-in-Hand program in Laconia occurs throughout the summer with volunteers assisting with more modest projects, such as mowing lawns, fall clean-up and other tasks.

Do you know someone in need of a helping hand? Are you interested in volunteering your time and making a difference in someone’s life? Please contact Christina Bertin in Littleton at 603-444-7727 or 603-391-5276; cbertin@nh-cc.org. Contact Leonard Campbell in Laconia at 603-528-3035; lcampbell@nh-cc.org.

New Hope for Families Battling Addiction

Currier Museum and CCNH collaborate on ‘The Art of Hope’

New Hampshire “drug czar” David Mara praised community organizations – such as the Currier Museum of Art and Catholic Charities NH – for joining forces to launch “The Art of Hope,” a first-ever program to help parents whose children struggle with addiction held at the Currier.

“The more community organizations that do this, the more successful we are going to be in getting through this (opioid) epidemic,” Mara said.

The Currier developed “The Art of Hope” to provide families with the support, comfort and care that they need to survive. Additionally, because of your gifts, Catholic Charities Counseling Services provided clinical support. Partnership for Drug-Free Kids also collaborated on this unique program.

“We have real solid community members, such as the Currier art gallery partnering with entities such as Catholic Charities, to (create) a setting where people who have loved ones who are addicted can talk to each other. They can also talk to people who have gone through the same thing and successfully navigated their way through,” added Mara, who is the Governor’s Advisor on Addiction and Behavioral Health.

13 Really Is a Lucky Number!

Mardi Gras Gala nets more than $136K

More than 300 revelers packed the Grappone Conference Center in Concord for the 13th Annual Mardi Gras Gala on Feb. 10. The fundraiser raised more than $136,000, most of which will go towards Catholic Charities NH’s Emergency Services Fund that provides vital services to 1-in-13 poor and vulnerable Granite State residents. Thank you to our sponsors and guests who made this possible!