



1974-2011 37 years of food, clothing and caring

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August 17, 2011

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City of Poughkeepsie  
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Our GIFTS Programs  
Are Partially Supported  
By Funds Received  
Through  
Dutchess County

Ms. Patricia Maupin  
Wappingers Ladies Auxiliary, Inc.  
PO Box 533  
Hughsonville, NY 12537

Dear Ms. Maupin

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Dutchess Outreach I want to thank you again for your recent generous support of what we do. Your gift of \$100.00 was received 8/15/2011.

Despite funding cuts on many fronts we were not only able to maintain existing levels of service, but to respond to growing demand in many areas. Your help makes this possible.

We provided more than \$100,000 in direct emergency financial assistance grants in 2010 compared to 2009's \$73, 600! The number of people helped with a utility/heating problem dipped bit from 327 to 289, the 410 people helped to buy medicine was slightly more than last year, and assistance with eviction or homelessness went up more than 50% with 380 people helped.

The Lunch Box is on track to serve more than 75,000 mid-day meals this fiscal year, compared to 69,253 served last year; about a 9% increase over last year. We are now serving an average of 10-12 evening meals per month and will surely surpass last year's 17,012 dinners served. We also expect a 30% increase over last year in meals served to kids in afterschool programs here at the Family Partnership Center.

The Lunch Box continued as an important outreach site for other services: a medical testing and screening program with several area physicians participating; A Dutchess County Health Department Free Flu Vaccinations (and others) Clinic; and a Point-in-Time survey of homeless people by the Dutchess County Housing Consortium.

We were able to return the Acts of Kindness (AOK) Program to the same level of service provided before we had to temporarily close and move to its new location in Pleasant Valley. From January to December 2010, 21 other organizations and Dutchess Outreach received goods from AOK for 603 clients. This is a 65% increase in number of people served.

Perhaps our greatest and remaining challenge this year is to position the Agency to be able to continue GIFTS Home Delivered Meals. Despite losing federal funding, developing on-going support remains a priority. With recent grants and some reserve funds we are continuing to serve homebound people with HIV/AIDS.

We can't say thank you enough, and to tell you how much you contribute to our success in alleviating for many the pain and problems that poverty brings.

Thank you so much, *Brian Riddell*

Truly,

Brian Riddell  
Executive Director