

### Making Your Donations Matter More ... Since 1949

# **Essex Community Fund** P. O. Box 614 Essex, CT 06426

www.essexcommunityfund.org

#### *Board of Directors:*

## **About The Essex Community Fund:**

Adrienne Kiel President

Melissa Spratt Secretary

Jean Schneider Treasurer

Eleanor Coleman

Anne Winters Bishop

The Fund began over 70 years ago with the same goal – helping local non-profits provide much needed services for the residents of our three villages.

Some of our past initiatives include Compassion Counts: Exploring Mental Wellness and Weathering the Adolescent Storm in a Pressure Filled World; Children's Hunger Issues: The Backpack Program and the Summer Meal Program which was run the first year by ECF, volunteers from area churches and End Hunger CT.

Our ongoing initiative: The Bridge Fund, an emergency fund that Essex Social Services may draw upon to help a family with immediate support; as well as continuing involvement with the Fuel Assistance Program, The Shoreline Soup Kitchen, Essex Park and Recreation, and the Essex Board of Trade programs and events.

Our mission is to enhance the quality of life of our residents. This is accomplished by identifying community needs, providing financial support, and forging partnerships with local non-profit organizations.

ECF is proud to support the following non-profits that give vital assistance to the residents of Essex, Centerbrook and Ivoryton:

Little Compassion Inc./The Nest Camp Hazen YMCA Community Music School **Essex Eagle Scouts** Essex Elementary School Camperships **Essex Fuel Assistance Program Essex Housing Authority** Essex Veterans Memorial Hall **Essex Winter Series** Estuary Council of Seniors, Inc. F.I.S.H. Gilead Community Services, Inc.

Incarnation Camp/Bushy Hill Ivoryton Alliance Ivoryton Library Association Ivoryton Playhouse Foundation **Region 4 Education Foundation** Shoreline Soup Kitchen and Pantries Tri-Town Cub Scout Pack 13 -Chester Deep River/Essex Troop 13-Boy Scouts - Chester/Deep River/Essex Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau

VRHS Photo Club



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To Our Essex Residents,

The Essex Community Fund would like to thank you, our donors, for your continued leadership in our community through your support of our Fund. The challenges of the last few years have put not only our community but also local nonprofits to the test, with a record number of families in need of basic assistance.

Thanks to your generous gifts, ECF can financially support these organizations so they can do what they do best; take care of the residents of our villages. **100% of your donations to ECF go directly to the programs that support the residents of our community.** Donating to our Fund supports those who are:

- Struggling with food insecurity
- Seeking transportation for critical medical appointments
- Bringing awareness to our community of young adults with disabilities
- Helping with mental health services
- Enriching children with opportunities through scholarships to attend summer camps (for music, outdoor discovery, and overnight camps)
- Keeping our residents warm during the New England winters
- And many other non-profits that offer services to our Essex/Centerbrook/Ivoryton residents.

We, the board of the Essex Community Fund, are collaborating with our local nonprofits to assist those in need. Your generous donation will provide support for the local services and programs that make our community a wonderful place to live.

Respectfully,

**Essex Community Fund Board** 



Essex Community Fund
Essex Events Article - Winter 2023/24

#### **ESSEX COMMUNITY FUND**

Essex Community Fund (ECF) The weather has cooled but our local non-profits are heating up for the upcoming winter months. They have been working hard to continue to assist our residents in need: improving, expanding, helping, and supplying goods and services. YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT of their valuable work is what makes the Essex community such a wonderful place to live. ECF is proud to support our local non-profits and their programs that include, but are not limited to: food for those in need; keeping seniors safe, healthy and nourished; urgent mental health services, and community outreach and assistance programs.

**Fuel Assistance Challenge Underway** The Fuel Assistance Program (FAP) is an on-going program available to residents who meet the funding criteria. This year is already seeing an increase in requests for assistance. Please consider joining this year's challenge. Donations can be made through our website at <a href="www.essexcommunityfund.org">www.essexcommunityfund.org</a> or by mail at Essex Community Fund, PO Box 614, Essex, CT 06426. Notate on your donation that it is for FAP. Thank you to Mary Ellen Barnes, Essex Social Services Director for overseeing this important program.

Mark Your Calendar and come out for the annual Essex Ed Parade happening on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

For More Information about ECF, visit our website at www.essexcommunityfund.org.