

EPISCOPAL CHARITIES OF RHODE ISLAND

2023 - 2024

For more than seventy years, Episcopal Charities' mission is to help those in need. As part of the outreach arm of the Diocese, our stated goal continues to this day - to share the love of Christ with all our neighbors by providing funds to meet needs of those in our communities. Episcopal Charities has raised millions of dollars over the past seven decades to support the ministries of the Diocese and our churches and nonprofit agencies that partner with our churches to meet critical needs in Rhode Island.

As we began 2024, we had great hope that life in Rhode Island would be better for our neighbors living on the edge. However increased inflation particularly for food and housing has become a crushing hardship for many. The cost of living in Rhode Island makes it difficult if not impossible for many Rhode Islanders to make ends meet. Twice as many Rhode Islanders are food insecure than before the pandemic. Just ask any of our church feeding programs about the increase in new clients this year, and you will hear about those who are now unable to feed their families without asking for help.

Since 2018 when we began centering our grants on basic human needs of food, shelter, and healthcare for at-risk children and their families as well as at-risk seniors, Episcopal Charities has increased its granting to both non-profit agencies who work with our churches and our own church feeding ministries that care for our neighbors in need throughout Rhode Island. Our goal is to make a difference in the lives of those who go without the 'basics' we often taken for granted. **In awarding these grants, we give priority to agencies that partner with our churches to meet local needs.**

Because of the generosity of our donors, our grants help fund food pantries and meal sites in our churches and local agencies, temporary shelter for those who have none, and free clinics and counseling agencies for those who have no other access to get help. Additionally Episcopal Charities provides support for ministries of the diocese such as the College Chaplaincy, Hispanic Ministry, and youth programs at our Episcopal Conference Center. **Every gift matters!**

Episcopal Charities Grants

Our **Charities Annual Fund** continues to raise funds for larger sustaining grants that support diocesan ministries and the ongoing work of agencies that partner with our churches to provide food, shelter, and healthcare to those who go without. These grants are made at the end of the year.

Our **Charities NOW** fund, which we began in 2019, provides support throughout the year to our church food pantries and meal sites and to partnering agencies which need the money **NOW** to meet the increasing needs of our neighbors. So far this year, we have made \$45,000 in **Charities NOW grants**. Our goal with these small grants is to get them out quickly to the ministry sites and agencies so they can meet immediate needs. Many of the agencies awarded Annual Grants have told us how extremely helpful it is to get a **Charities NOW grant** during the year as part of the money they requested in their annual grant application rather than having to wait to see if they would get an Annual Grant at the end of the year.

Susan Hudson Fund Grants

This fund was established by a generous bequest from a long-time supporter of Episcopal Charities. We use this fund in part to help our churches when they need capital improvements necessary to continue an ongoing outreach program. For example, this year we made a grant to Church of the Redeemer to replace a failing refrigerator used by the Plot to Plate program housed at Redeemer. This program is a summer program for youths of color in the Mount Hope neighborhood in which the youth both grow and learn food preparation for the produce they grow. This program seeks to address the serious food insecurity that exists in Mount Hope.

The work of Episcopal Charities is supported by our Advisory Board members who give generously of their time and talent to assist Episcopal Charities. They are

Mr. Scott Avedisian
The Rev. Christine Cassels
Ms. Nancy Kaull
Ms. Karen Knisely

The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisely
The Rev. Noel Bailey Robinson
Ms. Susan Ursillo, Chair
Ms. Joan Collins, Staff

In Gratitude,

Betsy Fornal
Director, Episcopal Charities

Episcopal Charities Annual and Charities NOW Grants - 2023

The following is a list of the Episcopal Charities Annual and Charities NOW Grants made in 2023. Grants are listed by categories Church-Sponsored Annual grants, Charities NOW grants for community feeding programs not applying for annual grants, Charities NOW grants to Church-based feeding ministries and Diocesan Programs. Some Annual grant recipients also received Charities NOW grants as mentioned above.

2023 EPISCOPAL CHARITIES GRANTS

Church-Sponsored Annual Grants – Nonprofit agencies that partner with our churches to provide basic human needs - food, shelter, healthcare - for our neighbors in need. Those with an (*) have received grants from both Charities Annual and Charities NOW.

Beautiful Day, Providence	Diocese of Rhode Island
Better Lives Rhode Island, Providence*	Grace Church, Providence
Connecting for Children and Families, Woonsocket*	St. James, Woonsocket
Dorcas International Institute, Providence*	Grace Church, Providence
East Bay Food Pantry*	St. Michael's, Bristol
Elizabeth Buffum Chace Center, Warwick	St. Mark's, Warwick
Friends Way, Warwick	St. Mark's, Warwick
Hope Clinic/Clinica Esperanza, Providence*	St. Martin's, Providence
Interfaith Counseling Center, Providence	St. Luke's, East Greenwich
Jonnycake Center for Hope, Peace Dale*	St. Augustine's, Kingston
Jonnycake Center of Westerly*	Christ Church, Westerly
Loaves and Fishes Rhode Island	Emmanuel Church, Cumberland
Little Compton Community Center, Senior Program	St. Andrew's, Little Compton
Martin Luther King Community Center, Newport*	St. Mary's, Portsmouth
New Beginnings, Woonsocket*	St. James, Woonsocket
New Urban Arts, Providence	All Saints' Memorial, Providence
North Kingstown Food Pantry*	St. Paul's, Wickford
Rhode Island Free Clinic, Providence	Grace Church, Providence
Rhode Island Community Food Bank	St. James, Woonsocket
Southern Rhode Island Volunteers, Charlestown	St. Augustine's, Kingston
St. Mary's Home for Children	Christ Church, Lincoln
The Community Market at St. Peter's*	St. Peter's by-the-Sea, Narragansett
The Sharing Locker, East Greenwich*	St. Luke's, East Greenwich
Trinity Academy for the Performing Arts	Grace Church, Providence
Westerly Area Rest Meals WARM Center*	Christ Church, Westerly

Charities NOW Grants – for Community Agencies feeding programs (not receiving annual grants)

Camp Street Ministries, Providence	Church of the Redeemer, Prov.
City Meal Site	All Saints' Memorial, Providence
East Greenwich Interfaith Food Closet	St. Luke's, East Greenwich
Epiphany Soup Kitchen	St. Stephen's, Providence

Good Neighbors, East Providence
Rhode Island College Food Pantry

Epiphany, East Providence
The Rev. Savannah Ponder, Campus
Minister

Charities NOW Grants – for Church-based Feeding Ministries

Church Beyond the Walls, Providence
Emmanuel Church, Newport
St. George's, Central Falls
St. Luke's Church, Pawtucket
Trinity Church, North Scituate

Church of the Redeemer, Prov.
St. Augustine's/URI
St. Peter & St. Andrew's, Prov.
St. Thomas, Greenville

Diocesan Sponsored Programs

Bishop's Discretionary Fund
Campus Ministry at URI/St. Augustine's Church
City Camp - ECC outreach program
Episcopal Conference Center Youth Programs
Hispanic Ministry – St. George's Church