

## **Additional Funds Received to Support Local Non-Profits Adapt to Challenges From COVID-19**

Contact: Greater Sullivan County Public Health Network, [GSCPHN@hitchcock.org](mailto:GSCPHN@hitchcock.org) or 203-598-5032

NEWPORT, NH - At a special meeting of the Sullivan County Board of Commissioners (BOC) on April 10th, BOC members approved accepting an additional \$25,000 grant award from Dartmouth-Hitchcock (Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital) to support non-profits in the Greater Sullivan County area. The County will continue to act as the fiscal agent for the program and award funds based on requests that are approved by the Greater Sullivan County COVID-19 Community Response Coalition.

The program is intended to support non-profits who are experiencing increased challenges due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. Including this most recent contribution, Dartmouth-Hitchcock (D-H), with support from D-H Philanthropy and private donors, has provided a total of \$55,000 for the program of which \$36,000 has been dispersed to nine local organizations. The funding to organizations from the Relief Fund include but are not limited to: Access and Expansion of Technology/ Telecommuting Needs for Organizations and Schools, Personal Protective Equipment and Needs for Essential Workers, and Food Access.

Sullivan County Manager Derek Ferland is not surprised at how quickly this program came together. *“Dartmouth-Hitchcock approached the county and gave \$30,000 to kickstart the program right away. It underscores the positive impact D-H makes in our region—they are a great partner and team player. Together, along with the Greater Sullivan County Regional Public Health Network and the Region1 Integrated Delivery Network, the county is helping to connect our local non-profits with emergency funding and other resources during a time when they need it most.”*

Here’s an example of how the fast response has helped the Claremont Senior Center. According to Thomas Liveston, the Center’s grant coordinator and finance committee chair, *“Our center has relied on rental income to operate for years. With the stay at home order due to COVID-19, we have been unable to pay bills. These funds will help us to pay these debts and remain operational and serve the seniors in the greater Claremont area.”*

All non-profit community support organizations are encouraged to apply. The Community Response Coalition is working to determine the needs of the community and access additional funds. If your organization has a critical need, please complete the attached form and scan and email to: [GSCPHN@hitchcock.org](mailto:GSCPHN@hitchcock.org). In addition to funds, the coalition also is providing technical assistance to organizations.

We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to D-H Philanthropy, D- H Population Health and the many donors who have contributed to the Greater Sullivan County COVID-19 Community Relief Fund. D- H (Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital) made a generous donation to kick off this campaign and we’d like to invite you to join us. If you are interested in contributing to this community fund, please call Sharon Callum at 603-863-2560 or email [sharonjc@sullivancountynh.gov](mailto:sharonjc@sullivancountynh.gov) with instructions about how you would like to make a donation. The county can support checks and wire transfers and Sharon can provide further instructions to support your donation.

####

The Greater Sullivan County Public Health Network in partnership with Dartmouth-Hitchcock serves as a system of organizations and individuals that work together to identify and address public health

challenges in the region. The network is made up of educational institutions, community organizations, healthcare systems, first responders, law enforcement, government agencies, businesses, and volunteers dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of our community. You can follow the Network on Facebook at @GSCPHN or by visiting [www.gscphn.org](http://www.gscphn.org).

\*\*\*\*\*