

Care & Share of East Lyme Inc. P.O. Box 114, East Lyme 06333 860-739-8502

September 15, 2023

Dear Friends of Care & Share:

To all of you who have donated over the past year, a big thank you. You have made a huge impact on the way Care & Share has been able to help our neighbors.

It has been a year of challenges. In spite of that, we have been able to help over 300 families in Salem, East Lyme and Niantic, double last year. We have provided 110 to 130 families a month with food and have been able to provide healthier food and a larger quantity. Thanksgiving, Holiday, and Spring baskets were each provided to 140 families.

Other programs we provide include: emergency assistance, designated assistance, scholarships, camperships, backpacks, winter coats, holiday store/angel tree and our new program, childcare assistance.

Because of generous donations, we have been able to keep up with demands. Many, many thanks... However, we are getting many new families each month (11 new families in July) and more and more requests for assistance with fuel, gas, taxes, and housing.

It is imperative that we maintain our level of help through 2023 and at the same time plan on meeting this extraordinary need as we set a budget for 2024. Our annual appeal is the single request for donations that we make to the community during the year.

We are a group of about 100 volunteers and rely solely on donations. Every dollar raised is used to help those in need.

We need your help, and we are asking for your support. Please Donate.

Thank you,

Patricia Payne President

Please donate at our website: <u>www.careandshareofel.org</u> or to Box 114, East Lyme, CT 06333. Matching funds are available from Pfizer and Charter Oak Credit Union (charteroak.org) until November 24th.