Two Years after the Pandemic Hit, Many Have Been Helped, But Many Are Still Hurting

It’s been a tough two years for thousands of Cape and Island residents who have been hit hard by COVID-19. And today, so many of our neighbors are still struggling with health issues, job insecurity and related financial needs.

Fortunately, the Cape Cod Times Needy Fund and the Major Crisis Relief Fund (MCRF), a program of the Needy Fund, are working together to make us a stronger community. The Needy Fund and MCRF are complementary paths that provide temporary financial aid to local residents who need a boost so they can get back on track. The Needy Fund is active throughout the year while MCRF is activated during an unforeseen crisis such as a pandemic, a blizzard or a hurricane.

Looking Back in Appreciation
As the pandemic enters its third year, we want to recognize the generosity of our community, which enables us to provide a lifeline to those reaching out for a helping hand.

Since 2020, MCRF has raised more than $994,000, helped more than 1,900 people and provided more than 1,200 services such as assistance for rent, shelter, food, utilities, medical care, child care and transportation.

That’s a lot of support—and a lot of heart from countless individuals and organizations.

Looking Ahead with Anticipation
Despite our accomplishments, as we welcome the spring, this isn’t a time to have our heads in the sand. Potential pandemic variants are still an unknown. What’s clear is that we live in a time of unprecedented turbulence, with extreme weather events, an aging population and continued economic hardship. In an uncertain world, our precious peninsula is fragile and vulnerable.

So we need to be prepared and respond to unmet needs. We’re in this together. The Needy Fund and Major Crisis Relief Fund are two united programs with one common goal—helping our neighbors who need us most. We’re flexible, accountable and reliable. And what makes all this possible is a caring and united community.

Thanking you for making a difference!
Susan Johnson
Cape Cod Times Needy Fund, Executive Director

Judy Walden Scarafile
Major Crisis Relief Fund, Managing Director