Fall 2016

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As summer shifts into fall, and fall into cold winter, we think of extending warmth and good cheer. For people without a place of their own to warm up, Amherst Community Connections’ **One-Stop Resource Center** provides a safe space where they can work on finding homes and jobs----all with the help of a dedicated and knowledgeable staff of caseworkers!

ACC provides a community safety-net for all those who are struggling, not only in our One-Stop Resource Center, but also through the Jones Library Referral Service, the Bridge-the-Gap Holiday Meal Program, casework with the homeless at Craig’s Place shelter, and outreach to inmates at the Hampshire County Jail.

One participant, Pedro, went from being middle-class to living in the shelter last winter with no income, home, or car. With the help of ACC’s One-Stop Resource Center, in the spring Pedro found a seasonal job to stay on his feet, had a roof over his head, and then this fall, he landed a well-paid full-time job!

**However, you are the co-pilots in the journey. Your contribution will make a difference to those in need!**

ACC has also started Amherst’s premier Housing First Program, which provides three chronically homeless residents with housing and wrap-around services to help them get off the street and become self-sufficient.

In addition, ACC has helped participants through our NEW People’s Fund initiative. In 2016 alone, The People’s Fund has served 677 local residents! Money raised through this program has gone towards rent, utilities, food, transportation, medications, clothing, education, and more…………

**Counting our blessings, this year alone Amherst Community Connections has...**

* Facilitated over 3,000 visits from participants for our various programs
* Provided case management for over 400 unique individuals in our One-Stop Resource Center
* Raised $7,000 for The People’s Fund, and assisted over 600 people through this Fund
* Published a monthly heart-filled inspiring personal stories in ACC’s newsletter “*What’s Up*?!”

We cannot do this without YOUR financial help! Please make the checks out to **Amherst Community Connections**. With your contribution, we can continue to *empower, advocate, and assist those in need.*

Warmest wishes for the holiday season,

Hwei-Ling Greeney

Executive Director, Amherst Community Connections