



# Windham Endowment *for* Community Advancement

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November 20, 2020

Dear Windham Resident,

Reflecting on events in 2020 without first talking about COVID-19 and its local impact is not possible. We hope this letter finds you safe and well.

Starting in the spring, many of our neighbors who were hurting turned to our town's two front line organizations that support food insecurity and other services to families, Shepherd's Pantry and Windham's Helping Hands. Due to the past generosity of our donors, we were able to act quickly and generously by making immediate donations to those organizations. Knowing that the need would continue, the Board then established the **COVID-19 Response Fund** and launched a fundraising campaign through NH Gives in June. Our community responded generously, to-date donating over \$10,000 to the fund.

Because of your generosity, seniors facing isolation due to social distancing have benefited from several luncheons, front line workers at the Town Hall and the Windham Post Office have received gift baskets, and the Windham School District was supplied with lanyards to help with the logistics of handling masks. As much spending as possible has been through local businesses to support them through this challenging time. We are currently working on further distributions from this fund to help our community, including assisting families with remote learning issues.

Aspects of our normal lives go on, of course, and we continue our usual support for the community. In the spring, eleven students received a total of \$12,500 in **Scholarship Awards** and we look forward to distributing thirteen awards totaling \$17,000 next year. Two scholarships will be for students pursuing trade careers—the Technical Trades Scholarship and the new Lieutenant James M. Brown Memorial Scholarship. We are honored to administer scholarships in our community and are grateful to those who offer the funding for this important and meaningful program.

In this difficult year it is gratifying to complete the ten-year effort to build the Marston-Finn Conservation Dam, restoring **Moeckel Pond**. In our partnership with the Friends of Moeckel Pond, our role has been to enhance access to the site, supply equipment necessary to bring recreation to the pond, and help make it safe for all. In the spring of 2021, an ADA kayak launch, a fishing pier, benches, safety equipment, and historical and other signage will be

installed, none of which would have been possible without your support. We look forward to next summer's activity on the new Moeckel Pond!

As with all non-profits, the need for our services is greater than ever while revenues from our traditional fundraising activities have declined or been eliminated. One of the efforts that we can continue, and one that we rely on, is this annual year-end appeal. As you consider your year-end giving options, we would be most grateful for your help bridging the gap in our fundraising shortfall. Please see the enclosed donation form for the many ways you can give.

If you think a small gift won't matter, please reconsider. Gifts of \$100 or less, when combined, were the largest donation to the Windham Endowment in 2019. Your gift, of any size, is both important and valued.

At this special time of year, now more than ever, we thank you for your support and wish you and your family a very happy and healthy New Year.

Best wishes,

Diane Carpenter  
President

P.S. Would you like to stay in touch? You can follow us on Facebook at [@windhamendowment](#) and sign up for our quarterly newsletter at [tiny.cc/WECAnewsletter](http://tiny.cc/WECAnewsletter) or on our website.