

Shelburne Community Fund Mission Statement

The Community Fund should be focused on two primary areas:

- Providing access to information and assistance to individuals/families at risk of losing their housing and/or facing emergency situations.
- Increasing awareness about the challenges faced by town residents in need of social services through the development of a community support network.

Guiding principles:

- Provision of financial support should be directed to social service organizations and not to individuals
- Any financial assistance should be distributed in a way that it is coordinated with other resources that may be available to the person - local, county, state or federal.
- Temporary assistance may be provided to access basic necessities such as fuel, employment (if connected to housing preservation) or shelter that provides a long-term positive difference for an individual or family. Community Fund dollars should be distributed only after local, state or federal sources are first explored.
- The process of seeking aid should be clear, simple, efficient and dignified.
- Awareness-raising efforts should reflect current social service challenges faced by residents.

Procedures:

- The Shelburne Social Services Committee (SSSC) identifies a service need and reviews funding options.
- The SSSC approves funding and attaches conditions for disbursement OR denies the funding request/idea.
- The Chair of the SSSC authorizes the Town to make disbursement using the town's "Request for Check" form.
- Any disbursement approved by the SSSC that exceeds \$500.00 (five hundred dollars) must be approved by the Select Board.