

WENHAM ISSUES OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND HELP (WISSH)

138 MAIN STREET

WENHAM, MA 01984

Board Members: Marisa Bartlett, Chair ~ Julie Clay ~ Tracey Hutchinson ~ Donald Killam ~ Calvin Perkins ~
Trudy Reid ~ Linda Rich ~ Thomas Tanous

Don't we all make a wish every now and then? Maybe for a much needed vacation or to buy a new outfit? We have residents in our town whose wish might be for car repairs or to pay for their medical bills and prescriptions. I am asking you, my friend and neighbor to help make these wishes come true for Wenham residents in need.

Wenham Issues of Social Services and Housing (WISSH), was established in 1992 by the Board of Selectman to help our residents who are in need of financial assistance to meet emergency situations where funds are not available from other sources. While the town used to include funding for WISSH in the budget they have not done so for years. WISSH relies solely on private donations.

WISSH assistance is available to all Wenham residents meeting basic financial requirements. To receive emergency funds an individual must submit an application that is reviewed by the WISSH committee. The process is strictly confidential through the use of a coded process and only the Chair of the committee is aware of the individual's name. Payments are generally sent directly to vendors or creditors, but occasionally gift cards are provided to local grocery stores.

WISSH receives many applications a year asking for assistance. We currently have a limit of \$750 per resident per year. There are times we would like to increase that amount depending on the need, but have been unable to do so in fear of depleting our funds.

WISSH has started a campaign...100 for \$100. We are asking 100 residents to give \$100.00 to allow this committee to continue to assist our neighbors in need. If we exceed this number we can be of even more help!

If you are able to donate to this cause, please make your check payable to Wenham Issues of Social Services Help and mail to Wenham Town Hall, 138 Main Street.

On behalf of the WISSH Committee, we thank you for your generosity.