

CHORE NEWS

Serving the towns of Canaan,
Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent,
Norfolk, Salisbury/Lakeville
and Sharon

FALL 2022

The Garden Party Returns



Juliet and John Hubbard, hosts of the 2022 Garden Party.

On Saturday, June 25th, after a two-year hiatus of not being together, Chore celebrated its 30th year with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in the beautiful Coltsfoot Garden at the home of Juliet and John Hubbard in Cornwall. We are very grateful to Juliet and John for providing an enchanting cottage garden with beautiful walking paths, where their neighbors' lovely old barns frame the informal vegetable and flower gardens.

On that warm summer evening, over 200 people attended the event, where they reconnected with friends and could stop and rest among a variety of plantings and produce tied up with branches and

twigs. Board members, the executive director, and staff shared a few minutes greeting our loyal supporters upon arrival before entering the gardens. Once again, Alex Harney joined us to ensure the sound system was heard by all and Jimmy Newman came up from New York City to "tickle the ivories" again, creating just the right musical background as guests chatted with friends. Gina Young, Manna Catering

Company and Private Chef, made her Garden Party debut, providing a delicious assortment of hors d'oeuvres that ranged from chilled gazpacho to smoked salmon mousse with fresh dill and lemon zest on cucumber rounds. Berkshire Mountain Distillers in Sheffield, MA, graciously donated the spirits and Sharon Package Store procured refreshing summer wines. Chore staff safely managed the parking area, which is always a challenge with so many cars. These combined efforts contributed to a relaxing and spectacular event.

Board Member Priscilla McCord asked guests to support our Fund the Cause Initiative and many

Continued on page 3



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The needs of the elderly and disabled in our community are the same as they were 30 years ago, even as COVID has brought other changes to the living circumstances and population of the NW Corner.

People want to stay in their homes. These are the homes where many memories were made. These are the homes they easily maintained not so long ago. Their homes may be the apartments they were fortunate to move into when they gave up their houses. Either way, it must be understood that not everyone has children or grandchildren to pitch in with cleaning and yard work, or the means to pay high prices for this help.

That is why we need Chore Service in our beautiful part of the world.

I just want to say thank you to all of you for helping to keep Chore Service going. It's a team effort and you are all part of the team.

Sincerely yours,
Dolores Perotti

OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

Chore wants to express its sincere gratitude to Ceely Ackerman, Michelle Considine and Martha Mullins who are leaving the Chore Service Board. Michelle and Martha's experience and commitment to our fund development strategy and activities have been instrumental in Chore's fundraising success. Ceely's expertise in the social service nonprofit sector has been invaluable while serving on Chore's Governance and Human Resources Committees. While Ceely is leaving the Board of Directors, she has graciously offered to stay connected with Chore to continue sharing her nonprofit knowledge.

Dolores Perotti, Chore Board President, said "We are so very grateful to have had Ceely, Michelle and Martha on our board for as long as we did."

Chore Service Board and Staff

"I think Chore Service is a wonderful idea and is helpful to many people who really depend on the service. When I tell people who live in different towns about this service, they are amazed."

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

It has been another action-packed year at Chore Service. Safety remains a priority with clients and staff. COVID safety training and protocols remain in effect, and personal protective equipment is supplied to all workers and clients in need. We applied for town funding through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), also called COVID-19 Stimulus Package Relief. We are grateful for those towns that provided funding to help reduce Chore's negative financial impact resulting from the pandemic. We are also thankful for those towns which are still considering our funding requests.

Like many businesses in our community, Chore was impacted by the labor shortage over the past fiscal year. Chore remains committed to providing a competitive wage and found it essential to increase wages to retain and attract workers. Bonuses were also provided to reward workers for hours worked and years of service. We are fortunate to have dedicated workers, with a few remaining committed to Chore for 15 years. Workers are the backbone of Chore and, without our caring team, many clients would not be able to remain safely and independently in their homes. The demand for service continues to grow and Chore continues to seek ways to attract additional workers and volunteers who would like to make a difference in the lives of seniors.

A trend worth noting is that over the past year, we have received more calls from family members who, as they return to their "pre-pandemic" lives, are anxious about their loved ones being alone. Many people are finding it necessary to return to work in an office environment and need to move back to their homes in another city or state. Family members are worried about loved ones who are alone and without family there to "have eyes on them." One out-of-town family member called Chore looking for someone to visit their parent who was being released from the hospital that day and needed groceries. Chore quickly found a worker who was able to deliver groceries and visit with the client, providing peace of mind to the client's family. Another concerned family member called looking for someone to "walk and talk" with his parents and Chore arranged for a worker to visit weekly. Without family nearby, many clients do not have anyone checking in on them and our workers may be the only person they see. Companionship is part of every service Chore provides and it is very comforting to family members to know that local, compassionate people have time for their loved ones when they cannot be there in person.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our donors, Board of Directors and staff for their continued commitment to our mission. You have made a tremendous difference in the lives of our most vulnerable community members. Your continued support remains essential as we begin another year of service to the community. Thank you for all that you do!

With gratitude,
Jane MacLaren

enthusiastically responded to help us near our goal. The funds are used to cover services that are not paid for by our federal grant, such as groceries, snowplowing, lawn mowing, cleaning supplies, vacuum cleaners, fans, special visits, etc. Most of these items and services are things we all depend on, so this help means a great deal to our clients, whose lives are made safer.

We are very grateful to our 139 individual and 12 business sponsors who helped underwrite this event. This is our only fundraising event of the year, so this year's incredible success will go a long way to help us assist those who cannot safely remain in their homes without the help of Chore Service.

Thank you for making our Garden Party the most successful event ever. Because of your generous and continued support, our mission continues.

Plans are underway for next year's event when we will be celebrating over three decades of service. We look forward to celebrating with you!





CHORE SERVICE

P. O. Box 522
Lakeville, CT 06039
chore@choreservice.org

www.choreservice.org

In-Kind Donations

Berkshire Mountain Distillers
Moore & More Printing

\$5,000 and Up

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We're grateful to the following people and organizations for their generous support of Chore Service. We'd also like to thank the towns that support us as well as those donors who wish to remain anonymous. Please accept our apologies and contact us if we have omitted or misspelled your name.

Alice & Peter Kent
Kay & Tom Key
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Up to \$250

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In Memory of Sarah Clawson
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 Michael Noble

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In Honor of Jane MacLaren
 Lea Davies & Larry Power

In Honor of Michael Voldstad
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**Follow
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 Social Media**



*"Your service is a lifesaver for overworked family caregivers.
Don't know how we would manage without Chore Service."*

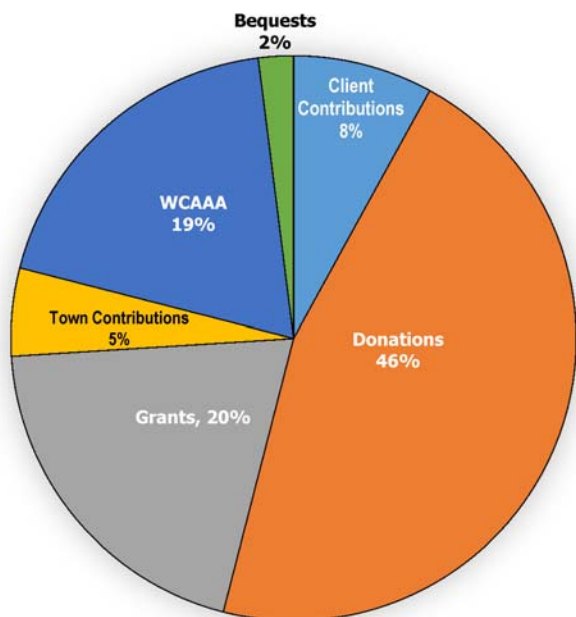
*"I have had the same worker since day one. I love HER!
She is hardworking, thorough and now a great friend."*

**For the past 30years, we have kept many of our elderly and disabled neighbors safely and independently at home in our community while providing employment to local residents.
Numbers for the year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 are reflected below.**

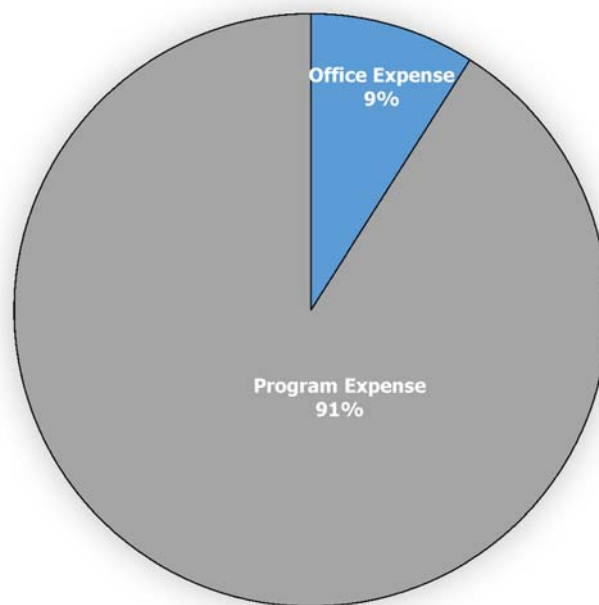
CHORE SERVICE - July 2021- June 2022

Town	Population	Workers From	Earnings by Those Workers		Number of Clients From	Hours of Service For Those Clients
Canaan	3,198	4	\$28,817		31	1,976
Cornwall	1,566	5	\$13,684		11	276
Falls Village	1,081	1	\$2,358		9	193
Kent	3,014	1	\$6,682		21	658
Norfolk	1,585	2	\$5,885		13	376
NY & MA State	N/A	1	\$386		N/A	N/A
Other CT Towns	N/A	2	\$5,137		N/A	N/A
Salisbury	4,191	9	\$44,359		42	1,652
Sharon	2,675	2	\$8,096		19	785
Total:	17,310	27	\$115,404		146	5,916

INCOME - July '21- June '22



EXPENSES - July '21- June '22



"Thank you for providing this vital service to our community."

"Keep up the great work! Our area needs helpers so we can remain in our own homes!"

Know someone who would be interested in becoming a Chore Service Worker or Volunteer? Please call Patti at (860) 435-9177.



Using Chore Service

If you live in Canaan, Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, Norfolk, Salisbury/Lakeville, or Sharon, we can help with chores at home.

Older and people with disabilities are asked for a "suggested contribution" since grants partially subsidize their services. No one is turned away due to ability to pay. However, anyone can use Chore Service. Our workers are local, caring and reliable. If you'd like to use the program, work or volunteer, please call

(860) 435-9177

or your local Social Service Agent.

Also you can visit us at:

www.choreservice.org

The Anne and Rollin Bates Foundation

Chore Service would like to thank the Anne and Rollins Bates Foundation for their continued support by way of a generous grant to again cover the cost of our online database. Because of this grant, Chore can continue generating customized reports, tracking grants and evaluating fundraising effectiveness. Office staff continues to streamline administrative processes, allowing more time to focus on our most important constituents - our clients. Chore is very grateful for the Foundation's support.

CLIENT FUND NEEDS SUPPORT

In April of 2010, Chore started a special Client Fund with a donation of \$3,000 for the purpose of paying for "special" expenses that clients might have. This fund is to pay for things such as groceries, snow removal, mowing of lawns, minor home repairs and household items that are not covered by any other resources.

Lawn mowing and snowplowing are quite expensive but necessary for safety. Snow and ice are certain this winter so there will be a need to help some clients who cannot afford to keep their driveways and walkways safe.

Because of the demand for these essential services, we need to continually raise additional dollars for the Client Fund. To make a designated contribution to the Client Fund, you can write "Chore Service Client Fund" in the memo of your check.

Thank you!



Tax-free gifts can be made by IRA holders who are 70-1/2 years or older to Chore from their IRA Required Minimum Distribution. These gifts must be made directly from the IRA account before 12/31/22 and can be in any amount up to the total of the Required Minimum Distribution. Please check with your advisor if you wish to take advantage of this gifting option.

Numbers You May Need

Social Services

Meal Sites

Senior Centers

Canaan (860) 824-3133 ext. 110

Cornwall (860) 672-2603

Falls Village (860) 824-9855

860-824-9855

860-824-9855

Kent (860) 927-1586

860-927-2055

860-927-2055

Norfolk (860) 542-5829

860-542-5434

Salisbury/Lakeville

(860) 435-5191

860-435-5186

860-435-5186

Sharon (860) 364-1003

Meals on Wheels

(860) 482-4151

Services for the Blind

(800) 944-9422

Social Security Office Torrington

(860) 496-6900

(877) 405-0486

Center for Medicare Advocacy

(800) 262-4414

Medicare

(800) 633-4227

Western CT Area Agency on Aging

(203) 757-5449

Visiting Nurse / Hospice / Home Care Associations

New Milford Visiting Nurse Association

(860) 354-2216

Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County

(860) 379-8561

(formerly Foothills VNA, VNA Northwest and Salisbury VNA)

"My worker is smart, hardworking, reliable, humorous, diligent, understanding, responsible... a huge asset."

Rhoades-Robinson Grant

Chore would like to thank the Rhoades-Robinson Trust Fund for its \$15,000 grant. Chore is very grateful for this amazingly generous and continuous support. The mission of the Trust is to help non-profits assist residents of the Town of Sharon. This past fiscal year, two Sharon residents who work for Chore part-time provided 19 Sharon residents with 785 hours of service.

How does Chore Service Work?

Chore Service helps elderly and disabled residents of Canaan, Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, Norfolk, Salisbury/Lakeville and Sharon with household chores, home maintenance, errands and, occasionally, transportation. The purpose of the program is to help people stay at home safely and independently. Chore Service also provides part-time employment and volunteer opportunities for local residents. Client contributions are supplemented by a federal grant as well as donations from towns, churches, charitable funds and individuals so that the program can remain affordable for our target population of fixed low-income families. We do not send bills and only ask the financial information required by our grant funding. Clients are provided with a suggested contribution scale and are asked to contribute what they can (if they can) back toward the service. Workers are paid the same rate regardless of the client's contribution.

Garden Party Plans for 2023

Garden Party plans are underway to celebrate our 31st year of service. Our 2023 annual event will be in the lovely gardens of Nancy Hengen and Henry Monaghan in Sharon. These gardens have both sunny and shady areas with a lovely view of southwestern hills beyond a Sharon Land Trust field. A perennial garden juts out in the grass, creating inner and outer lawn areas. The inner lawn is partially encircled by a shady garden, including rhododendrons, azaleas and hostas. An s-shaped hemlock hedge, fronted by an easy-care shrub and flower garden, delineates the outer lawn. Two small water gardens are joined by a rivulet and filled by a recirculating waterfall. Annual pots brighten a kitchen brick terrace and various other nooks.

You won't want to miss this wonderful garden next summer, so watch for your Save the Date card this winter!



La Bonne's Rebate Program
Chore Service is a participant in the
"Cash for Charities Rebate Program"
If you shop there, do send your register receipts to us. LaBonne's will donate 1% of the non-taxable amount to Chore Service. *Thank you!*



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