

Hinesburg Community Resource Center



Hinesburg Community
RESOURCE CENTER

The Hinesburg Community Resource Center (HCRC) is a volunteer driven non-profit organization of neighbors helping neighbors. We have served the Hinesburg Community since 1986. Program updates are for our fiscal year (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022). Our programming includes the Hinesburg Food Shelf, Friends of Families, the Emergency Assistance Fund and Medical Equipment Lending.

Our volunteer-run Hinesburg Food Shelf, located at 51 Ballards Corner Road, served 127 families over 776 visits. We are open twice per week, and families may visit once per month to stock up on groceries and an extra time per month to pick up more fresh produce. We also offered a full Thanksgiving meal to over 70 households and vacation meal bags to kids during school breaks. Through our membership with the VT Foodbank, partnerships with local farms and businesses and generous community donations, we are proud to be able to provide pantry staples, local fresh produce, dairy, meat, personal care products, diapers, pet food, and more. We look forward to bringing clients back inside for indoor shopping in the new year while also maintaining the option for pre-packed boxes brought to your vehicle.

The HCRC Emergency Assistance Fund is available to individuals who are struggling to pay for necessary expenses. Often times, someone is out of work because of an injury or an unexpected car repair or medical bill caused them to fall behind, and our fund allows us to step in and help. This year, the fund helped 19 families (59 individuals) pay for basic needs including utility bills, heating fuel, car payments and repairs, and more. We're already seeing an increase in requests due to rising utility costs, especially fuel. As we field these requests, we are also able to educate these community members on other resources that may be available to them.

Friends of Families (FoF) was excited to finally bring back in-person programming including weekly playgroups, summer story times and the annual Welcome Baby Picnic! Weekly playgroups at the United Church of Hinesburg are for ages birth to five with a caregiver and include open play, songs and story time. It's been wonderful seeing old and new families and we hope to launch additional programming in the new year. FoF also hosted two free kids clothing and book swaps that were made possible through many community donations and volunteers. The community also helped us host a school supply drive and provide quarantine activity kits to young kids.

HCRC's Medical Equipment Lending Program is stocked with crutches, wheelchairs, walkers, and more, all donated from the community and available to borrow. Medical equipment can be expensive and burdensome so we are happy to be able to provide a free, simple solution for the community.

HCRC received financial and in-kind support this year from businesses and individuals, the Towns of Hinesburg, Huntington, Monkton and St. George, farms, faith groups, organizations, social clubs, and private foundations. All profits from our Twice is Nice thrift store also fund our programs. We could not provide these programs without all of these incredible contributions and our amazing volunteers. We are so grateful to have this support as we work towards our vision of a community where people are connected and are not in need.

Shannon Wheeler, Executive Director