

WELFARE REPORT

Dear Plainfield Community,

My name is Stephanie Schell and I am the new Community Resource Director for the Town of Plainfield. I wanted to take this time to introduce myself and my new role in our special town that we all call home.

As the Community Resource Director I am eager to help anyone that might be having a difficult time or that might have questions about local support services. I help many different families in town with housing issues, safety issues, budget planning, applications for fuel & medical assistance, transportation issues and referrals for support services such as meals on wheels or in-house care. I help to provide food and other necessary items to those who are in need or crisis. All the conversations and services that are provided are strictly confidential.

I want to tell you about two amazing resources that we have in town. The first is our Food Pantry. This was established in June 2013 with the help of the Plainfield School Community during Beaupre Community Service Day. The Christ Community Church has been very generous. The Church has given the Town a lovely handicap accessible space to operate our food pantry. Although the Pantry is located at the church there is no affiliation or religious connection to this wonderful resource. The Pantry is well stocked with a variety of non-perishable foods, personal hygiene products and pet food. We warmly welcome anyone in town and residents of Cornish that need help getting by. The hours of operation are the 3rd Friday & Saturday of each month from 9-12 noon or when there is a serious need. Again, the Pantry is located in the Christ Community Church (Big Red Barn) on Route 12 A across from the Plainfield Fire Department.

The second great resource is the Clothing Swap Rooms. These rooms have been set up like little clothing boutiques. One room is for children and the other is for adults. The clothing is in exceptional condition and is FREE to anyone! They're open Tuesday through Friday from 9-3 p.m. and also the 3rd Saturday of the month from 9-12 p.m. This resource is located and maintained by the Christ Community Church members. As the Community Resource Director my responsibilities include, but are not limited to dispersing aid in the form of vouchers for rent, security deposits, prevention of eviction, fuel, utilities, food and prescriptions when deemed critically necessary for health and safety reasons. An application is required to determine eligibility of services. As Director I work with many local service agencies. Here are just a few that I work closely with, Social Security Administration, State of NH Health & Human Services, Visiting Nurses Alliance, Community Alliance of Human Services, LISTEN and Southwestern Community Services in order to provide information, referrals and assistance to residents. In the year of 2013, a total of \$ 4,703.07 was disbursed to assist households in need. The Food Pantry from June-December 2013 served 33 individuals (17 adults & 16 children). The breakdown for monies disbursed in 2013 is as follows:

Housing	\$2,008.92
Electric	\$ 200.00
Heating Fuel	\$2,340.47
Food * (Food was provided by the Food Pantry after June 20th)	\$ 123.68
Gas	\$ 30.00
TOTAL	\$4,703.07

One of my goals for 2014 is to make Welfare Health & Safety Home Visits. These visits would be to those members in our community that have had emergency personnel to their home for either medical assistance or for potentially unsafe living environments. By providing a follow up visit I hope that I can help when outside resources might be needed.

Finally, I want to thank all those friends and neighbors who have collected food, donated food and contributed monetary gifts to the Community Resource Room & Food Pantry. There are numerous community groups and individuals who have provided very generous donations to help our community.

Do you need assistance or know of a neighbor that could use a helping hand?

Please contact:

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