

November 6th, 2023

Board of Selectmen, Town of Boscawen
257 Main Street
Boscawen, New Hampshire 03276

Dear Board of Selectmen:

The Community Action Program Belknap-Merrimack Counties operates a resource center open to Boscawen residents in Concord, NH. This CAP Resource Center is funded primarily from three main sources: local tax dollars in conjunction with funding from the Electric Assistance Program (via the state utility companies) and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (a federal program also known as Fuel Assistance Program). The Center is the local service delivery network for agency programs in your community. The local support of our Center is vital for us to continue intake, referral, contact, and support with residents of your community.

We have compiled data regarding Agency programs accessed by Boscawen residents, including the number of residents served and the dollar amount of assistance provided through the work of the Center staff. In the most recent program year, the programs run through our Center served more than 269 Boscawen households and, through fuel, electric, and food assistance, provided \$257,576.25 worth of service dollars to residents of Boscawen. We would be happy to share the budget for the minimum cost of maintaining the Center at your request.

We will continue to work closely with your welfare officer to ensure the maximum availability of resources from our programs, as well as continue to mobilize any resources other than local tax dollars that become available to help serve residents of your community. To help us continue to provide support to your local community, we respectfully request consideration of our services and submit the following recommendation to the Budget Committee:

“To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,600.00 for the continuation of services to the low-income residents of Boscawen through the Concord Resource Center of the Community Action Program Belknap-Merrimack Counties, Inc.”

We thank you for your continued interest and support of our programs. As always, we will be available to answer any questions that you may have. I can be reached via phone at 603-225-3295 ext. 1150 or via email at bheyward@capbm.org.

Sincerely,
Beth Heyward
Director of Strategy and Planning

Boscawen Summary of Services

ENERGY ASSISTANCE – The center staff provide direct service.

PROGRAM	Description	Units of Service	Value
Fuel Assistance Program	Assists income eligible households with cost of energy during prime heating season. This year, benefits were also given to assist with cooling costs.	Enrolled: 141 households 296 people	\$221,652.00 – heat
Electric Assistance Program	Assists income eligible households by providing a specific tier of discount ranging from 8% to 76% off electric bills	Enrolled: 127 households	\$30,627.25 amount of discount
Weatherization	Improves the energy efficiency of income eligible households	1 households	\$5,297
Other assistance programs	Water/Sewer Assistance, State emergency energy programs, etc	10 households	\$6,500.00

FOOD ASSISTANCE – The center staff provide direct service.

PROGRAM	Description	Units of Service	Value
Concord Food Pantry	This food pantry is run 100% by our resource center staff with only local funding	1 household 3 people 30 meals	\$150.00 Value: \$5/meal
Emergency Food Assistance Program	This program provides USDA food to local food pantries for free	Cases of food allocated to Boscawen pantries	\$104,218.76

HOUSING ASSISTANCE – The center staff frequently refer clients to these programs.

PROGRAM	Description	Units of Service	Value
NH Emergency Rental Assistance Program	This COVID-relief program provided funds for income-eligible households with rent and other housing expenses	Enrolled: 36 households	\$307,934.13 Paid in rent and housing expenses
Other Housing Programs	These smaller programs assist with housing expenses (i.e. security deposits)		

All data is from most recent program year for program.

TOTAL: \$257,576.25 (not including housing assistance from NH ERAP)