



November 4, 2009

Board of Selectmen
Town of Grantham
PO Box 276
Grantham, NH 03753

Dear Board of Selectmen,

In 2010, Lake Sunapee Region VNA and Hospice (LSRVNA) will mark its 40th anniversary. Since its inception, LSRVNA has evolved from a grassroots organization into a local institution and now provides comprehensive home health care and some health maintenance services for all residents of Grantham and 16 other towns in Merrimack and Sullivan Counties. Our staff strives to provide care and support services to maximize the independence and quality of life and to preserve the dignity of all residents in the towns we serve.

Please accept my deepest thanks for your ongoing support of our Agency which has enabled LSRVNA staff to help residents of Grantham to remain in their homes while recovering from acute illnesses or while living with the limitations imposed by chronic disease conditions and other illnesses. In addition, LSRVNA staff provides hospice care which enables some residents to spend their remaining days in their own or their loved ones' homes.

All of LSRVNA's employees and trustees are firm believers in the value and necessity of home health care. From these beliefs stem our pledge to all residents of Grantham, which may be summed up as follows: LSRVNA personnel will continue to provide all residents with all of its services, except for long-term private duty care, regardless of insurance coverage or ability to pay for care.

Most of the services provided by LSRVNA are paid for through Medicare, Medicaid and major insurance carriers. Unfortunately, most of these third-party payors reimburse LSRVNA at a rate lower than the Agency's actual cost to provide its services. For example, New Hampshire Medicaid reimburses LSRVNA at a rate equal to about 65 % of the Agency's cost to provide its services.

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1-800-310-4077
Serving Merrimack and Sullivan Counties

In addition to reimbursement shortfalls, LSRVNA incurs significant annual expenses while providing supportive services which are available to all residents. These services fall into a variety of categories, including (but not limited to): community education and specialized training; pediatric outreach; bereavement, caregiver, parenting and other support groups; and health screenings and clinics. In 2009, these services will have a projected value of over \$347K.¹

Because of reimbursement shortfalls and these other expenses, LSRVNA incurs an operating deficit. This is negated by a combination of private donations, grants, and funding from the towns we serve. For 2010, the Agency is seeking support from the Town of Grantham at a per capita rate of \$2.76, which is identical to the rate of support sought in 2009. Since most recent report published by the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning estimates the Grantham population at 2,473, LSRVNA requests support from the Town of Grantham in the amount of \$6,825.48.

In support of my request, I am providing some statistics which illustrate the depth of our Agency's involvement in the Town of Grantham. In the past year, LSRVNA:

- ❖ Provided over 2,165 hours of nursing, therapy and in-home long term supportive care to 84 residents;
- ❖ Provided approximately 1318 in-home nursing, therapy and social work visits to these residents; and,
- ❖ Twelve residents received 260 visits through our hospice program and, thanks in part to our support, were able to spend their last days at home. Their family and loved ones are eligible for bereavement support and counseling for the next year at no cost.

Additionally, at least 285 residents utilized foot care, flu, blood pressure and parent child clinics provided by LSRVNA.

On behalf of all Agency employees and the Board of Trustees, thank you for your continuing support and we look forward to continuing to serve any and all Grantham residents in 2010.

Sincerely,



Scott A. Fabry, RN
President and CEO

¹ Source: Lake Sunapee Region Visiting Nurse Association Community Benefits Plan 2009. On file with the Office of the Attorney General, Charitable Trust Unit, 33 Capitol Street, Concord, NH 03301-6397.



Southwestern Community Services

Over 40 years of people helping people in Cheshire and Sullivan counties

October 14, 2009

Mr. Harold Haddock, Chair
Board of Selectmen
Town of Grantham NH
300 Route 10 North
Grantham NH 03753-3618

Dear Chairman Haddock,

We at Southwestern Community Services, Inc. wish to thank you once again for last year's appropriation for our agency.

As we have in years past, we are asking the local communities with which we work to consider a small appropriation to assist with our outreach effort. Although our costs have risen, as have yours, I am sure, we are trying to keep our new request as low as possible, knowing that resources are limited.

I am enclosing an updated list of resources and services that Southwestern Community Services delivered to the residents of Grantham during the past year. Upon completion of your review, we respectfully request that we be placed on your town warrant to ask the voters to appropriate the sum of \$850. This will allow us to continue the outreach and service delivery in Grantham at the same level as in the past.

We look forward to continuing the excellent working relationship that we have had with Grantham over the past forty years.

In closing, I would be happy to meet with the Board of Selectmen or Budget Committee, or any group you suggest in an effort to further detail the significance of our request.

I can be reached at (603) 352-7512, extension 4123. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

David W. Osgood, Deputy Director
Southwestern Community Services, Inc.

DWO/j
Enclosure

GRANTHAM
OCT 19 2009
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE

P.O. Box 603 / 63 Community Way
Keene, NH 03431
(603) 352-7512 or (800) 529-0005
Fax: (603) 352-3618



TTY-NH: (800) 735-2964

P.O. Box 1338 / 96-102 Main Street
Claremont, NH 03743
(603) 542-9528
Fax: (603) 542-3140



Southwestern Community Services Inc.
A Community Action Agency Serving Cheshire & Sullivan Counties

Grantham

Page 1 of 6

City / Town Report - 2009

*** Direct Assistance to Residents: \$46,692.96**

**** Economic Impact: \$116,732.40**

1.5% of Direct Assistance: \$700.39

*****Total Number of Households Served: 50**

*****Total Number of Residents Served: 77**

Average Benefit Per Household: 933.86

Average Benefit per Resident: 606.40

* Property Taxes and Administrative Payroll are NOT included in the direct assistance or economic impact totals.

** Economic Impact is calculated by multiplying the direct assistance by a factor of 2.5

***Some Households receive benefits from more than one program and may therefore be duplicated. However, the amount shown as Direct Assistance to Residents is the actual expenditures to the residents of this town.

WEST CENTRAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Member of  DARTMOUTH-HITCHCOCK ALLIANCE

October 15, 2009

Becky Newton
Town Manager
Town of Grantham
P O Box 276
Grantham, NH 03753

Dear Ms Newton:

In FY 2009, West Central Behavioral Health received an appropriation of \$2,420 from the Town of Grantham. We are grateful for this appropriation that enabled us to provide \$8,688 free or reduced cost mental and behavioral health services to residents of Grantham who are uninsured or underinsured. We are committed to making quality mental health services available regardless of ability to pay to all communities in our service areas and are asking the cities and towns we serve to help us sustain that commitment to many of our most vulnerable neighbors. In order to achieve this goal we are requesting a FY 2010 appropriation of \$2,420.

West Central Behavioral Health is the NH designated Community Mental Health Center for Grantham, as well as Sullivan and Southern Grafton Counties. Our mission is "to promote, preserve, and strengthen the mental health and quality of life for individuals and their communities through the delivery of integrated, comprehensive services". Our consumers suffer from a range of disorders and illnesses: life threatening severe, chronic mental illness such as psychosis, schizophrenia, and bipolar disorder; all forms of addiction, as well as anxiety, depression, divorce or relationship related stress, and other impairing but highly treatable conditions. We work with all ages in outpatient clinics, homes, nursing homes, schools, and residential supported living programs, offering a broad variety of counseling, psychiatric services, case management and emergency consultations.

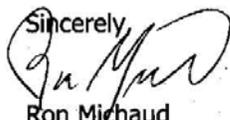
Some of the services provided to residents of Grantham last year include:

- ♦ 34 Grantham children and their families received 531 hours of therapy from our Counseling Centers in Lebanon and Newport.
- ♦ 31 Grantham adults received 781 hours of therapy from our centers in Lebanon and Newport.

These 65 Grantham residents received \$8,688 in discounts. This is why we have traditionally asked Grantham to pick up a portion of the discounts.

Our request of \$2,420 helps us to continue to serve all Grantham residents who request our services whether or not they can pay our full costs.

Sincerely,



Ron Michaud
Community Relations Officer

9 Hanover Street, Suite 2 • Lebanon, New Hampshire 03766 • www.wcbh.org
Phone: (603) 448-0126 • Toll Free NH: (800) 540-0126 • Fax: (603) 448-0129

GRANTHAM COMMUNITY CRISIS FUND

“Neighbor Helping Neighbor”

The goal of the Grantham Crisis Fund is to offer assistance in unforeseen crisis. We are not a long-term solution to economic woes, but a helping hand to rise above the problem. This help comes in the form of financial donations that we receive from the private individuals of Grantham and the local organizations that chose to sponsor us. With their help we have been able to assist when we have been called upon. We cannot stress enough our gratitude to these people and organizations.

We distributed \$7,000 in assistance this year and this continues to be the average as in the last 3 years. As we are all aware, the economic downturn this year made situations that might have before seemed slight turn into large obstacles. We all know one brief medical emergency can be very costly and when insurance is not an option, it can be overwhelming to a family in need. Most of our requests were for assistance for utilities, food and medical bills. All our monies come from donations and we assist only in Grantham so the money you give stays in this community.

~~Don't forget to call for assistance about assistance for your own~~