



The mission of **The Hamilton Foundation (THF)** is to respond to the immediate needs of Hamilton residents in financial distress by providing short term monetary support and referral to appropriate social service agencies.

What does THF do?

THF provides financial assistance as well as non-financial guidance to Hamilton residents who qualify for needs within THF's mission, including, but not limited to:

- Mortgage or rent assistance
- Emergency home repairs
- Emergency heating and utilities
- Temporary transportation
- Food and nutrition
- Child care
- Children's scholarships
- Home health care
- Prescriptions and medical supplies

While THF does not replace traditional government programs or social service organizations, it helps people in ways that those programs cannot. It also maintains a directory of over 60 regional social service agencies and refers people to those programs when appropriate.



How did THF come to be?

The inspiration for THF came from concerned citizens who have personally seen fellow townspeople with urgent needs for financial support. It is a common misconception that Hamilton is a universally affluent community. Severe economic and personal distress -- both short-term and long-term -- does exist here.

How do I qualify for assistance?

You must be a Hamilton resident and be able to provide information on your need.

How do I make a request for assistance?

To request assistance, simply call the THF Coordinator at **978-233-1816** and leave a brief message describing your need and how you can be reached.

Then what happens?

The THF coordinator will contact you and ask you to fully describe your need. She will also request basic financial information including monthly income and expenses.

She will review your information and decide whether the request is consistent with THF's mission. If it is, she will decide on the type and amount of assistance that THF can provide. In some cases, she will bring the information to the THF Board for review and determination.

How is financial assistance provided?

An outstanding bill from a vendor or creditor must be provided to the coordinator. She will then arrange for a payment to be made directly to the vendor or creditor. In some cases, cards for food and gasoline may also be provided.

Can a request be made for someone else?

Yes. The THF Coordinator investigates all requests for assistance.

Who will know of a request for help?

Strict confidentiality is maintained. The THF Coordinator, or her designee, is the only person who knows a recipient's identity.

Are any tax dollars used for this program?

No. THF is entirely funded by private donations. Contributions are also tax deductible.

How can I contribute to THF?

Contributions can be made by check to:

The Hamilton Foundation
c/o Hamilton Town Hall
PO Box 429
577 Bay Road
Hamilton, MA 01936

Who are our neighbors in need?

In the past year, Hamilton residents received over 3,731 food orders (55% of the total) from the Acord Food Pantry.

During this school year 178 children in the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District are receiving free or reduced-price lunches. This represents nearly 10% of enrollment.

Since THF was formed in 2005, over 230 requests for support have been met. This represents more than \$90,000 in payments for electricity, heat, rent, housing repairs, mortgages, phone bills, and cards for food and gasoline.

Recent emergency grants include payments for:

- oil bill for elderly couple on fixed income
- utility bill for single mother with three children
- rent for young couple with recent job loss
- carpentry repairs for an elderly woman
- unexpected medical bill for a disabled elderly man
- food and medicine for a recently divorced woman and her children

What else does THF do?

- Educates the community about services available through THF and other organizations.
- Conducts forums with other similar organizations to exchange information, coordinate services, and educate the public of citizen needs.

Other Available Resources

Hamilton Housing Authority

978-468-3981

Hamilton Council on Aging

978-468-5595

Acord Food Pantry

(W 9:30-11AM, Th. 6:30-7:30pm, Sat. 9-11 am)

978-468-7424

Senior Care Inc. (M-F, 9-5)

978-281-1750

Action, Inc. (M-F, 9-5)

978-282-1000

SeniorCare Meals on Wheels & Elder Dining Site (M-F, 9-5)

978-281-1750

HAWC (Domestic Abuser Hotline)

800-547-1649

Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program

978-922-2110

Mass Health

800-841-2900

SNAP Nutrition Assistance Program

781-338-6480

Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance

978-825-7300

Commonwealth Care

800-841-2900

Salvation Army

978-922-4522

SafeLink Wireless

800-723-3546



The Hamilton
Foundation
c/o Hamilton Town Hall
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[www.hamiltonma.gov/government/
hamilton-foundation/](http://www.hamiltonma.gov/government/hamilton-foundation/)



Neighbors
Helping
Neighbors
in times of need