Hello Friends of LCEF,

This quote from Maya Angelou inspired my message to you for 2023. “Try to be a rainbow in someone else’s cloud.” I believe that’s what we volunteers do with Louisa Community Emergency Fund (LCEF). Our clients call or email us with stories of loss, grief, and despair. Sometimes they feel abandoned and are always in some type of personal crisis. The last couple years were extra troubling with the pandemic, and now the world is trying to return to “normal”. Most of the Covid related government assistance programs have ended, and our clients are realizing their bills are beyond their reach.

The mission of the LCEF TLC FUND is to assist Louisa County Residents with the basic needs of daily living during a crisis situation, while providing education and referral services that will help them become more self-sufficient. We provide financial assistance to keep local families in their homes, warm and safe. We strive to provide them with tools to help them have a brighter future. LCEF is the only organization in Louisa County that was specifically created to help with housing payments during a family crisis.

Our intake coordination has temporarily changed, so now volunteers at RuraLove (Goshen Baptist Association) work with our clients to keep them in their homes. Often Goshen and LCEF both contribute to pay their bills. We have had several homeless individuals and some families who had no where to live. We pay for a local motel room for them and provide information to help them find more permanent shelter.

All of this happens because of you, our generous donors. With your help, we will continue assisting our neighbors in crisis, working to provide that rainbow of hope for their future.

Lin Kogle, LCEF Chairperson

In 2022, LCEF provided nearly $50,000 in financial assistance to 121 families, including 160 adults and 110 children. Administrative expense was only 3% of our total income. LCEF was able to again meet the challenging demand for assistance, thanks to our all-volunteer board and generous supporters!

**Partnerships** are crucial to our success. This year, LCEF partnered with Monticello Area Community Action Agency (MACAA) and RuraLove (Goshen Baptist Association) to handle our intake process with clients. They process the calls and online requests for those applying for assistance. This simplifies the process for clients, since MACAA handles funds for utility assistance from Dominion EnergyShare and RuraLove also provides crisis assistance. Virginia Cooperative Extension’s Louisa office provides free and confidential budget classes for some of our clients. LCEF also provides referrals to other critical service providers, like Louisa Resource Council and Dept. of Human Services.
A thank you note from one of our clients reads, “Thank you so much for helping me and my small family. I have been taking care of my two grandchildren ages 2 & 3 and then my daughter moved in with me also. I had car problems and had to pay for major repairs. In the meantime, I lost my job in Stafford. There was no income in the household. You will never know the happiness brought to me by your generosity in assisting me with my past due rent.”

We recently received a donation from a local family, who sent an accompanying note, “It is a God send to have organizations like yours to help people in their times of need. Thank you.” Another donor shared, “Thank you for all you do to help people in our community. Blessings to you.”

From Lola Richardson: “It is my pleasure to reflect on a job well done by the Louisa Community Emergency Fund. Being a member of the LCEF Board of Directors has been a wonderful experience with people that are innovative and impressive. I cannot express enough how valuable this organization is to the citizens of Louisa County. Despite the challenges of COVID, inflation, and a possible recession, LCEF kept their focus and provided the needed services to local residents. I want to express my gratitude for the successful collaborative experience of working with men and women of outstanding character and abilities.”

Thank You

Many thanks to our 2022 supporters

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