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November 2019

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Dear Friends,

“A responsive, community-based organization whose mission is to diminish the effects of poverty in Avon and Avon Lake.”

These words begin the mission statement of Community Resource Services. Each of these words carries weight, but “responsive” and “community-based” sum up the character of CRS and its staff.

Having a finger on the pulse of the community and responding to individual clients’ needs are hallmarks of the day-to-day work at CRS. For example, during the January shutdown that furloughed government workers for 35 days, CRS was able to marshal direct aid and – just as important – information for those temporarily in need. These efforts come in addition to the programs that have come to mark the CRS mission: food assistance, emergency financial assistance, back-to-school backpacks, holiday gift baskets and all of the activities that fill the CRS program year.

In 2018, we served 1,239 individuals in Avon and Avon Lake, including 157 senior citizens, 513 adults and 569 children. We distributed approximately 98,000 pounds of food, and provided housing assistance to prevent eviction 78 times and utility assistance to prevent disconnection 216 times. More than 240 students started the school year with the supplies they needed through our Back-to-School-Readiness Program, and 327 children were provided Christmas gifts, pajamas and coats through our Santa’s Workshop.

Comparing annualized statistics (September over September), CRS has increased its provision of emergency funds for housing by 7 percent and auto repairs by 4 percent. Once again, CRS is on pace to lend a hand to more than 1,000 community members this year. Chances are that someone you know has had a burden eased through the work of CRS.

During this holiday season, please consider making a gift to the CRS Annual Fund. Your generosity will be put to work right here in your community.

Sincerely,



John M. Alten
President, CRS Board of Directors

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