

Lend a Hand Society

Helping people toward a better future



2015 Annual Report

Lend A Hand Society

89 South Street, Suite 203
Boston, MA 02111

MISSION

Lend A Hand Society provides financial assistance to low-income families, individuals, seniors and disabled people primarily in the greater Boston, Massachusetts area. Working with advocates at non-profit social service agencies who make requests on behalf of their clients, LAH assists in meeting the basic needs of those who need help and does so in a timely, dignified way.

HISTORY

Lend A Hand Society was founded in 1890 by Dr. Edward Everett Hale and incorporated in 1892. Dr. Hale was a renowned philosopher, author, Unitarian minister and philanthropist whose philosophy of reaching out to help people in need became the guiding principle for LAH. Hale played an important role in many social issues of his day - the abolition of slavery, the temperance movement, the U.S. Sanitary Commission, the formation of the Associated Charities and world peace movements. In 1890, in partnership with Sarah Brigham, LAH began to send books to prisons, rural libraries and schools in the South regardless of the race of their students. Locally, Hale was involved in the establishment of the Floating Hospital for Children. His book, "Ten Times One is Ten" was the inspiration for the rise of over 800 Lend A Hand Clubs. Hale's philosophy and many wonderful mottos continue to teach and inspire us over a century later.

I am only one, but still I am one.
I cannot do everything,
but still I can do something.
And because I cannot do everything,
I will not refuse to do something that I can do.

Karen Freund
Darcy and Howard Fuguet
Chloe Green
William and Grace Gregor
Kasha Gula
Miles and Linda Hapgood
Elsie Herrmann
Nancy and Thomas Inui
Margaret Jackson
Mark Jensen
Elizabeth and Stephen Kendrick
Linda and Stephen Lindsay
Mary Louise McLean
Mark Nielsen
Karin Peterson
Phillips Family
Dean and Toby Rodman
Mary L. Scudder
Robert Sessions
Jane Siegel
Eleanor Williams
Howard and Lenore Winkler

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Nancy S. Inui
Robert Sessions
Mark Chadbourne
Elizabeth Kendrick
The Reverend Sarah Clark
Thomas H. Dahill
Ada Focer
Darcy Fuguet
William Gregor
Elsie Herrmann
Mark Jensen
Eleanor Williams

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Clerk

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Nancy Cooper

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

For the year ended December 31, 2015

INCOME:

Donations	\$64,737
Foundations	47,000
Endowment funds	74,000
Total Income	\$185,737

EXPENSES:

Grants:	
Emergency Assistance	\$119,583
Camperships	12,270
Book Mission	2,556
General Expenses	51,064
Total Expenses	\$185,473

THE YEAR

In 2015 Lend a Hand Society received over 800 requests for assistance from non-profit agencies on behalf of clients struggling to hold on to or obtain housing, utilities, and the basic necessities of life.

Individuals and families assisted in 2015 include:

Ms. M who lost her job and fell behind in her rent. She is looking for another job but couldn't keep up without her income. Referred by Home Start

Mr. Y, is a lovely, sweet-tempered man who worked as a security guard at a Massachusetts college and an investment firm. Widowed, he now lives in a senior home and on his fixed income, struggles to pay for medications he needs. Referred by Hale House

Ms. O worked until she received a diagnosis of metastatic thyroid cancer. As a result of her diagnosis and treatment, she is unable to work and has fallen behind in some of her utility bills. Referred by Mass General Hospital

Ms. F is a resilient, hardworking, caring woman with two children the oldest who has autism. Ms. F is a survivor of domestic violence and is in nursing school. She had to spend much of her limited income for car repairs to get to her training program every day. LAH aid helped when she fell behind in her rent. Referred by The Guidance Center

As much as the world has changed and become more complicated, LAH has maintained Hale's simple approach. LAH is treasured for the ease and practicality of the program, which gets people what they need easily and quickly at a time when few if any resources are otherwise available.

Needs are much greater than our resources, so we are always glad to enlarge the circle of Lend A Hand friends.

SUPPORT

Donors

Lend A Hand Society is grateful to the many donors whose contributions make our work possible. We would also like to thank the foundations and anonymous donors who are not included in this list as well as those who contribute in numerous other ways.

Alma Antoniotti and Gail Jennes
Heather Atwood and David Rabin
Mark Chadbourne
Richard and Patricia Chute
Chester and Ellen Clark
Sarah Clark
Nancy Cooper and Bruce Meltzer
Thomas Dahill
Mary Ann Daily
First Church Boston
Ada Focer
Robert Frank

Partnering for results

LAH worked with 85 nonprofit organizations and programs in the Greater Boston area

Preventing eviction

Grants for rental assistance helped to prevent over 280 evictions of families and individuals

Making a difference

LAH helped 425 households address emergency situations

Lending a caring hand

Helping people in a simple, dignified, respectful and caring way

PROGRAM GRANTS 2015

Lend A Hand Society makes grants in three program areas: emergency assistance, camperships for children and teens, and the book mission.

Emergency Assistance

Grants for the year

Requests received	819
Referring partner agencies	85
Grants made	428
Amount of grants	\$119,583

Providing for basic needs of families and individuals

Back rent	62%
Security deposits	4%
Moving and storage	> 1%
Utility bills	29%
Medical/dental	3%
Job training	> 1%
Daycare	> 1%

Partner Agencies

hospitals
 health clinics
 city human service agencies
 community action programs
 homeless shelters
 legal aid programs
 immigrant services programs
 elder services agencies
 domestic violence programs
 job training programs
 daycare centers
 state human service agencies
 state housing agencies
 veterans services agencies
 AIDS programs
 child protection agencies

How LAH Emergency Assistance grants make a difference in people's lives

- rent to prevent eviction
- security deposits to secure permanent housing
- furniture storage and moving costs to keep household belongings
- household supplies and equipment for those moving into independent living situations or settling into housing after being homeless
- utilities for clients at risk of heat or electricity shut-off during the winter months
- prosthesis replacements, orthopedic shoes, braces, special insulin pumps for diabetic patients, hospital mattresses for bedridden patients moving home after hospitalization
- medical support for AIDS and other patients
- eyeglasses, hearing aids, dentures for elderly and others
- ESL classes for individuals of foreign birth help them begin a new life in this country
- employment training and certification programs
- GED fees to help individuals begin careers and move toward financial independence

Camperships

Grants	6
Amount of grants	\$12,270

Grants to non-profit camping agencies provided scholarships for children and teenagers. Camperships benefit inner city youth who are given the opportunity to attend creative, educational, recreational and nurturing camp programs in rural settings outside the city.

Book Mission

Grants	4
Amount of grants	\$2,556

Grants were made to non-profit organizations, schools and colleges for the purchase of books for their lending libraries and educational programs for children, teens and adults to promote literacy and a love of books.