

Lend A Hand Society

Helping people toward a better future



2020 Annual Report

Serving the Greater Boston Community for over 125 Years

LETTER *FROM THE* PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Lend A Hand began 2020 committed to its vital and simple mission: helping people toward a better future. We accomplish this by providing emergency financial assistance to ease the crisis threatening both the present and the future for low-income individuals and families. Through more than 125 years, a process has been developed to work through social workers in Greater Boston to provide needed aid.

By March 2020 we knew we were in for an unknown period of office closures and virtual work, to say nothing of months of uncertainty and health worries. Our social service agency partners – truly all of us – struggled to adjust. Simultaneously, through the rest of the year and well into 2021, the number of emergencies exploded. Many people who had been barely managing were pushed out of work, unable to pay bills, and sickened by COVID.

During this uncertain and scary time, with record numbers of requests, Lend A Hand asked its supporters to help meet the need through contributions to its Urgent Response Campaign. We were not disappointed. Generous donors as well as new friends responded. Lend A Hand's small grants made a world of difference to neighbors in need.

We don't expect the requests to diminish. We are actively working to expand the number of donors who support Lend A Hand's mission.

Numbers in this report tell part of the story but can't convey the human connection. If you helped in 2020, thank you. Please continue or begin your support in 2021. Every gift counts for hurting neighbors.

Kind regards,

Nancy Inui
Board President

20.2%

The poverty rate in Boston is 20.2%, one out of every 4.95 residents.

1 in 5

families in Greater Boston
are a single paycheck away
from financial crisis.

OUR MISSION

Lend A Hand Society strives to improve the lives of families, individuals, seniors and disabled people in the Greater Boston area.

Working with social workers, case managers, and advocates at nonprofit agencies who make requests on behalf of their clients, LAH provides financial assistance in a timely, dignified way to those who need help.

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Unemployment in Massachusetts reached

16.1%

The largest percentage of unemployment occurred in leisure and hospitality, construction, education, and health services.

Grant Areas We Support



EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

rent, heat and electric bills, critical medicines, medical equipment, eyeglasses, and dental care



CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

inner-city youth attend summer programs



BOOK MISSION

nonprofit libraries lending to adults and children to promote literacy and a love of reading

2020

LAH GRANTS *AT WORK*

1459

requests for emergency assistance from over 110 nonprofit agencies averaging over \$128,679 per month

770

emergency assistance grants made in 2020, totaling

\$255,670

320

Boston-area households received rent assistance grants to help prevent eviction and homelessness, totaling over

\$4,462

Storage, moving, transportation, appliances

\$86,772

nearly 34% of our total emergency assistance grants made.



\$161,142

was granted to cover utility costs

\$2,682

covered medical + dental costs, rehabilitation, eyeglasses, medicines



\$12,760

was granted to 5 summer camp programs to provide scholarships for inner-city youth.

“

I just wanted to take a moment to say THANK YOU so much to the folks at Lend A Hand for all you do for the community.

Lend A Hand comes through so consistently for our families and I cannot express enough gratitude for the safety, hope, and security they provide for our families.”

Taryn Marino
Clinician

*The Home for Little Wanderers
A LAH Partner Agency*

\$3,572

was granted to cover book costs for programs at nonprofits, schools, and colleges promoting literacy and a love for reading.

2020 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

LAH financial for the AR 2020

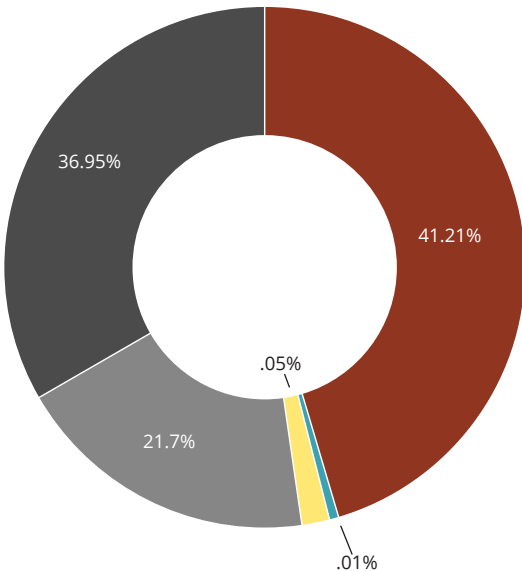
INCOME	\$258,649	
Donations		\$145,271
PPP Grant		\$6,300
AG Gas Assistance Grant*		\$55,000
Interest & Dividends		\$52,078
EXPENSES	\$340,791	
Grants		
Emergency Assistance		\$255,670
Camperships		\$12,760
Book Mission		\$3,572
Operations		\$68,789

**Attorney General's Office Gas Assistance Grant is for a two-year period beginning December 2019.*

The difference between income and expenses was made up by prior year generous support.

LAH 2020 GRANTS

- Rent and other Emergency Assistance
- AG Gas Assistance Grants
- Other Utilities
- Camperships
- Book Mission



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

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

Christine Allen and Daniel Huss
Alma Antoniotti and Gail Jennes
Katharine Bachman and Elizabeth Gawron
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Kenneth and Dorothy Woodcock
Amelia Youngstrom

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First Church Chestnut Hill
Libra Foundation
Jean C. Nichols Trust
MA Attorney General's Office
Phillips Family Charitable Foundation
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Nancy Cooper

Lend A Hand Society

89 South Street

Suite 203

Boston, MA 02111

lend-a-hand-society.org