

# Dear Friend,

Through our REALTOR Community Service Committee, we rally our REALTOR members, affiliates and the general public to identify, support and sustain charitable organizations in our community that improve the quality of life in Berkshire County. We are hosting a very fun Halloween Bowling event to benefit the Berkshire Community Action's (BCAC) Warm Winter Clothing Program for children in need. ALL sponsors will be recognized before, during and after the event. Recognition of donations or good received will be in the following categories:

\$500 + | Event Sponsor: Major signage at event, on registration & reminders
\$250 + | Lane Sponsor: Signage on lanes and recognition at event
\$100 + | Haunted Cash & Scratch Ticket Tree Raffle: signage on the tree
\$ 50 + | Prize Donors: signage on the actual raffle prize drop box

We invite you to join us in our efforts to enhance the well-being of those within the Berkshire community. Your kind and generous donation is greatly appreciated. You may sign up to bowl or to sponsor at <u>www.BerkshireRealtors.net/letsbowl</u>. Thank you for your consideration!



And Multiple Listing Service, Inc.

Our group is a committee of the Berkshire County Board of REALTORS, a 501-c6 not-forprofit trade association. While we give all funds raised to 501-c3 charities, so donations made directly to the Berkshire County Board of REALTORS are not tax deductible. 'Berkshire REALTORS Housing Assistance Fund' to provide emergency housing aid so that Berkshire residents can maintain safe and secure housing in time of crisis. 100% of our fundraising proceeds and donations received go directly to supporting one of our four REALTOR C.A.R.E.S. programs.

## **C** – Community Grants

Twice per year, a Berkshire 501(c)3 will be selected for us to write a grant application to the Massachusetts Charitable Foundation for their efforts in advancing housing and providing homeless assistance in Berkshire County.

### A –Aid in Emergencies

All funds raised and earmarked to the 'Berkshire REALTORS Housing Assistance Fund' will be distributed solely for transitional housing needs of Berkshire County residents who are housing insecure as a result of, but not limited to, natural disasters, domestic abuse or violence, or other personal tragedies. This is handled by a Board of Trustees.

### R – REALTOR® Community Fundraising Events

Annually, the members of the Berkshire County Board of Realtors will establish a series of community initiatives and fundraising events designed to improve and enhance the life of Berkshire residents by sustaining valuable non-profits.

# **E** – Educational Scholarship

Dedicated to investing in tomorrow's leaders, we maintain a restricted investment account for providing an annual scholarship to a deserving business student attending the college.

# S – Service

Our community outreach efforts are successful because REALTORS donate hundreds of service hours every year in soup kitchens, holiday food program coordination, building homes through habitat for humanity and more.

# Over \$290,000 raised and given since 2000

### **General Grant and Fundraising Support Recipients**

- Berkshire Habitat for Humanity | Restore \$1,535, \$3,300
- Northern Berkshire Habitat for Humanity \$1,000
- The Elizabeth Freeman Center \$1,500
- Veteran's Outreach, Grace Manor, \$1,870
- Construct, Inc. \$1,000, \$1,500, \$3,500, \$1,000
- Berkshire Community Action Council (BCAC) \$1,000, \$3,850
- Berkshire County Red Cross, Disaster Recovery \$9,000
- Berkshire REALTORS Housing Trust \$17,915
- Berkshire Children & Families \$2,000
- Elder Services, \$4,600
- Berkshire Food Project \$3,200
- Elizabeth Freeman Center \$4,695, \$1,500, \$1,500, \$14,300
- Neighbor to Neighbor Emergency Fund: \$2,000, \$4,380
- BCC Scholarships: \$28,250 since 2000
- Lenox Affordable Housing Trust: \$3,897
- Pittsfield Community Connection: \$3,000, \$1,000
- Berkshire United Cerebral Palsy: \$4,053

### **Nourishment and Enrichment**

- Breaking Bread Dinners 100 served every 6 weeks, \$5,600
- \$6,000 in COVID Donations made to all Berkshire soup kitchens
- St. Joe's Homeless Dinner 2x per year (not in COVID) 204 served
- Holiday Dinners / Support for Families
- Thanksgiving Angels Day of Volunteers and lots of bread bakers
- Toiletries and Necessities Collections for Shelters
- Non-Perishable Food Collections
- Berkshire Food Project: \$2,975
- Berkshire Bounty, \$1,000

### Family & Children's Support

- Berkshire Homeless Children's Fund \$1,500
- Toys for Tots US Marine Collection Hundreds of gifts donated
- Totes for Tots- 80 bags full of necessities for kids in foster care
  - BCAC Holiday Elves Provide many w/warm clothing at Christmas
- United Way Book House –Book house stocked throughout summer
- Kids Place Services Support \$1,000, \$2,800, \$600
- Domestic Violence and Abuse Prevention Support
- Redfield House: \$2,000
- Louison House: \$3,883, \$8,200

### Health and Wellbeing

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- American Cancer Society Relay for Life
- Home Heating Oil Fundraising Drive for BCAC
- Habitat for Humanity's Annual Build Days
- REALTOR Relief Foundation Disaster Housing: \$15,000
- Strong Little Souls: \$1,100
- Popcares: \$1,503

