

Attention: Residents of Berkshire County Hilltowns!

We have another extraordinary opportunity to help our neighbors in need...but time is of the essence.

\$5 to \$1 match!

The Central Berkshire Fund is offering another challenge grant of \$100,000 to support the Neighbor-to-Neighbor program in our region. **The Fund will match \$5 for every \$1 raised** by the 14,550 residents of Becket, Cummington, Dalton, Hinsdale, Peru, Washington and Windsor.

Last year, you and 341 of your neighbors in the communities of Central Berkshire raised over \$30,000 with gifts ranging from \$1 to \$4,000. The Central Berkshire Fund then contributed \$101,850 to bring the total to over \$130,000. This money has been used to help our neighbors in need and now we need your help to replenish the well of good will for 2011. The challenge is on again! **We need your help to meet it. Donations of ANY size will make a difference.**

To meet this challenge we must raise \$20,000 by June 1, 2011! Please donate today!

To Donate: Make checks payable to Berkshire Taconic/Neighbor-to-Neighbor (your town).
Return in envelope or drop off at your town partner agency. Questions? Please contact programs@berkshiretaconic.org.

Here's how the Neighbor-to-Neighbor challenge grant works:

TOWN	PARTNER AGENCY ACCEPTING DONATIONS	POPULATION* (Figures based on rounded 2000 census numbers.)	TOTAL \$ NEEDED FROM NO FEWER THAN 25 DONORS	CENTRAL BERKSHIRE FUND MATCH	TOTAL \$
Becket	Town of Becket 557 Main St. Becket, MA 01223 413.623.8934	2,000	\$2,750	\$13,750	\$16,500
Cummington	Hilltown Family Center 33 Main St. Cummington MA 01026 413.634.5362	1,000	\$1,375	\$6,875	\$8,250
Dalton	Dalton CRA 400 Main St. Dalton, MA 01226 413.684.0260	7,000	\$9,625	\$48,125	\$57,750
Hinsdale	Town of Hinsdale 39 South St. Hinsdale, MA 01235 413.655.2245	2,000	\$2,750	\$13,750	\$16,500
Peru	Town of Peru 21 West Main Road Peru, MA 01235	1,000	\$1,375	\$6,875	\$8,250
Washington	Town of Washington 8 Summit Hill Rd. Washington, MA 01223 413.623.8878	550	\$750	\$3,750	\$4,500
Windsor	Friends of Windsor 1890 Route 9, Suite 8 Windsor MA 01270	1,000	\$1,375	\$6,875	\$8,250
TOTAL		14,550	\$20,000	\$100,000	\$120,000

* Each town must meet its match with a minimum of 25 gifts per town by June 1, 2011. All of the funds will be dedicated to the Neighbor-to-Neighbor program for that specific town, providing emergency aid to our neighbors in need.

**Every town's donation will be matched individually so long as the full challenge amount is raised. If any town raises less than the challenge amount, its donation will go to the Neighbor-to-Neighbor program for that town, but will not be matched by the Central Berkshire Fund.

Neighbor-to-Neighbor

Extraordinary times inspire extraordinary generosity.

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation's Neighbor-to-Neighbor program provides emergency assistance for local residents who are in economic distress. Neighbor-to-Neighbor makes small grants (generally around \$500) to help those with overdue utilities, medical bills, short-term housing costs, and transportation problems. Checks are written to the vendor (landlord, utility company, pharmacy or mechanic) on behalf of the community member in need. The funds are not intended for long-term or ongoing assistance, but for strategic intervention to help achieve a measure of stability and avert further crises.

Neighbor-to-Neighbor partners with Berkshire Community Action Council, a countywide social service agency to administer this program for the Central Berkshire Fund.

"I don't know where we would have been this winter if it wasn't for Neighbor-to-Neighbor. It's the biggest blessing we've had in years."
—Neighbor-to-Neighbor grant recipient

If you know someone who needs help, please contact:

Berkshire Community Action Council
413-445-4503 extension 140 or n2ngrant@bcacinc.org

Your Central Berkshire neighbors helped by the Central Berkshire Fund last year:

A man with an acute spinal cord injury was facing having to go into a nursing home because his own home could not accommodate a wheelchair: The Central Berkshire Fund paid for the materials to build a ramp for his home. Many of his neighbors contributed their labor to make sure he could safely return home.



A husband and wife, both with disabilities, are living with their two children on a limited income. Neighbor-to-Neighbor provided money to replace their broken hot water tank. Construct, an agency dedicated to preventing homelessness also contributed to this expense.

A single woman with a disability was abandoned by her husband and facing many unpaid bills. Neighbor-to-Neighbor paid her oil bill so that she could stay warm until the Berkshire Community Action Council enrolled her in the Fuel Assistance Program.

You can make a difference!

Donations of ANY size to the Neighbor-to-Neighbor programs in Becket, Cummington, Dalton, Hinsdale, Peru, Washington and Windsor will be matched \$5 to \$1 by the Central Berkshire Fund.

We must raise this money by June 1, 2011. Please donate and spread the word! Thank you.

Berkshire Taconic
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Moving Forward by Giving Back

800 North Main Street, PO Box 400, Sheffield, MA 01257-0400
t: 413-229-0370 f: 413-229-0329 e: info@berkshireracomic.org
www.berkshireracomic.org

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Central Berkshire Fund

a fund of
Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation

The Central Berkshire Fund seeks to improve the quality of life for the residents of Becket, Cummington, Dalton, Hinsdale, Peru, Washington and Windsor. It is an endowed fund of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation that makes grants annually to nonprofits serving the hilltowns. Grants have supported food pantries, enrichment programs for schools, community recreational trails and youth empowerment programs.

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation builds stronger, more vibrant communities and improves the quality of life for all residents of Berkshire County, MA; Columbia County and northeast Dutchess County, NY; and northwest Litchfield County, CT. Since 1987, we have been an agent for positive change in the region we serve. Through education, health care, basic human services, transportation, the arts, youth and senior programs, our grants touch all aspects of life and every person in the Berkshire Taconic region. Each year, we help thousands of donors achieve their philanthropic goals and hundreds of nonprofits carry on their good work. Berkshire Taconic is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization.



Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation is certified in compliance with the national standards of excellence established by the Council on Foundations.