Suffield Community Aid

your local safety net

ANNUAL REPORT
2026



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Our Mission

Suffield Community Aid (SCA) - your local safety net.

SCA provides supportive health and social services that positively affect the well-being of Suffield residents during periods of need.

Meeting Rising Needs

In Fiscal Year (FY) '26, more residents turned to us for help with basic needs. The demand for financial assistance rose, especially for emergencies, housing, energy, and food. We helped residents receive $267,045 in outside aid and provided $223,302 of direct aid, a 32% increase over FY '25. With additional facilitated donations of food and supplies estimated at $85,172, overall, SCA helped deliver ***$575,000+ in financial aid.***

Our many programs also reflected rising needs. For example, pantry visits & food deliveries increased 28%; spending on rent by 172%, home repairs by 86%, and fuel assistance increased by 21%.

Applications for help also increased. SCA staff provided more consultations and referrals to help connect residents to the programs they need. Had it not been for our amazing support from the Suffield community, we would not have been able to meet this rising demand.

We are most thankful to our donors, sponsors, faith communities, civic groups, and local partners for getting us through this tough year. When SNAP was paused, Suffield rushed forward — we received ten times the food donations we normally do. Volunteers continued to play a vital role delivering Meals on Wheels, visiting homebound seniors and helping with the food pantry and packing events for baskets and backpacks. SCA volunteers not only exponentially increase our impact and expand our reach but they inspire SCA staff with their dedication.

2026-2027 Board of Directors

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Jillian Banning, *Secretary*

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Consultation & Support Provided to 534 Individuals

Resident Supports

We continued to support seniors and individuals with disabilities. Last year, 19% more residents enjoyed support visits & outreach than the year before. And 4% more enjoyed consultations for social services.

Health & Wellness

Appointments for Medicare counseling rose for the second year in a row. Participation in the Parkinson's support group grew by 67%. The seniors' Friendly Visitor program grew by 60%.

Transportation subsidies and preschool vision screenings stayed steady. Similar to last year, we loaned 495 pieces of medical equipment. Meals on Wheels served the same number of people but delivered 69% more meals.

Some areas, like medical subsidies and mobile mammography, saw declines in use though, overall, demand remained steady.



Nutmeg Senior Rides



Total Assistance

Money We Helped Residents Access
$267,045

SCA Directly Spent
$223,302

Facilitated Donations and Supplies
$85,172

Total $575,0000

Fiore Food Pantry



28% Increase in Visits

178 Families Served

Financial

Keeping up with the growing cost of living and affordable housing continue to be challenges for some Suffield residents. Many programs showed sharp increases:

Program	Rise over FY '25
Emergency funds	31%
Fuel assistance	21%
Families getting home repairs	50%
Holiday baskets	13%
Home repair funds	86%
Meal subsidies for seniors	17%
Pantry visits and packed food	*28%
Quality of Life funds	12%
Renters Rebate	22%
Veterans Assistance	73%

*Growing throughout the last 3 years

Distributions of pet food, garden vegetables, energy assistance, and vouchers for the farmers market remained unchanged.





Children & Youth

We increased camperships & childcare subsidies by 8% and gifted 17% more backpacks.

Adding 2 scholarships brought their number to 7. They totaled $10,500, of which the Meghan Voisine Fund accounted for $3,000.

The fund gave 35% less to Kindness Grants, which support projects that promote Meghan's values of kindness, equity, acceptance, and inclusion, in part because Suffield Schools took over funding for the Ruler program, a social-emotional curriculum the fund sponsored last fiscal year.

Finally, we partnered with our town's youth services to launch the Suffield Sidekicks program: It helped 30 seniors and employed 38 teens.

Thank you for your support during FY 2026.

Together, we build a stronger, healthier, more connected community.

Strategic Plan Underway

Data shows our neighbors' needs are growing and changing. To make sure we are prepared for the years ahead, we began a comprehensive strategic planning process in FY '26. Recently, we collected input from program participants, volunteers, community partners, and residents. This fall our Board and staff will be meeting to analyze the data and develop an action plan.

For 12 decades, we have adapted to changing needs. The strategic plan will make sure we continue to be trustworthy friends for neighbors in need.









Financial Assistance

Funds we helped residents obtain

Assistance	FY 26	Change
CT Energy Assistance	$180,580	2%
Renter's Rebate	$59,215	22%
Generation Power	$20,720	7%
Salvation Army housing	$3,530	-9%
United Way	$3,000	80%
Emergency food & shelter	-	-100%
Total	$267,045	1%

Our assistance

Campership funds	$11,619	8%
Emergency funds	$12,318	31%
Food, basket & gift cards direct spending	$28,591	0%
Forward Focus	$1,460	-14%
Fuel assistance (private)	$9,458	21%
Home repairs	$95,237	86%
Housing & rent (private funds)	$10,669	172%
Meal subsidies	$13,136	17%
Medical & health subsidies	$931	-82%
Meghan Voisine Funds & Scholarships	$13,059	-35%
Other scholarships	$7,500	25%
Quality of Life Fund	$4,003	12%
Suffield Sidekicks	$5,000	
Transport assistance	$6,437	-12%
Veterans' assistance	$3,884	73%
Total	$223,302	32%
Grand total	**$490,347**	13%

Facilitated assistance of Donated Goods

Facilitated assistance of Donated Goods	$85,172	54%
Grand Total with Facilitated Aid	$575,519	18%









Notable Numbers

Resident Support	FY 26	Change
Applications for energy assistance	212	-15%
Applications for Renters' Rebate	116	20%
Appointments for Medicare	244	7%
Backpacks distributed	91	17%
Families using fuel assistance	78	44%
Families using pantry & packed food	178	14%
Farmers market vouchers	64	3%
Friendly Visitor	8	60%
Home Repair families	9	50%
Holiday baskets	258	13%
Individuals receiving Outreach	190	19%
Individuals who received consultations	534	4%
Loans of medical equipment	495	-1%
Meals on Wheels meals	9,264	69%
Mobile Mammography	11	-15%
Pantry & packed food services	852	28%
Parkinsons Group	10	67%
Preschool vision screening	89	-1%
Senior Center meals	2,769	28%

SCA

Suffield Community Aid

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