

## **2023 Annual Report**

### **Chatham Ecumenical Council Helping Prevent Homelessness, Inc.**

#### **1) Mission Statement and Objectives**

The mission of CECH is to provide financial assistance and hope to those in our community who are struggling with housing issues due to economic difficulties, medical hardships or loss of employment. Our objective is to keep our neighbors, both families and individuals, in their homes. To that end CECH has awarded 1,605 grants totaling \$1,609,344 from its founding in 1993 through December 31, 2023.

CECH is a 501(c)(3) organization. Payments are made directly to vendors to whom the neighbors in need owe money. Funds are not provided directly to the grant recipients.

#### **2) Fiscal Year 2023 (1/1/2023 - 12/31/2023)**

##### **Successes in 2023**

- a. Fund raising activities were reasonably successful during 2023 - through the good will donations of residents, businesses, churches and homeowners in Chatham and surrounding communities, CECH raised funds for grants to those in need through direct charitable donations in response to CECH's annual fundraising appeal in June and follow up letters in November, as well as cash donations in CECH canisters placed around the community, and interest on CECH's reserve funds. CECH expresses special thanks to St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, Holy Redeemer Roman Catholic Church and the United Methodist Church of Chatham, and many

individual donors and foundations for their generous financial support. In addition, we recognize donations again this year in memory of Dr. Jean-Paul Aucoin and Charles N. Tacke.

The total amount of funds raised was \$42,010, which included:

- \$31,950 direct donations
  - \$ 99 interest
  - \$ 3,816 from Father Sullivan’s Love Walk
  - \$ 375 Town of Chatham Human Services Grant Program
  - \$ 561 Canister donations
  - \$ 5,209 net revenue from CECH’s 2023 Rose Clancy Benefit Concert (see below)
- b. On August 17, 2023, CECH held its third homelessness awareness concert featuring the Rose Clancy Band at the First Congregational Church in Chatham to celebrate a successful year with CECH’s regular contributors, create visibility for the plight of homelessness on Cape Cod and solicit additional membership and support. Through the help of local businesses as sponsors, all the ticket sales were available to directly fund grants to those in need. There were ~150 attendees providing \$3,467 in ticket revenue and donations, and the following sponsors contributed a total of \$3,500:
- \$ 500 Team Guthrie Mabile (Berkshire Hathaway/Robt Paul Prop)
  - \$ 500 Cape Cod 5
  - \$ 500 Got Stryper Charters
  - \$ 250 Chatham Gardens
  - \$ 250 Chatham Village Market
  - \$ 250 South Chatham Liquors
  - \$ 250 Window Boxes on Main
  - \$1,000 Joan Aucoin in loving memory of Jean-Paul Aucoin, MD and Charles N. Tacke and in tribute to CECH founders Phyllis Tileston and Nancy Cole

- Beachcomber - North Beach Shuttle Tours & (\$180 door prize)

Net of expenses, the 2023 Rose Clancy Concert raised a total of \$5,209.

- c. A benefit event featuring comedian Jimmy Tingle is scheduled for Saturday evening July 27, 2024 at St. Christopher’s Episcopal Church in Chatham. \$1,400 in expenses were incurred as of 12/31/2023 in connection with the event.
- d. CECH used the funds raised in 2022 and 2023 and CECH’s reserve from prior years to assist families in Chatham and surrounding Cape Cod communities through 38 grants in 2023 totaling \$66,192 (up from 18 grants in 2022 totaling \$36,198). These 38 families in 2023 live/work in the following communities:
  - Chatham 15
  - Harwich 9
  - Brewster 4
  - Eastham 3
  - Orleans 3
  - Wellfleet 2
  - Truro 1
  - Dennis 1
- e. In June of 2022, CECH contributed \$25,000 to Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod as the Environmental Equity Sponsor for one of the Habitat Cape Cod homes being constructed on George Ryder Road in West Chatham. The \$25,000 grant covered the costs of installing a solar panel array, non-combustion air source heat pump, EVR exchange system and making the home electric vehicle ready.
- f. CECH continues to make progress toward modernizing, upgrading and adding to our mailing and contributor lists to improve the efficiency of our fund-raising efforts. CECH completed donation

request mailings to ~475 past and prospective contributors in June 2023, and provided letters of appreciation and receipts to all of CECH’s contributors in 2023 (~200). The CECH website ([CECHomelessprevention.org](http://CECHomelessprevention.org) and [preventingcapehomelessness.org](http://preventingcapehomelessness.org)) provides information about grant applications and includes a link for donations through Paypal (\$6,283 in Paypal donations was received in 2023 from 36 contributions (up from \$2,165 in 2022 from 23 contributions)).

- g. CECH’s total administrative and fundraising expenses for 2023 were \$6,205 (up from \$5,789 in 2022), the majority of which was for printing and mailing the annual appeal letter and follow up communications, plus the administrative costs for CECH’s required annual filings (note: the Rose Clancy Concert receipts minus expenses are included as net revenue). Thus, \$66,192 out of \$72,397 or 91.4% of expenditures in 2023 (the same % as in 2022) went directly to services (i.e., to pay bills for neighbors in need).

### **Opportunities for 2024**

CECH’s financial targets for 2024 are:

- grants           \$75,000
- donations       \$50,000
- expenses       \$ 6,000

CECH’s main challenge for 2024 is outreach to the community to ensure those in need are identified and adequately supported.

- a. CECH has no paid staff and its administrative expenses are limited to mailing, postage, stationery, copying, accounting fees and tax filings. The Board of CECH makes generous contributions of time and donations, covering a substantial fraction of CECH’s total administrative costs. CECH utilizes the assistance of the staff of the

Homeless Prevention Council, Lower Cape Outreach Council, Chatham Housing Authority, Chatham Council on Aging, and Saint Vincent de Paul to help identify and screen our neighbors in need. In addition to evaluating grant requests, CECH's volunteers are primarily involved in Fund raising and making the community aware of the problem of homelessness.

- b. CECH continued its community outreach plan in 2023. CECH Board members continue to present our mission and clarify the process for requesting assistance in meetings with community bank managers, school nurses, school administrators, and charitable service agencies in Chatham and surrounding communities.
- c. We have continued our involvement with the Chatham Merchant's Association in 2023 to generate community awareness.
- d. We applied to the Town of Chatham for its continued support of CECH in the Town's FY 2025 and received a grant of \$1,500 (\$375 per quarter) to help cover CECH's expenses. We look forward to continued positive impact on our volunteer recruitment efforts from the Human Services Committee publication. We believe this publication will help attract volunteers and donations.
- e. As of December 2023, there were 11 CECH volunteers:

President: Erin Minichiello

Past President: Mildred Hastbacka

Treasurer: Sally Stratman

Evaluation Committee: Carol Daly (agency contact), Erin Minichiello, Diane Kennedy, Ginny Laporte

Publicity: Joan Aucoin

At Large Members: Neill Taylor, Paul Greenough, Susan Morgan and Fleur Jones

CECH can be reached 24/7 by clients in need through referral from our assisting agencies (noted above), referral by local church pastors, directly through the CECH web site - [CECHomelessprevention.org](https://CECHomelessprevention.org) and [preventingcapehomelessness.org](https://preventingcapehomelessness.org) - or by mail at CECH, PO Box 81, West Chatham, 02669.

### **3) Audit report and financial statements.**

CECH's financial information is reviewed by Richard Budion of Sanders, Walsh, Eaton LLC. Attached is the cover page of CECH's IRS 990 statement for 2023.

Form 990

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-0047

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

2023 Open to Public Inspection

Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

A For the 2023 calendar year, or tax year beginning , and ending

B Check if applicable: C Name of organization Chatham Ecumenical Council Helping Prevent Homelessness, Inc. D Employer identification number 04-3225623 E Telephone number 508-945-4732 G Gross receipts \$ 53,706 F Name and address of principal officer: Mildred Hastbacka 215 Riverview Drive Chatham MA 02633 H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? Yes [X] No H(b) Are all subordinates included? Yes [ ] No

I Tax-exempt status: [X] 501(c)(3) Website: CECHHomelessprevention.org J Website: H(c) Group exemption number K Form of organization: [X] Corporation L Year of formation: M State of legal domicile:

Part I Summary

Table with 3 columns: Description, Prior Year, Current Year. Rows include: 1 Briefly describe the organization's mission... To prevent homelessness in the Chatham area. 2 Check this box [ ] if the organization discontinued its operations... 3 Number of voting members... 4 Number of independent voting members... 5 Total number of individuals employed... 6 Total number of volunteers... 7a Total unrelated business revenue... 7b Net unrelated business taxable income... 8 Contributions and grants... 9 Program service revenue... 10 Investment income... 11 Other revenue... 12 Total revenue... 13 Grants and similar amounts paid... 14 Benefits paid... 15 Salaries, other compensation... 16a Professional fundraising fees... 16b Total fundraising expenses... 17 Other expenses... 18 Total expenses... 19 Revenue less expenses... 20 Total assets... 21 Total liabilities... 22 Net assets or fund balances.

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here: Signature of officer Sally Stratman, Treasurer. Date. Paid Preparer Use Only: Print/Type preparer's name Joseph F McGee, CPA; Preparer's signature Joseph F McGee, CPA; Date 06/04/24; Check self-employed; PTIN P01584870; Firm's name Sanders, Walsh & Eaton, CPAs, LLC; Firm's EIN 84-1894608; Firm's address W. Chatham, MA 02669; Phone no. 508-945-0031

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions [X] Yes [ ] No

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.