In searching the publicly accessible web, we found a webpage of interest and provide a snapshot of it below. Please be advised that this page, and any images or links in it, may have changed since we created this snapshot. For your convenience, we provide a hyperlink to the current webpage as part of our service.

December 4, 2012 — For the fourth consecutive year a consortium of corporate, public, and private foundations are coordinating their fundraising and philanthropy—and encouraging individuals to give to nonprofits—to help address hunger, housing, heating, and health issues in Massachusetts this winter.

"MassNeeds is unusual in philanthropy, since most donors tend to operate independently and few take the time to talk and identify unmet needs to be collaborative," said Blake Jordan, executive director of The Highland Street Foundation, a co-founder of the collaborative.

"The impact of individual’s dollars will be greater," he said, noting that better coordination between funders will result in “more strategic giving.”

Jordan said the group’s 42 funders have collectively earmarked $8.4 million, which will be distributed through “hundreds of programs statewide,” mostly by the end of December.

Last year, 20 funders earmarked $3.7 million for the same effort, which was distributed through 134 organizations. A spokesperson said MassNeeds will support more than 150 nonprofits this year.

He said an indication of the collaborative’s success can be measured by the growth in its membership, but noted that it is difficult to track exactly how much additional funding flowed into the funding organizations, as many people may donate to those organizations without specifying that their funds should support MassNeeds specifically.

Catherine D’Amato, executive director of The Greater Boston Food Bank, the largest hunger-relief organization in New England, said one in 11 Massachusetts residents is food insecure—meaning they seek assistance through a food pantry, soup kitchen, or shelter—which compares to one in seven nationally.

“Food insecurity has become a middle class problem in Massachusetts,” she said, adding that expected reductions in federal assistance will add to food insecurity.

Kathy Tobin, energy programs director, Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD), Boston’s primary anti-poverty agency, said, predictions of a cold winter means that oil prices will rise nine percent and gas prices will increase 15%, making for “a challenging winter for households in need.”

Assistance provided by MassNeeds, which used to be emergency in nature, has become the “new normal, and is not a one-time issue,” said Alison Bauer, program director at The Boston Foundation, which, along with Eos Foundation, also helped co-found the effort in 2009.

Current MassSave funders include the following:

- Albert W. Rice Charitable Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
- Arbella Mutual Insurance
- Alfred E. Chase Charitable Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
- Bank of America Charitable Foundation
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
- BNY Mellon
- The Boston Foundation *
- Brookline Community Foundation
- Cambridge Community Foundation
- Cape Cod Foundation
- Charles F. Bacon Trust, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
- Charles H. Farnsworth Trust, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
- Citizens Bank and the Citizen Bank Foundation
- Combined Jewish Philanthropies
- Eos Foundation *
- Essex County Community Foundation
- Fish Family Foundation
- Foundation for MetroWest
- Foundation to Be Named Later
- Frank W. and Carl S. Adams Memorial Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
- GMA Foundations’ Clients
- Greater Worcester Community Foundation
- Harold Brooks Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
- Henry Luce Foundation

Foundation for MetroWest

Send it

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
Albert W. Rice Charitable Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
The Pearson Foundation Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
Island Foundation
John Chany Trust, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
John W. Boynton Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
Klarman Family Foundation
Linde Family Foundation
Lloyd G. Balfour Foundation Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
Lovett-Woodsum Foundation
Lynch Foundation
The Mabel A. Horne Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
The Pearson Foundation Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
Perpetual Trust For Charitable Giving, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
State Street Corporation and the State Street Foundation
United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley
United Way of Pioneer Valley
US Trust Philanthropic Solutions, Bank of America

Food insecurity has become a middle class problem in Massachusetts, predicted by Kathy Tobin, energy programs director, from Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD), a co-founder of the collaborative. Predictions of a cold winter means that oil prices will rise nine percent and gas prices will increase 15%, making for a challenging winter for households in need.

Last year, 20 funders earmarked $3.7 million for the same effort, which was distributed through Eos Foundation. This year, 42 funders have collectively earmarked $8.4 million, which will be distributed through three other local foundations and philanthropy organizations, which, along with the Woodsum Foundation, also helped co-found the effort in 2009.

He said an indication of the collaborative success can be measured by the growth in its membership, but noted that it is difficult to track exactly how much additional funding flowed into the funds. The group takes the time to talk and identify unmet needs to be collaborative, he said, noting that better coordination between corporate, public, and private foundations are coordinating their fundraising efforts. An estimated 134 organizations. A spokesperson said MassNeeds will support more than 150 nonprofits this winter.

Amato, executive director of The Greater Boston Food Bank, said, predictions of a cold winter means that oil prices will rise nine percent and gas prices will increase 15%, making for a challenging winter for households in need. Expected reductions in federal assistance will add to food insecurity.

"They seek assistance through a food pantry, soup kitchen, or shelter for groceries, said Catherine D'Amato, executive director of The Greater Boston Food Bank. 

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