



Hands Across Mathews

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October 10, 2026

Dear Neighbors,

Hands Across Mathews' new fiscal year and annual fund drive began on October 1. Once again, we are asking for your support. Your donations allow Hands Across Mathews (HAM) to continue helping the neediest members of our community.

Our Food Distribution Program provides food every Wednesday and currently serves more than 85 families each week, totaling 5,564 family visits during the past year. Unfortunately, the Food Bank has not been able to supply sufficient goods to meet demand, so we have had to purchase canned and dry goods from local stores to keep our shelves stocked. These purchases cost \$47,260 during the past year, an increase of \$15,000 over the previous year.

The Fuel and Utility Assistance Program helps eligible clients by paying a portion of their fuel and utility bills directly to the provider. During the last 12 months, this program has distributed \$25,745 in assistance to approximately 90 clients. We anticipate a significant increase in fuel costs this winter, which will create an even greater need for support.

Our Home Repair Program helps Mathews families remain safe in their homes. We provide electrical, plumbing, HVAC, drywall, and roof repairs, as well as wheelchair ramp installations. During the past 12 months, this program has cost more than \$56,590. The cost of these repairs has increased considerably and continues to rise.

In addition to these programs, we assist eligible families with rent payments and provide clothing and household items at no cost. We also contribute to and help coordinate the Fresh Start Program. This year, we continued our Student Brunch Bag Program for summer months and school holidays and provided Thanksgiving Dinner Bags and Birthday Cake Kits for our families. HAM also contributed funding to the YMCA Preschool Program to help reduce tuition costs for qualifying low-income families. Altogether, these services and programs amounted to \$164,075 in assistance during the past 12 months.

We are deeply grateful to our churches, businesses, families, individuals, and foundations for their continued generosity and support. We also want to assure you that we carefully verify our client lists to ensure that assistance is reaching those who need it most.

We hope you will join us in supporting our mission so that we can continue helping members of our community facing difficult circumstances. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,


Jan Mohr
President

*In accordance with IRS Regulations, no gifts or services may be received in connection with this donation.

Neighbors helping neighbors
