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December 2024

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Dear Friends,

**“All I need is a roof over my head and food on the table.”** To some, this phrase reflects gratitude and contentment for the simple blessings in life. For others, it is a profound plea for help. Since 1988, Community Resource Services (CRS) has been a leading community organization dedicated to addressing these critical needs. And as the year comes to a close, we would like to take a moment to express our deep gratitude for the support we receive from generous community members like you. Thanks to your ongoing commitment, we have been able to provide vital assistance to residents of Avon and Avon Lake.

This past year we experienced a significant increase in demand for our services, highlighting a **growing and urgent need**. In 2023 we spent \$314,282 on financial assistance, an increase of 20% over 2022. Families are facing challenges they never anticipated, and our neighbors are reaching out for help more than ever before. Through September 2024, we have had 3,963 visits to our on-site food pantry, a 17% increase over the same period in 2023. We have helped families with housing assistance 114 times for a total cost of \$59,230. Car related expenses total \$37,932, helping 126 families with repairs, insurance or car loans. We have distributed 518 food cards and 567 fuel cards to our families in need so far this year. Additionally, we have spent \$25,584 on personal development programs, helping clients build life skills and improve well-being.

From food and financial assistance to personal development programs, CRS is proud to be there for those in our community when they need it most. **But we can't do it alone.**

We are asking for your support as we respond to this growing demand. With your gift to our Annual Fund Campaign, you will ensure that CRS can continue to provide hope and stability to those facing difficult times. Every dollar makes a difference:

- \$25 can provide a grocery or fuel gift card
- \$50 can buy school supplies for one child
- \$100 will help prevent a utility disconnection or send a child to science camp
- \$250 can help pay a car repair bill or provide eyeglasses for a senior citizen
- \$500 will help with rent assistance to prevent homelessness

Your contribution, no matter the size, will help CRS make a meaningful difference in the lives of our neighbors. Please consider making a tax-deductible gift today by visiting [www.aalcrs.org](http://www.aalcrs.org) or by mailing your donation to CRS in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you for standing with us, and for being a part of the heart and soul of our community. Together, we can make sure that no one has to face these difficult times alone.

With deepest gratitude,



Pam Ohradzansky  
Executive Director



Katie Virtue  
President, Board of Directors

P.S. Keep up to date with CRS news! Sign up for our monthly newsletter at [aalcrs.org](http://aalcrs.org).