

CHORE Service

Ella Clark- Director

During the past fiscal year, the Chore Service continued to ensure that elderly and handicapped residents of the Northwest Corner - in Canaan, Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, Norfolk, Salisbury and Sharon — could stay safely and affordably at home. We served 195 families with 14,107 hours of help with work ranging from housework, yard work, cooking and errands, to good old companionship.

Twenty-one of these families were in Kent; they received services worth \$17,468. One of them wrote,

The Chore Service and Debbie -who has lightened my load with her cheerful and dependable presence and helpful work-mean a very great deal to me. She has been coming faithfully ever since my Phil died over nine years ago, and now at age 88 I am ever so grateful for all that is done for me. She is like family! Deb has been so good -she will shovel some paths for me (snow), rake leaves, or pull weeds when things in the house are done. She 'll do windows she can reach, change light bulbs, batteries in smoke alarms, vacuums floors, keeps the bathroom clean, feeds the birds, makes my bed up each week. (I can still strip the bed and do the wash.) Deb also helps me get my garbage and recycles together for me to drive up to the Kent transfer station -this I can still do. God bless this wonderful service! (M. C.)

And a 92 year old Kent client who is blind told us,

Words are so inadequate as to Margaret's wonderful help. Her cheerful attitude helps in many ways. Hope you can read this as I cannot see what I have written.

Finally, this, from Templeton Farms: ***The Chore Service is one of the most effective agencies available for providing down-to-earth services and a warm and caring presence in the homes of our seniors and those who are disabled. We feel so fortunate in having Chore helpers who will clean, prepare gardens, shop for groceries, hang curtains and, in general, do whatever they can to enhance our lives. Our Chore lady here at Templeton Farm apartments can do just about everything. In addition, she is a marvelous cook who served a delicious Christmas dinner for all our residents! (P. F.)***

We are also glad that workers benefit from the program. Ninety-seven local people earned over \$220,000 for part time work last year. Of these, seven are Kent residents who received \$17,928 in extra income. We hope that more will join us; the work is flexible and rewarding and pays \$12.50 an hour.

We thank the town of Kent yet again for its generous support of a program that helps both clients and their workers in your town.