

The Friends Program, established in 1975, is a non-profit organization that recruits volunteers to meet community needs.

Our mission is to **strengthen communities** by building relationships that **empower** people, **encourage** volunteer service, and **restore** faith in the human spirit. We accomplish this by mentoring local youth, sheltering homeless families, and fulfilling the need of seniors to actively contribute to the community.



4,000 NH children, families and seniors benefit from our programs.

Our Services

- ▶ Supporting children's academic and emotional growth in the classroom
- ▶ Sheltering homeless families
- ▶ Promoting senior wellness through exercise programs and medical transportation
- ▶ Matching local youth with volunteer mentors
- ▶ Recruiting older volunteers to match with nonprofits, schools, and public agencies

We Need Your Help

- ▶ **Donate:** Your financial contributions sustain our programs
- ▶ **Volunteer:** Strengthen our community by devoting your time and talent
- ▶ **Spread the Word:** The more people who know about us, the greater our impact

Friends Program

FOUR PROGRAMS - ONE MISSION

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www.friendsprogram.org

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MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS



WWW.FRIENDSPROGRAM.ORG

Strengthening our community through Four Programs

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Friends Youth Mentoring

Friends mentors are caring volunteers who step up and step in to **support local children** in need. By forging authentic, stable relationships with local youth, mentors help kids develop the capabilities that they'll need to make positive life choices as adults. Friends mentors are **devoted to making a lasting difference** in the life of a child. It's fun and incredibly rewarding, too. When you mentor one child, you enrich two lives.



Friends Emergency Housing

Friends Emergency Housing operates the **only family shelter** in Merrimack County. The program's objective is to help clients find and keep safe and stable housing of their own. Our facility, which is almost always at 100 percent of capacity, serves 8 families at any given time. Intensive, **action-oriented** case management **promotes self-sufficiency** in a dignified environment that allows families to remain together through tough times.

More than 800 volunteers work to strengthen our community.

Friends Foster Grandparents

By volunteering in a classroom setting, Foster Grandparents help **needy children** reach their **full potential**. Working one-on-one with students, Foster Grandparents boost kids' **confidence** and nurture a **love of learning**. A child's proficiency in reading and math often increases as a result of a Foster Grandparent's **devoted support**. This Program operates throughout most of NH.

Friends RSVP

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program volunteers work with local nonprofits and public agencies to **build their capacity** to address **important community needs**. The program matches volunteers with opportunities that fit their interests, skills and availability. Friends RSVP serves communities across Merrimack, Rockingham, Strafford and Belknap counties.

Both RSVP and Foster Grandparents are Corporation for National and Community Service Senior Corps programs.