

## NEWTON WELFARE OFFICE AND FOOD PANTRY

The Welfare Department is available to provide information, as a referral resource and to assist those in financial crisis, on an emergency basis. Please feel free to contact the Welfare Department at 382-0398 with any questions or concerns you may have.

The Newton Food Pantry is available for any resident who is in need. The Pantry continues to be well stocked with donated, non-perishable food items. To access the Food Pantry please call the Welfare Department to arrange an appointment.

Because the economy has continued to be difficult and unemployment has been on the rise, this past year has been very busy in the Welfare Department and the Food Pantry. The Welfare Department has seen a dramatic increase in the need for assistance with housing costs and the Food Pantry continues to see a steady stream of families and individuals in need.

Once again I am awed by how generous the people of our Town continue to be. On behalf of those who utilize the Food Panty I offer my deepest gratitude to those individuals both known and anonymous, groups and businesses who continue to contribute items and monetary donations to keep the pantry well stocked. Among those who have helped are the patrons and staff of the Gale Library and Newton Post Office, Newton Memorial School, Sanborn Regional Middle School, Sanborn Regional High School Key Club, CBI, The Newton Learning Center, Video Care and Repair, Merrimac Savings Bank and the Staff at Town Hall. This year the Welfare Department and Food Pantry was able to provide Thanksgiving dinners to 15 families, Christmas dinners to 17 families and some Christmas presents for 18 children in our Town – it was indeed a very happy Holiday season. Thank you all so much.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tina O'Rourke  
Welfare Agent