



October 23, 2020

Dear Friend,

Every year, the Howard Center community comes together through the *Help is Here Client Funds* to help the people we serve meet their basic needs, enrich their lives, and brighten their seasonal celebrations. During this time when so many Vermonters are facing unique and difficult challenges, we hope you will join us in continuing this tradition by giving to the *Help is Here Client Funds* today.

Howard Center provides services to thousands of children, adults, and families each year, many of whom have very limited financial resources. Progress in addressing mental health, substance use, and developmental disabilities happens when basic needs have been met and when people have opportunities for personal enrichment. And so each year we ask for gifts that will directly support clients to buy food and other basics and enable them to participate in holiday observances and cultural and educational activities that enrich their lives.

Many of the people we serve have greater needs as the weather turns cold, making this the perfect time to provide extra help. Gifts to the *Help is Here Client Funds* assist people during winter when the need is greatest and also throughout the year. Clients can make requests from the funds anytime and use it for clothes, basic needs, enrichment activities, or to observe the holidays that are most important to them.

Donations may be made in the form of gift cards, by check, or online at www.howardcenter.org/donate. Gift cards are a wonderful way to give because of the independence they provide by enabling people to select and try on clothing and giving parents the dignity and gratification that comes from shopping for their children. We ask for gift cards in denominations of \$25 to local retailers like Target, Walmart, Old Navy, and Kohl's, or to grocers like Shaw's, Hannaford, Price Chopper, and City Market.

To contribute by mail, please complete the attached form and return it today along with your gift card(s) or contribution. Or give online at www.howardcenter.org (click the donate button and select *Help is Here Client Needs Fund* from the designation dropdown). If possible, please send your gift by November 30, so we have it in time to meet the many requests we receive as winter begins.

Thank you for being part the Howard Center community and for supporting the people we serve.

With our best wishes and thanks,

Karen Prosciak
Senior Director of Donor Relations

PS: We've enclosed an extra contribution form so you can pass it along to a friend or colleague. Please feel free to make copies of the form if you need more.

208 Flynn Avenue, Suite 3J, Burlington, VT 05401

T: 802.488.6900 | F: 802.488.6901

HowardCenter.org

Member Agency of United Way of Northwest Vermont