

Kingston Impact Report



South Shore Community Action Council (SSCAC) works to eliminate poverty on the South Shore by coordinating, strengthening, and supplementing community efforts to empower individuals and families so they can live in decency and with dignity, realize their full potential, and participate to the extent of their capabilities in all that our communities have to offer. Through our 2023 Community Needs Assessment Survey, low-income Kingston residents identified the ability to pay heat and utility bills, affordable housing, and access to affordable food as their three most critical needs. In addition to providing services to residents of Kingston to address those needs and more, SSCAC operated as an economic conduit, bringing private, local, state, and federal funding to Kingston and the South Shore.



PHOTO COURTESY: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

2024 PROGRAM & SERVICE DOLLARS

SERVICE DOLLARS EXPENDED ON BEHALF OF LOW-INCOME KINGSTON RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES IN 2024



1,023 Residents
Served



34,560 Meals
Provided



376 Residents
Kept Warm

SSCAC'S PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO KINGSTON RESIDENTS

Appliance Management Program, Bagged Food for Seniors, Consumer Aid, Emergency Assistance and Case Management, Food Resources, Fuel Assistance, Heating System Repair and Replacement (HEARTWAP), South Shore Early Education, South Shore Family Network, Transportation for the Elderly and Disabled, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), and Weatherization



Making a Difference for Kingston Residents



SSCAC SERVED 1,023 KINGSTON RESIDENTS IN 2024

Struggling to make ends meet with the high cost of household basics, low- and moderate-income individuals and families are cutting back on prescriptions and food to pay for less “discretionary” expenses such as rent, mortgage, utilities, and transportation. SSCAC and our community partners are rising to the challenge and made a powerful difference in the lives of thousands of South Shore residents in the past year. We hosted a month-long March Mania food drive tournament that collected over 16,000 pounds of food. Our Transportation program secured additional funding to expand its service reach so greater numbers of older adults and individuals with disabilities accessed the healthcare and services they need. We prevented homelessness for 29 people and utility shut-off for 1,659 people. And we fostered a love of learning through early education for 1,278 children. On behalf of the thousands of children, seniors, and families whose lives we touch each year, we remain ever-grateful to our dedicated community partners who support our mission to ensure everyone in our communities is safe, warm, and healthy.

KINGSTON CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS

Female	60%
0-17 Years Old	29%
65 Years or Older	29%
At or Below 100% Poverty Level	29%
Single Person Household	44%
High School Graduate or Greater	74%
Active Military or Veteran	6%
Disabled	26%
Retired	32%
Homeowners	58%

SSCAC SERVED 28,970 PEOPLE IN 2024

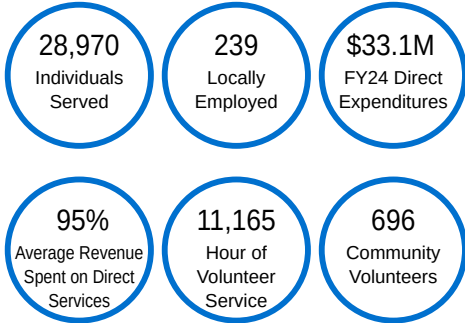
“ Community Speaks ”

My family has been through a lot. There have been so many challenges and obstacles. But knowing that hard work is acknowledged and having your support and understanding has been substantial. It's because of people like you that I don't give up!

#OurCommunityInAction

As the Community Action Agency for Kingston, our Board of Directors includes a seat designated for a member or representative of the town's Select Board. Our Board of Directors also includes Community Representatives and Low-Income Representatives.

Other towns in our primary service area are:
Carver, Duxbury, Hanover, Hull, Marshfield, Norwell, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, and Scituate



376
Residents

HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE (FUEL ASSISTANCE)

Kingston residents stayed safe and warm through **\$282,090** in direct payments made by SSCAC to local home heating companies.

37
Residents

ENERGY CONSERVATION

Lowered utility bills for Kingston residents through Weatherization, Appliance Management and Heating System Repair and Replacement totaling **\$79,490**.

14
Children

SOUTH SHORE EARLY EDUCATION

Head Start, Early Head Start, and state funded preschool provided for free or low-cost for Kingston's children, including daily nutritious meals, health screening, bus transportation, and family supports.

17
Residents

TRANSPORTATION

Elderly and disabled Kingston residents with no means of transportation accessed medical, adult day health, and social service appointments in handicap accessible vehicles with specially trained drivers.

41,472
Pounds

FOOD RESOURCES

Fresh and non-perishable food supplied to a low-income 55+ community in Kingston and distributed directly by SSCAC to **93** Kingston children and families to fight hunger and promote food security.

22
Residents

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

Kingston taxpayers saved **\$7,106** in tax preparation fees and received **\$31,379** in state and federal refunds through free, electronic preparation and filing of tax returns.

415
Children

SOUTH SHORE FAMILY NETWORK

Free community-based parent-child playgroups and family support activities focused on early literacy and S.T.E.M., parenting, child development, and kindergarten readiness, resulting in parents improving skills as caregivers.

14
Households

CONSUMER AID

Consumer education and mediation of consumer complaints for residents of Kingston resulting in **\$1,050** in resolutions.

18
Residents

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND FINANCIAL STABILITY

Helping households in crisis with information, referrals, case management, and financial assistance totaling **\$10,000** to avoid eviction or utility shut-off.

South Shore Community Action Council

For more information visit sscac.org, follow us on social media or call 508-747-7575