

Wareham 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 Community Needs Assessment Survey, low-income Wareham 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 Wareham to address those needs and more, SSCAC operated as an economic conduit, bringing private, local, state, and federal funding to Wareham and the South Shore.

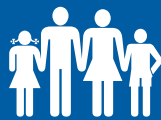


PHOTO COURTESY: WIKICOMMONS

\$1,232,715

2025 PROGRAM & SERVICE DOLLARS

SERVICE DOLLARS EXPENDED ON BEHALF OF LOW-INCOME WAREHAM RESIDENTS OF ALL AGES IN 2025



2,638 Residents Served



357 People Fed



2,142 Residents Kept Warm

SSCAC'S PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO WAREHAM RESIDENTS

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



Making a Difference for Wareham Residents



SSCAC SERVED 2,638 WAREHAM RESIDENTS IN 2025

In a year marked by sky-rocketing costs for household basics, many low- and moderate-income families had to make difficult trade-offs between healthcare and food to cover non-discretionary expenses like housing, utilities, and transportation. In response, SSCAC and its community partners stepped forward to provide a vital safety net. Our impact extended beyond immediate crisis relief to foster long-term financial and family stability - from mobilizing food security initiatives to expanding transportation for older adults and individuals with disabilities; preventing housing displacement and utility shut-off to increasing comprehensive early education opportunities for our youngest learners. We focused on ensuring that our most vulnerable neighbors had access to the resources and care they needed. This work was and continues to be possible only through the unwavering dedication of our employees, volunteers, and community partners. For the thousands of children, seniors, and families whose lives we touched in 2025 and beyond, we stand together, committed to our shared vision where those with so many cards stacked against them have support and resources to achieve their full potential, live with dignity and in decency, and fully participate in our vibrant communities.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SSCAC CLIENTS

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Female | 62% |
| White | 83% |
| Black/African American | 5% |
| Hispanic/Latinx | 5% |
| 0-17 Years Old | 21% |
| 60 Years or Older | 45% |
| At or Below 100% Poverty Level | 29% |
| Single Person Household | 56% |
| High School Graduate or Greater | 86% |
| Active Military or Veteran | 6% |
| Disabled | 12% |
| Retired | 43% |
| Homeowners | 59% |

2,077
Residents

HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE (FUEL ASSISTANCE)

Wareham residents stayed safe and warm through **\$903,619** in direct payments made by SSCAC on their behalf to local home heating companies.

65
Residents

ENERGY CONSERVATION

Lowered utility bills for Wareham residents through Weatherization, Appliance Management and Heating System Repair and Replacement totaling **\$320,362**.

83
Children

SOUTH SHORE EARLY EDUCATION

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

12
Residents

TRANSPORTATION

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

357
Residents Fed

FOOD RESOURCES

SSCAC provided **16,391** pounds of fresh and non-perishable food, the equivalent of **13,659** meals to **357** Wareham residents struggling with hunger and food insecurity.

31
Residents

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

Free State and Federal income tax preparation and e-filing for **31** Wareham residents, securing a combined refund of **\$9,078**.

120
Residents

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND FINANCIAL STABILITY

Helping households in crisis with information, referrals, case management, and financial assistance totaling **\$8,733** to avoid eviction or utility shut-off.

SSCAC SERVED 31,689 PEOPLE IN 2025

“ Community Speaks ”

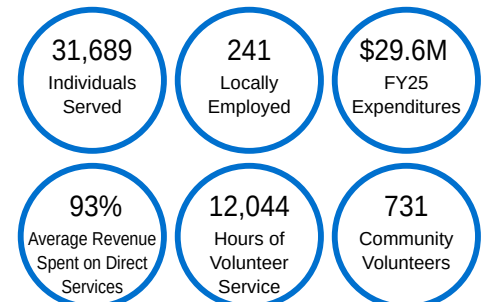
Keeping our home warm was an uphill battle. Your support was a great financial help and gave us peace of mind during a crisis. Thank you!

#OurCommunityInAction

As the Community Action Agency for Wareham, 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, Halifax, Hanover, Hingham, Hull, Kingston, Marshfield, Norwell, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, and Scituate



South Shore Community Action Council

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