# Halifax 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 Halifax 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 Halifax to address those needs and more, SSCAC operated as an economic conduit, bringing private, local, state, and federal funding to Halifax and the South Shore.



SSCAC'S PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO HALIFAX RESIDENTS

Emergency Food and Shelter, Emergency Assistance, 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 Halifax Residents

## SOUTH SHORE COMMUNITY SSCAC EST 1965 ACTION COUNCIL

#### SSCAC SERVED 572 HALIFAX 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 challege 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.

370 Residents

#### HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE (FUEL ASSISTANCE)

Halifax residents stayed safe and warm through \$363,953 in direct payments made by SSCAC on their behalf to local home heating companies.

49 Residents

#### **ENERGY CONSERVATION**

Lowered utility bills for Halifax residents through Weatherization, Appliance Management and Heating System Repair and Replacement totaling **\$155,658**.

**7** Children

#### **SOUTH SHORE EARLY EDUCATION**

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

15 Residents

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

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

**4,079** Pounds

#### **FOOD RESOURCES**

Fresh and non-perishable food supplied to a low-income 55+ community in Halifax and distributed directly by SSCAC to **41** Halifax children and families to fight hunger and promote food security.

8 Residents

#### **VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE**

Halifax taxpayers saved \$2,584 in tax preparation fees and received \$27,583 in state and federal refunds through free, electronic preparation and filing of tax returns.

121 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 **242** parents improving skills as caregivers.

13

#### Households

#### CONSUMER AID

Consumer education and mediation of consumer complaints for residents of Halifax resulting in \$3,425 in resolutions.

#### HALIFAX CLIENT CHARACTERISTICS

| Female                          | 60% |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| 0-17 Years Old                  | 16% |
| 65 Years or Older               | 52% |
| At or Below 100% Poverty Level  | 15% |
| Single Person Household         | 65% |
| High School Graduate or Greater | 90% |
| Active Military or Veteran      | 7%  |
| Disabled                        | 24% |
| Retired                         | 52% |
| Homeowners                      | 80% |
|                                 |     |

#### SSCAC SERVED 28,970 PEOPLE IN 2024



### **66** 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!

> 28,970 Individuals Served

239 Locally Employed

95%
Average Revenue
Spent on Direct
Services

\$33.1M FY24 Direct Expenditures

11,165

Hours
of Volunteer
Service

696 Community Volunteers

South Shore Community Action Council
For more information visit sscac.org, follow us
on social media or call 508-747-7575