



Letter from the President:

Recessions are devastating to our economy and our families...

As we enter the fall of 2011, many Americans continue to struggle as a result of a weak global economy. Good jobs have been lost and severe unemployment goes on. Many of our neighbors and their families are in crisis mode. Unemployment benefits are running out, hiring is at a standstill and the stress of making ends meet for many is enormous. As a result, domestic violence reports have increased, the homeless population is rising and workforce counseling services are crowded. Yes, a grim, depressing picture and our community is not immune to its pain.

In spite of this sobering news, there is kindness and generosity from those that realize the severity and desperation the current economy has caused. Thanks to you, our extraordinary supporters, The Community Fund raised a record amount in our 2010-11 campaign. We are allocating \$687,500 to 25 community agencies. Including small and emergency grants, "Touch of Life" grants and other local initiatives, we will be giving close to \$750,000 this coming year!

Today, we continue to need your help! As you may know, budget cuts will affect the essential agencies we support. This year, they will receive less funding from government, corporate, and individual giving. Nonetheless, the roster of those in need is growing and as a result, now more than ever before, your generosity can make a true difference.

For over 60 years, The Community Fund of Darien has been helping those in our community care for one another. Please take a few minutes to tour our website and learn about the many great, essential services we sponsor, mentor, and support.

Again, our sincere thanks to all who selflessly donate to us in the spirit of giving. We couldn't accomplish all that we do without your outstanding loyalty and support.

*Christie Stone
President*