

MINC Outreach Worker Report 2020 – Rev. Rachel Roberts

Saying that this has been an unusual year has become cliché. However, the pandemic has changed the way MINC has done some things in the past year and had little effect on others.

The Emergency Fund functioned in much the same manner as it has in the past. Because of a grant and the generous contributions of individuals and churches, MINC has been able to meet the emergency needs of many in the North Country. This work has always been done remotely, so no real changes have been made in the operation of this ministry.

Rural Rehab has historically relied upon workgroups from outside our Presbytery to accomplish housing repair projects. Because of the Covid pandemic, it was not possible for groups to travel here during the past summer. However, a great deal of work was accomplished by our Work Supervisor, Kate Grose, her two children ages 12 and 10, three adult volunteers, two children, and members of families who received services.

- Two single-story house roofs were replaced and a third was repaired.
- Three large ramps were built from scratch and a fourth was repaired. We provided the materials for a small fifth ramp.
- A good-sized hole was repaired in the floor of one house. This required floor joist and sill repair.
- Progress was made on a siding job.

This is a tremendous amount of work that was accomplished by just a few people.

Plans for this summer are somewhat in flux. We do not know if anyone from outside the area will be able to come. We don't know if any local churches, scout troops, or individuals are interested in working. BUT, we do know

- The need is great.
- Tentative projects for the summer have been identified.
- Kate is ready and willing to work.
- Our equipment is in good condition – both the 2001 and 2004 Ford F-150s are running well when put away for the winter last fall. Nothing but routine maintenance is anticipated for this summer.
- We will develop a flexible schedule that will be made available to the Presbytery and all other interested parties.
- There will be opportunities for people to volunteer to work at different times of the day and on different days of the week.

Rural Rehab is alive and well, but in need of people to do construction work and to help with decision-making. A zoom meeting is planned for the near future.

MINC Emergency Fund Summary Report

January – December 31, 2020

Contributions: \$17,455.13

Expenses:

Auto	\$0
Food	\$0
Fuel (heating, includes gas)	\$9016.97
Medical (dental consult)	\$150.00
Housing (mortgage)	\$0
(rent)	\$400.00
(security deposit)	\$0
(insurance)	\$0
Utilities (electric)	\$385.12
(replace & bury water line)	\$525.00
(water)	\$0
Miscellaneous	
(Internet for children)	\$320.00
(restart furnace)	0
(furnace service)	0
Total expenses:	\$10,411.97

The MINC Emergency Fund continues to meet a variety of needs, the most prominent of which are heating fuel and the costs associated with owning a home or living in rented housing. In 2020 we served 50 households, 2 in Jefferson County and 48 in St. Lawrence County. In May we received a very generous donation of \$4,866.00 from Liberty Utilities! Thanks to all the faithful individuals and congregations who make this ministry possible.

Cynthia Coleman, Interim Treasurer

2020 MINC Emergency Fund Geographical Distribution

50 households served

Totals for 2020

Location	number	county
Brier Hill	1	St. Lawrence
Castorland	1	Lewis
Chase Mills	1	St. Lawrence
Chaumont	1	Jefferson
Gouverneur	6	St. Lawrence
Hammond	2	St. Lawrence
Madrid	2	St. Lawrence
Massena	15	St. Lawrence
Norwood	1	St. Lawrence
Ogdensburg	16	St. Lawrence
Potsdam	1	St. Lawrence
Raymondville	1	St. Lawrence
Waddington	1	St. Lawrence
Watertown	1	Jefferson

Thanks and blessings to the many individuals and the following congregations who have supported the Emergency Fund during 2019: Plattsburgh Local Mission, Chaumont Deacons, Sackets Harbor, Christ's Church of Love, Scotch Presbyterian, Canton First Benevolence Fund, PW Scotch Presbyterian, PCUSA, Saranac Lake 2 cents a meal collection, PW Watertown 1st.