

The History of the Maria M. Hastings Trust

In 1918 Maria M. Hastings of West Brookfield, MA left \$1,000 to the poor and elderly people in the Town of Ware.

The money was placed into a savings account where it remained for over 80 years.

In the year 2004 the Ware Board of Selectmen asked the Probate Court to release the now \$23,000 to the Selectmen for the purpose of distributing the funds. The court agreed, adding under article 6 of the Maria M.

Hastings will, that the money be used "for the benefit of the elderly poor in the Town of Ware".

Mission Statement

The mission of this program is to provide limited financial assistance to low income seniors in accordance with the conditions of the Maria M. Hastings Will in order that they may continue to live at home as safely and independently as possible.

Donate to the Maria M. Hastings Fund

To contribute to the Maria M. Hastings Fund please make all checks payable to the Town of Ware and write Maria M. Hastings Fund on the Memo line. Or stop by the Ware Senior Center with cash donations M-F 8-4pm

Ware Council on Aging

1 Robbins Road
Ware, MA 01082

Phone: 413-967-9645
Fax: 413-967-9294

Maria M. Hastings Trust

"For the benefit of the elderly
poor in the Town of Ware"



What is the Maria M. Hastings Trust?

The MMH Trust is a source of limited financial relief (up to \$300 each or a maximum of \$500 per household) for senior citizens of Ware in need.

Someone seeking relief through the Trust must adhere to the application guidelines and agree to an onsite inspection by a member of the Review Committee upon completion of the project applied for.

Applications are available through the Outreach Coordinator at the Ware Senior Center 1 Robbins Road Ware, MA 413-967-9645 x502

Eligibility Requirements

- ◆ Resident of Ware
- ◆ 60 years of age or older
- ◆ Live at home or with family/caregivers
- ◆ Meet Federal low income standards (proof of income required)
- ◆ Family/Caregiver may apply on behalf of an eligible senior

Application Review Process

Applications will be processed on a rolling basis by the Review Committee, which consists of the COA Director and Outreach Coordinator, a Town fiscal agent and a Selectman or his/her designee. The applicant will be notified promptly after their review of the application as a group.

Funded Services (may include but are not limited to)

- ◆ Home modifications such as ramps, stair repairs, safety railings, lights)
- ◆ Lifeline Personal Emergency Response System
- ◆ Door and window repair
- ◆ Small item purchases such as air conditioners, fans, necessary medical equipment not covered by insurance
- ◆ Animal wellness / boarding

Services Not Funded

- ◆ Snow or leaf removal / landscaping
- ◆ Reimbursement for items already purchased or completed work