

## 114 Years of Care and Compassion

In 1898, a committee from the Wellesley Hills Woman's Club helped a family left destitute by fire. This group of concerned residents subsequently supported the formation of Friendly Aid. In 1909, the Wellesley Friendly Aid Association incorporated as a non-profit, private charitable agency. Today, Friendly Aid is a vital organization managed by an all-volunteer board of directors, funded by the caring people and organizations of Wellesley. As an agency committed to minimizing non-program expenditures, Friendly Aid relies almost exclusively on volunteers.



**Mission Statement:** Wellesley Friendly Aid Association (WFA), a community-based, non-profit organization, serves Wellesley residents in need through programs that provide direct service or financial assistance. WFA's wide range of programs helps individuals and families of all incomes and ages having needs that government and other private programs fail to meet. WFA provides services both directly and in collaboration with other organizations and agencies.

## How You Can Help:

In addition to donating to our annual appeal and camp fund, Wellesley residents and businesses contribute time and funds to WFA:

- Volunteering to help staff social programs
- Serving on WFA's all-volunteer board or committees
- Utilizing employers' matching funds
- Running the Boston Marathon on behalf of WFA
- Sponsoring a store fundraiser
- Holding a car wash to benefit WFA



### Wellesley Friendly Aid Association

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Wellesley Friendly Aid is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.

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Neighbors Helping Neighbors for  
Over 100 Years

### Providing Services to Wellesley Residents of all Ages in Times of Need

- Financial Aid
- Medical Equipment Loans
- Camp Scholarships
- College Prep for WHS Students
- Social Activities for Seniors

*"Friendly Aid has made a huge difference in my life – especially making a difference between hope and despair. I so appreciate your assistance."*



Wellesley Connects Mentoring

## WFA Youth Program Offerings



### Summer Camp and Educational Programs

WFA is dedicated to giving children from low-income families with limited income an enriching experience at summer camp or a summer academic program. Funded by donations and generous gifts from Wellesley Service League, this program has provided scholarships to generations of Wellesley children since 1942. WFA gave camp scholarships to 65 children in 2023.

### Wellesley Connects

In collaboration with Wellesley High School, Wellesley Connects bridges the opportunity gap through mentoring and educational support for first-generation juniors and seniors to help make the college and post-secondary planning process a success. All of the participants in our first two classes were accepted to college.

## WFA Program Offerings for Families and Seniors

### Emergency and Hardship Assistance

WFA offers financial support in emergency and hardship situations, such as the following:

- Uncovered dental, vision and hearing aid expenses
- Car repairs to help people get to work or medical appointments
- Moving expenses for furniture donated to residents coming from shelters
- Rent in critical circumstances
- Temporary afterschool tuition so a parent can work
- Computer for a mother to monitor her daughter's diabetes results
- Grocery gift cards

### Holiday Programs

For more than 100 years, WFA has brightened the holidays of residents in need. These days, WFA distributes \$50 Roche Bros. gift cards to over 260 low-income households so residents can purchase groceries for holiday meals.

### Fuel Assistance

WFA serves as an intake site for government fuel assistance, assisting residents with submitting applications for these benefits.

## Social Activities for Seniors

WFA hosts weekly and monthly events for seniors and others:

- Sunday afternoon activities and refreshments for seniors and the disabled in low-income housing.
- Friendship Circle weekly luncheon programs for senior women in collaboration with Wellesley Service League.



## WFA Program Offerings for All Residents

### Medical Equipment

WFA lends wheelchairs, walkers, and other medical equipment to residents for free. Over 100 residents borrow equipment from WFA each year.

### English as a Second Language

WFA provides classroom space and support to the Wellesley ESL Program.