

A 110-Year History 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 eventually helped form 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 or other private programs fail to meet. WFA provides services both directly or 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:

- Shopping on smile.amazon.com
- Utilizing employers' matching funds
- Volunteering to help staff social programs
- Serving on WFA's all-volunteer board or committees
- Sponsoring a store fundraiser by sharing revenues for an afternoon or evening
- Holding a car wash to benefit WFA
- Running the Boston Marathon or other athletic events on behalf of WFA



Wellesley Friendly Aid

219 Washington Street
Wellesley, MA 02481
781-235-3960
office@wellesleyfriendlyaid.org

www.wellesleyfriendlyaid.org

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

- Medical Equipment Loaners
- Camp Scholarships
- Mentoring 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 of families with limited income an enriching experience at summer camp or at a summer academic program. Since 1942, funded by donations and generous gifts from Wellesley Service League, this program has provided financial assistance to an annual average of 67 children over the last five years.

Cradles to Crayons

WFA partners with Cradles to Crayons to distribute children's clothing, baby essentials, books and school supplies to an annual average of 42 children over the last five years.

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:

- Grocery gift cards
- Car repair to help people in need get to work
- Uncovered dental and vision expenses
- Furniture, clothing and household items
- Wheelchairs for disabled residents

Holiday Programs

For more than 100 years, WFA has brightened the holidays of residents in need. Today we distribute over 200 grocery gift cards along with turkeys donated by Roche Bros.



Social Activities

WFA hosts an array of weekly and monthly events that serve a variety of the town's population:

- Sunday afternoon programs and refreshments for seniors and disabled residents of Wellesley's public housing in collaboration with National Charity, Inc. and other local volunteers.

- Friendship Circle weekly luncheons and programs for senior women in collaboration with Wellesley Service League.



Friendship Circle Concert

Fuel Assistance

WFA helps individuals prepare fuel assistance applications.

WFA Program Offerings for All Residents

Medical Equipment

WFA lends wheelchairs, walkers, shower chairs, and other medical equipment at no cost to residents of all income levels. Over the last five years an annual average of 79 residents borrowed equipment.

English as a Second Language

WFA is one of the sponsors of the Wellesley ESL Program, providing classroom materials and space for classes that accommodate about 200 students.