

## Connecting Hope Fall Newsletter

Greetings! It is difficult to believe summer is almost over. Connecting Hope with donations from individuals, businesses, and churches were able to bless over 157 students in Central Vermont and Waterbury with fully loaded backpacks. We still have backpacks available and are taking requests via phone as long as supplies last. A special Thank You to the Barre Elks Lodge who donated the space for our event on August 9th. A thank you to all the volunteers who came out in Barre and Waterbury to set up, register guests, help pack bags, greet people, and pack up. Although there were some passing showers in Waterbury the weather was kind to us and a double rainbow was seen. 48 volunteers worked at the two events. If you know of someone who needs a backpack have them call 802-595-6911 and leave a message to arrange a pickup during Connecting Hope hours.

We are still looking for new Board Members for Connecting Hope. If you feel God might be speaking to your heart about serving in this area, come and volunteer to learn more about this local missionary opportunity. Pray for our Executive Board. We have been working through a challenging year without an Executive Director. We are still in need of an Executive Director. No existing programs were dropped and we even expanded and added to our outreach. Just recently we saw the need for backpacks for the homeless. These contain hygiene essentials, water, food and other practical items for the homeless in our area.

WINTER WARM UP—YES it is time to start thinking about winter. October 26<sup>th</sup>, Barre Elks Club- 10 Jefferson St Barre . We will be needing the help of Volunteers the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> to help set up. Have you cleaned out your closets? Seen any yard sales with gently used jackets or boots? Items that we always need are children's boots, snow pants, jackets, clothes for adults and teen and adult boots. Start letting your congregations know now. Tell your co-workers and friends. If you do not have any clothes to donate, or time to shop you can donate and our shoppers will go to work. All monies go directly to purchase warm winter clothes.

Pray for our friends and neighbors affected by the floods. Pray for unity, compassion, and peace during the election season.

Matt 5:14-16 14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that[a] they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.





