



# TOWN OF BRIMFIELD

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

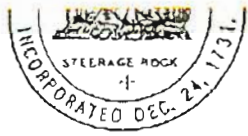
The Harding Charitable Trust Fund originated from a 1909 donation of \$2000.00 from the estate of Harriet M. Harding to the Town of Brimfield for town residents in need of assistance. Over many years the fund was known as the widows and orphans fund and the help a family along fund. The latter name derived from the great depression of the 1930's, when the trustees kept a cigar box with small amounts of cash at the town hall to quietly distribute to residents in distress.

In recent years the Fund has provided grants to the Brimfield Housing for the Elderly to purchase and install an emergency generator, paid the legal fees for the incorporation of the Friends of The Brimfield Library as a non-profit organization and contributed regularly to the community food bank. The Trustees have always acted with a degree of discretion to preserve the privacy of individuals seeking help..

The three Trustees are elected by the town for three year terms and serve without compensation. Richard Sieweck is a retired businessman, past member and chairman of the town finance committee, elected trustee of the Lincoln Library Trust Fund and elected commissioner of the Brimfield Cemetery. Sarah Meitzler is a native of Brimfield, teaches at the elementary school and has served on numerous boards and committees in the town. Maury Tamarkin is a professor at Clark University, past member and chairman of the town finance committee and elected trustee of the town library.

The Trust operates under the supervision of the town accountant and the town treasurer, all funds are donated to the Town of Brimfield and are released to the fund through the normal town accounting system. The trust conducts business under the open meeting laws of the commonwealth and is subject to standard municipal audit procedures. Regarding the current tornado emergency, the Board of Selectman and the trustees agree that the Harding Trust is the correct vehicle to provide immediate and on going financial assistance to town residents who have suffered a tornado related loss. Every cent of every dollar donated to the trust will go directly to Brimfield residents, and the trust will distribute additional money from the existing trust fund as needed. Distributions of assistance will be considered on a case by case basis, with everyone affected given an opportunity to ask for help. We are your friends and neighbors and we are here now and we will be here in the future. That's why you elected us, and we are proud to be of service to you.

note: all donations to the "Town of Brimfield" marked to the Harding Fund are tax deductible and you will receive a written acknowledgment and our municipal tax exemption information (and our thanks.)



If you would like to receive assistance from the Harding Trust Fund, Please list your name and address, a brief description of your loss from the tornado and a phone number or address where we can contact you. We will need a copy of your drivers licence or other legal identification document to confirm your residence in Brimfield. That's all we need to get started on your request.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to help.

The Harding Fund Trustees.