

About Community Action

Community Action, Inc. (CAI) is a multi-service non-profit organization working to empower individuals and families to help themselves through programs and services that support economic growth, family stability, and employment and training. CAI's service area includes the communities of Amesbury, Boxford, Georgetown, Groveland, Haverhill, Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport, Salisbury, and West Newbury.

CAI is headquartered in Haverhill. The Amesbury Center serves as a satellite for residents of Amesbury, Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport, West Newbury, and Salisbury.

Our Mission

Community Action, Inc. (CAI) provides resources and opportunities for individuals, families and communities to overcome poverty.

Vision: CAI envisions strong, thriving communities free of poverty.

Values: We build hope and offer assistance with respect and understanding.

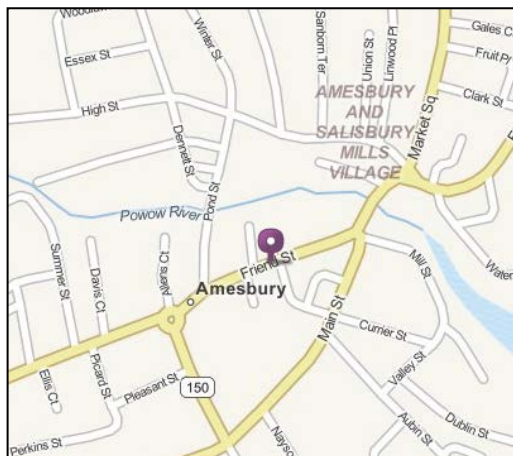
Donate

Donations of cash, clothing, and food benefit our clients through the CAI Amesbury Aid Fund, the food pantry, and the clothing bank.

Please make Checks payable to:
Community Action, Inc.

Thank you for your generosity!

Please friend Community Action, Inc. on Facebook.



Amesbury Center Hours

(For Food Pantry and Clothing Bank)

Monday 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 pm

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 pm

Thursday 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 pm

(For other appointments)

Wednesday and Friday 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

(978) 388-2570 – Fax (978) 388-7838

WIC Hours

Wednesday 10:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

(Closed last Wednesday of the month)

One Saturday every three months, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

(978) 388-2575 – Fax (978) 388-7838

The Amesbury Center Staff

Dianne Halloran

Amesbury Center Coordinator

(978) 388-2570

supported by



Community Action, Inc.

"In the business of caring since 1965"



The Amesbury Center

44A Friend Street

Amesbury, MA 01913

(978) 388-2570 – Fax (978) 388-7838

www.communityactioninc.org

Providing:

Food Pantry, Utility Assistance, Amesbury Aid Fund, Clothing, Heating Assistance, WIC, Public Benefits Assistance, and information on other CAI Programs

The Amesbury Center serves as a satellite for residents of Amesbury, Merrimac, Salisbury, Newbury, West Newbury, and Newburyport.

Food Pantry

The Food Pantry got its start in Amesbury through a collaboration of churches in Amesbury and Merrimac who wanted to help families in need to put food on the table. Local parishes and funders provide financial support, allowing the Center to purchase fresh produce and gift cards for local markets. Food donations are also provided by local civic organizations and our partner agency Project Bread: The Walk for Hunger. Seasonal crops are also available through community garden programs and local farmers. Individuals/Families may visit the food pantry twice each month to receive food assistance.

Our food comes from the Merrimack Valley Food Bank, The Lions Club, the Postal Food Drive, Pennies for Poverty, and our community.

Emergency Food, Shelter, Rent, Utility Program (EFSP)

(for residents of Amesbury & Merrimac only)

EFSP is a federally funded financial assistance program designed to provide emergency support to individuals and families having difficulty keeping up with household bills, including rent, mortgage, and utilities (excluding telephone, cable and Internet). Funds are available on a limited basis and are allocated on a first come-first serve basis after completing a client intake process and determining eligibility. To make an appointment, call (978) 388-2570.

CAI Amesbury Aid Fund

primarily serving residents of Amesbury & Merrimac

Through the generosity of local churches, organizations, foundations, and individuals, the Amesbury Center can provide limited financial assistance to those at risk for becoming homeless, and those facing a utility shut-off, eviction, or other serious financial problems. Funds are allocated following an intake process to identify and address issues in meeting household obligations or sustaining a home.

Clothing & Food Donations

The Amesbury Center accepts donations of clean, in-season clothing for **men and children only**.

Women's clothing is donated from local consignment shops. **Items may be donated during business hours only** and are available to clients at no cost. The Amesbury Center does not have the capacity to pick up or deliver any clothing or food donations.

Housing and Utility Issues

We have a list of area housing providers who rent out apartments at reasonable prices, as well as sources of subsidized housing. We also work closely with other agencies and charities to provide advice, assistance, and referrals. Community Action, Inc. works with clients applying for RAFT (Residential Assistance for Families in Transition), HomeBase, and other programs providing assistance.

Heating Assistance

The Heating Assistance Program helps low to moderate income residents offset their heating costs during the heating season. Heating Assistance eligibility is an income based program. Applicants must meet the federal poverty guidelines (60% of median income) to qualify. Applicants may receive assistance for oil, natural gas, wood, coal, propane, electricity; if heat is included in the rent, a portion of their rent can be paid. In addition, eligible households qualify for home weatherization and heating system replacement. The Heating Assistance program runs from September to April. All appointments (including seacoast) are made through the Haverhill office by calling 978-373-1971, or through the Community Action website, www.communityactioninc.org.

Women, Infant, Children (WIC)

The Massachusetts Women, Infants and Children Nutrition (WIC) Program provides nutrition and health education, healthy food and other services free of charge to Massachusetts families who qualify. Participants receive checks to buy milk, cheese, fruit juice, cereal, infant formula, peanut butter, carrots, tuna, dried beans and eggs. The WIC Program collaborates with the U.S. Department of Food and Agriculture to provide WIC participants with coupons redeemable at Farmers' Markets for fresh fruit and vegetables during summer months.

Public Benefits Assistance

The Amesbury Center maintains a supply of reference materials and applications for various public programs including: substance abuse, domestic violence, parenting support. In addition, we have a seacoast pantry schedule with information regarding other pantries, as well as other services provided to our seacoast families.

Case Management

We can work closely with clients on an ongoing basis to help them formulate and reach toward long-term goals for financial stability.

SNAP and Mass Health Assistance

The Amesbury Center assists with food stamp and Mass Health applications. This service is by appointment only. To make an appointment, call (978) 388-2570.

Community Action, Inc.

For information regarding Head Start, Family Day Care, Housing Services, Consumer Protection and Adult Education (GED, & ESOL) please contact the Haverhill headquarters at (978) 373-1971