

**General Government  
General Assistance  
Dept. 120-04**

**Requested Funding: \$7,900**

**Department Overview & Mission**

The mission of the General Assistance Department is to administer a program to reduce the impact of poverty on people living in North Yarmouth by providing support services. The program must be administered in accordance with the locally enacted ordinance establishing local standards and procedures.

General Assistance is available to all persons who are eligible in accordance with the Town of North Yarmouth General Assistance Ordinance and in compliance with the State Statute 22 M.R.S.A Title 22, §4301.

General Assistance provides basic necessities such as food, shelter, utilities, fuel, and certain other items, when they are essential. All assistance granted is in voucher form and no cash assistance is granted. Eligibility must be determined within 24 hours.

It is crucial for the General Assistance Department to collaborate with area service providers to address the many varied needs and difficulties involved in assisting people in need.

The Town of North Yarmouth Contracts with Cumberland County to administer General Assistance for the Town.

**What the budget purchases**

The following is a detailed description of each account and the costs attributed to that account:

**120-04 - GENERAL ASSISTANCE \$7,900**

**ACCOUNT #5645- GA OUTSOURCE \$3,800**

This account provides for contracted services with Cumberland County for the outsourcing of GA for the Town of North Yarmouth. The increase is due to an increase in the hourly rate beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. This is an increase of \$500 over the current budget.

**ACCOUNT #5647 – INTERPRETERS \$600**

This account provides for interpreter services.

**ACCOUNT #5650- GENERAL ASSISTANCE \$3,500**

This account provides funding for the general assistance program which provides assistance with household items, food, rent, electricity, and heat etc. to applicants who meet the state's eligibility requirements. This is an increase of \$500 over the current budget.