

**Walpole Welfare Department**  
**January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009**

Walpole Welfare had a very busy year with 39 cases. There were eight denials with two appeals. The Appeals Board overturned one decision and denied one. There were two no shows and one who rescinded their application.

From January to the end of September there were twenty-four cases and from October through December there were fifteen cases.

The total budget for 2009 was \$26,539.

Actuals were: Rent:	\$5,162.50
Fuel	930.36
Electric	\$ 948.32
Prescription	\$ 50.99
Food	\$ 99.81

This year clients were sent to food banks, Alstead Food Shelf, Keene and Community Kitchen for assistance with food. There were two emergency assistance vouchers given for food.

Any Walpole Resident may apply for assistance. Applications may be picked up at the Selectboard's Office during regular hours. The first step is to complete the application and compile all necessary information together. Secondly you will need to call the phone number listed on the application to schedule an appointment with the Welfare Director. In most cases appointments will be scheduled on Wednesdays mornings at the Town Hall unless there is an emergency.

Walpole Welfare would like to clarify what Town assistance is given for. The Welfare Director reviews the "total application" to determine if client/s can maintain. Meaning, with the income coming in can the client pay rent, electric, and heat. Phone, and/or internet service are not paid by Walpole Welfare Department unless there is a medical condition i.e. oxygen, etc. is needed or a very small child is in the household. If a client cannot maintain one option given by the Walpole Welfare Department is to place the client/s in a Shelter. This Shelter may be anywhere in New Hampshire. Shelters are set up by the State of New Hampshire. There the client/s is taught how to interview for work, job maintenance, household funding, etc. A client is usually placed in a Shelter for three months at which time the client is usually able to be out on his/her own with the life skills provided while in the Shelter.

This office has had clients apply for assistance that can maintain the above, however, ask the Walpole Welfare Department to pay other items so the client can live as they have always lived. As much as this department would like to assist in the manner clients have always lived, this is not what Walpole Welfare has been set up for.

If this department reviews and finds a client has two vehicles, and only one works, this department may inform the client he/she will need to sell one vehicle. Rental Furniture has been seen a lot this year. This office will inform the client if assisted in any way the rental furniture, trips, and other unnecessary expenses were forgone.

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Once Walpole Welfare makes a decision the client/s does have an option to appeal the decision made by Walpole Welfare. A Fair Hearing will be set and a Board consisting of from one to three people will hear the Appeal. Once the Fair Hearing Board makes a decision on the case, the decision is Final.

I wish to thank everyone who has served on the Appeals Board. I wish to also thank Teresa Kissell for all the assistance she has given my as my Assistant. She has been a very valuable asset to this department.

Respectfully,

Elaine Moore  
Walpole Welfare Director