

ARLINGTON COMMUNITY HOUSE - 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

The stately brick house in the center of Arlington has been used as a community center for groups and gatherings for seventy-five years. The house was deeded to the Arlington Community Club by Dorothy Canfield Fisher to be used free of charge as a meeting place for groups from Arlington, Sandgate, and Sunderland. This past year has seen the house used a total of 183 times by various groups such as The Lions Club, The Garden Club, Sunrise Family Resources, and private gatherings. The house is overseen by a volunteer board of directors.

The board continues to use fundraisers as a means of maintaining the house. These include our annual Christmas tree and wreath sale and the spring tag sale. We also rely on the goodwill of the voters who pass the town appropriation as well as donations from private citizens. These funds help maintain the house and pay for needed upkeep and repairs. The Arlington Garden Club has generously helped beautify the grounds around the house for many years.

In the past few years many projects have been done to ensure that the house remains in its stately form. These projects include a new heating system, new energy efficient windows and storm doors, new shutters, and sidewalk repair to the entrances of Martha's Used books and the main street entrance. The board is grateful to all who have donated to these projects.

As with any old house, renovation work is ongoing. This year we have contracted to have the three rooms in the annex updated with insulation, new flooring, and ceiling repair. When completed the large room will be available for large or smaller groups to meet.

One wing of the house continues to be the home of Martha's Used Books, whose proceeds support Martha Canfield Library. This book sale continues to be a popular spot for local community members and visitors alike.

We urge people to visit our webpage (www.arlingtoncommunityhouse.com) and our Facebook page (Arlington Community House) for further information about the history or usage of the house.

If you or your group is interested in using the house as a place to meet free of charge, contact Lynn Williams at 802 375 6119 or email us at arlingtoncommunityhouse@gmail.com to reserve a time.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Webster, President of the Arlington Community House Board of Directors.