

## Working Together To End Homelessness and Poverty

## <u>Subject- Honouring Dr. Alice Kidder's Legacy: Your Continued Support is Vital</u>

Dear Donor,

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of our cherished President, Dr. Alice Kidder, who passed away on March 10, surrounded by her family. As a valued donor, you may remember Dr. Kidder's unwavering dedication to Solutions At Work (S@W). Her leadership since the early 1990s has been the driving force behind our numerous programs and the establishment of the Green Street Shelter, a 50-bed facility for homeless community members in Cambridge.

Dr. Kidder's life was a testament to her commitment to social justice. With a bachelor's degree from Swarthmore College and a PhD from MIT, she dedicated her academic career to researching critical social issues before turning her focus to Solutions At Work. Her legacy includes not only the programs she developed but also the relationships she cultivated with individual donors and institutional supporters, which have been vital to our mission.

Our organization has grown and evolved under Dr. Kidder's visionary leadership. The clothing exchange program, which provides essential clothing to those who cannot afford it, ensures individuals have access to appropriate attire for various occasions, from winter coats to professional clothing for job interviews.

Our meals program continues to be a lifeline for many, offering nutritious meals to the homeless and those facing food insecurity. Recognizing the increasing importance of mental health, we have also expanded our services to include mental health support, offering counseling, support groups, and crisis intervention.

As we move forward, we are determined to honor Dr. Kidder's vision and continue her work. Under the new leadership of Paris Swindle, who has 25 years of experience in economic development and worked closely with Dr. Kidder, our team remains committed to our core services and new initiatives. Paris holds a master's degree in economic development from Southern New Hampshire University, and his expertise, along with our new professional consultants and dedicated new CFO, strengthens our team.

Together, we are dedicated to addressing the needs of the homeless and the surge of new migrant communities, expanding our successful model through partnerships and strategic collaborations with other non-profits, businesses, and organizations.

Your continued support is more important than ever. By contributing to Solutions At Work, you help us carry forward Dr. Kidder's mission and vision. Your donation will ensure that we can maintain and expand our essential services, providing hope and a better future for those in need. Specifically, your donations will help us sustain and expand our clothing exchange program, offering dignity and warmth to those who lack proper attire. This program ensures that individuals have access to clothing for all occasions, from winter coats to professional attire for job interviews.



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Your support will also help us provide nutritious food for those who would otherwise go hungry, through our meals program which serves hundreds of individuals and families every week. Additionally, your support will enable us to expand our mental health services, providing critical counselling and support to those facing mental health challenges. Our expanded services include one-on-one counselling, support groups, and crisis intervention to help individuals navigate their struggles and build resilience.

Moreover, we are excited to announce that we are working to replicate our successful model in other communities. Through strategic partnerships and collaborations with other non-profits, businesses, and organizations, we aim to extend our impact and provide vital services to more individuals in need. By sharing our expertise and resources, we hope to build stronger, more resilient communities across the region.

The impact of your donations will be felt deeply within our community. Families will receive the support they need to get back on their feet, individuals will find hope and healing through our mental health services, and our programs will continue to provide essential resources to those most in need.

Please consider making a generous donation in remembrance of Dr. Alice Kidder and her extraordinary legacy. Your support will make a significant impact on our community, helping to restore lives and offer hope to those who need it most.

Thank you for your unwavering support and generosity.

Warm regards,

Paris Swindle
Executive Director

Solutions At Work