

Our Groton Family Crisis Fund ~ Our Groton Crisis Fund is a twofold fund. \*\*

*One Mission ~ Help alleviate living costs of Groton households. Offset heating costs, other utilities, rent and so on. Sponsor grocery vouchers (exclusive to groceries) and monitored automobile fuel vouchers. Aid families experiencing medical, employment, family financial and other crises.*

*Also, when individuals come with a specific request for payment or aid, we explain that the gift comes with the intent of gifting back. Good intention, even a few dollars at a time, weighs in on future aid requested. Specific bill payments go directly to the institution owed.*

*USUALLY...a request is first researched, and at least two Groton clergy weigh in with approval. Conversations & processing are confidential.*

*Groton pastors also collaborate with city finance and our police officers to disburse gifts out of the Crisis Fund at various times throughout the year.*

*This part of the mission fund is continuously active.*

Second Mission ~ More on the end of people new to the area or those passing through. Usually they first contact pastors or police, and then we pastors check in with our colleagues in the area and with law enforcement for further research and often a light background check.

Common requests: fill a tank of gas, offset moving costs, a meal, a night or two of lodging. Groton establishments help with meals and or lodging. Also, we have a standing relationship with hotels and aid agencies in Aberdeen for larger requests. Also, we are close enough to Aberdeen, that we can access their food pantry.

History ~ Fund stems back 20+ years. Primary agents are Groton clergy, city finance officer and our city law enforcement. For the clergy in the area, we are thankful for the collaborative effort, mission conversation behind the scenes and the 'checks & balances' that do not weigh upon one person.

Funding Source ~ Groton Good Friday thankofferings (usually) and other town worship services or events, our area churches and individual donations throughout the year. There is always and need, and the fund is continuously active.

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