

ARAW LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT RECAP

This report includes data on 10 organizations, including ARAW. Of these, 6 have similar missions as ARAW, to provide assistance to elderly women, and 4 provide grants to organizations in ARAW's service area. Some of these funders also support organizations which ARAW supports. The spreadsheet has very detailed information but below are highlights of the data.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- The 10 organizations varied significantly in terms of methodology and size.
- In researching funding organizations in the New Bedford area it is clear that ARAW is one of the larger foundations and funders in the area.

PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS AND BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES:

- ARAW is unique in that they are the only foundation/benevolent society where the board members conduct social visits to their grant recipients.
- Of the 6 private foundations/benevolent societies providing grants to elderly women, ARAW is by far the largest organization in terms of both assets and grants distributed.
- The Fairhaven Benevolent Society, the Bliss Foundation, and the Sarah A.W. Devens Trust all fund elderly women in ARAW's service area or, in the case of the Bliss Foundation, in a bordering town (Wareham).
- Four of these organizations, including ARAW, have outreach models which require that all recipient requests come through an agency, and/or a social or outreach worker.
- The Sarah A.W. Devens Trust is listed on several community sites as being available for assistance for elderly women who meet their criteria. Sights include: Tufts Health Plan, Barnstable Community Services, Self-Help Inc., and the Need Help Paying the Bills website.

FINANCIALS:

- None of the private foundations/benevolent societies actively fundraise, although many have a donate button on their website.
- This is not the case for New Bedford United Way, the Community Foundation of Southeast Massachusetts and The Women's Fund of Southeast Massachusetts; all of whom receive the majority or a substantial amount of their funds through fundraising.
- Coastline receives most of its revenue through program reimbursements.

VOLUNTEERS/STAFF:

- The two largest foundations/benevolent societies granting to elderly women, ARAW and S.W.A.N., have an Executive Director.
- The Bliss Foundation pays social workers for their efforts in identifying grant recipients.
- NSRAW and the Fairhaven Benevolent Society are all volunteer organizations which pay some of their directors a stipend for their work.
- The Sarah A.W. Devens Trust is administered by two paid trustees.