

# ARAW

## The Association for the Relief of Aged Women of New Bedford

The Association's mission is **"to furnish financial assistance, provide friendship and promote the welfare and relief of low-income elderly women."**

One of the founders and the first President, Rachel Howland, organized this benevolent private foundation in 1866. Over the course of more than 150 years, ARAW has provided assistance, relief and friendship to thousands of elderly women.

***"women helping women"***

Today, led by volunteer board members and a small staff, the Association directly supports the individual financial needs of over 200 women.

***"not alms alone, but a friend"***

The Association's founding motto prevails as the core of what makes the Association's work so compelling and compassionate.

In addition to providing financial support, ARAW board members get to know beneficiaries and form lasting friendships.

**The ARAW operates under the General Laws of Massachusetts as a private non-profit 501©(3) charitable organization.**

## COMMUNITIES SERVED

Acushnet  
Dartmouth  
Fairhaven  
New Bedford  
Westport

## ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

### AGE:

Reoccurring support and one-time assistance considered for those age 65+

### RESIDENCY:

Over five years in service area  
Preference to women living alone

### INCOME:

Monthly income under \$1,800  
(with subsidized housing)  
Monthly income under \$2,500  
(non-subsidized housing)  
Liquid assets under \$10,000  
(excluding home and auto)

## REFERRALS

ARAW staff welcomes inquiries by phone 508-717-0400 or by email [admin@arawofnb.org](mailto:admin@arawofnb.org).

## PLEASE NOTE:

Formal applications are completed, in the home, by advocates from ARAW or partnering social service organizations.

## VISION

Elderly women in our community will live well and with dignity.

## MISSION

We furnish financial assistance, provide friendship, and promote the welfare and relief of low-income elderly women.

## We do this by:

Investing in and collaborating with our community partners to identify and address women's unmet needs.

Meeting our beneficiaries' needs through one time, intermittent or ongoing financial support.

Providing friendship to women through social visits.

## SUPPORT

**ARAW** directly supports individual women as well as programs within our service area.

The Association's primary purpose is to improve the quality of life for elderly women. Direct financial support decisions are made monthly by taking each individual's circumstance and specific need into consideration.

***We speak Portuguese  
and Spanish!***



## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Buzzards Bay Area Habitat for Humanity  
Buzzards Bay Coalition  
Cape Verdean Association in New Bedford  
Coastal Foodshed, Inc.  
Coastal Neighbors Network  
Community Nurse Home Care, Inc.  
Fairhaven Council on Aging  
New Bedford Art Museum  
New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center  
New Bedford Symphony Orchestra  
New Bedford Whaling Museum  
PACE  
South Coast LGBTQ+ Network, Inc.  
South Coastal Counties Legal Services  
Westport Council on Aging  
Women's Fund SouthCoast  
YMCA Southcoast  
YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts  
Zeiterion Performing Arts Center

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## ARAW STAFF

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Executive Director

Clare Healy Foley

#### Director of Data, Administration & Quality Assurance

Jenny Valentine

#### Beneficiary Advocate

Ana Paz

#### Beneficiary Advocate

Heidy Olivero

Phone: 508-717-0400

[www.arawofnb.org](http://www.arawofnb.org)

[admin@arawofnb.org](mailto:admin@arawofnb.org)

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