## **Report of the Human Services Coordinator**

The Social Services Department provides temporary emergency assistance to individuals and families who lack adequate resources to meet their basic needs, as required by New Hampshire State Law RSA: 165. Eligibility is based on a need and determined each time a formal request for assistance is made through the application process. The Town can consider providing assistance to meet basic living needs of eligible residents in compliance with RSA: 165 and the Town of Fremont Welfare Guidelines. All business is conducted in a professional, respectful, and fiscally responsible manner.

Eligibility decisions are based on fair and equal application of the law and guidelines while:

- Maintaining strict confidentiality
- Providing advocacy
- Maintaining dignity
- Encouraging self-sufficiency

Assistance is provided through vouchers directly to vendors for basic emergency needs such as food, fuel for heat, utilities, shelter expenses, and other necessities. Whenever possible, referrals to other resources, such as State and Federal programs, food pantries, etc., are made before local tax dollars are utilized.

The Social Services Department has had some changes this year. My name is Dawn Marie Jarrell and I was hired in February 2012 as the new Human Services Coordinator for the Town of Fremont. If you feel that you are in need and have exhausted all other means of meeting your essential needs, i.e. if you have applied for any and all programs that could assist you (Fuel Assistance, Electric Discount Program, Food Stamps, TANF, Medicaid, Social Security benefits, subsidized housing, etc.), and you are still in need of financial assistance, complete the application for assistance (available either at the Selectmen's Office at the Town Hall or online) and collect all the documentation required-including proof of where any income has been spent (receipts, bills, etc.), as well as a copy of your tax return and your lease. This documentation is necessary in order to determine eligibility. Residents in need of assistance may reach me at 895-3200 x 12. If I am unavailable please may leave a message on my voicemail and I will return your call promptly. I'm pleased to be part of this community, and thank you to everyone who has made me feel so welcome.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Marie Jarrell Human Services Coordinator