



AGING IN PLACE 2016

Cornish Aging in Place is a local volunteer committee dedicated to providing information and resources to elders who wish to remain in their homes with dignity, comfort and safety for as long as possible. Cornish is one of many communities now mobilizing to meet the needs of a growing elderly population as assisted living and nursing homes become economically prohibitive for so many of our aging citizens.

One of the committee's major projects was to produce a full-color resource booklet that is now available to every Cornish Senior. Copies of this booklet have been reviewed in Maine and Vermont, and it is considered by many to be a model for other towns in Northern New England. The \$1000 required for producing 500 copies was raised through donations within the Aging in Place committee. Special thanks to graphic designer Barbara Jones, a former Cornish resident, for donating many hours of her time to help us complete this very special project.

Committee members Jan Lord and Jody Schubert have prepared a questionnaire to help us determine present and future needs of Cornish elders. Their goal is to eventually reach every Cornish resident over 60 years of age. They are also prepared to assist residents with advanced directives.

Beginning in January, 2017, the committee initiated a monthly intergenerational letter writing project involving Cornish fifth graders and nine elder residents. Our thanks to fifth grade teacher Beth Tilton-Wahlert for her enthusiasm and organizational skills in getting this project successfully launched.

Aging in Place works very closely with the Cornish Neighbor to Neighbor organization, a group of volunteers who continue to assist elders and disabled Cornish residents with simple projects or services. Each year the Neighbor to Neighbor group organizes a winter wood project where several cords of wood are processed and provided free of charge to families who are economically challenged. Anyone interested in joining this wonderful group should contact Laird Klingler, coordinator. This is a great opportunity to reach out and provide a helping hand to our senior neighbors here in town.

Working together with Neighbor to Neighbor, Volunteers in Action, and our General Assistance Department, Aging in Place remains dedicated to providing resources, information and services to individuals who need our help in order to remain in their homes as long as possible.

It takes many volunteers and caring individuals to successfully accomplish our goals. Our deepest thanks and appreciation to all who so willingly give of their time, their financial support and their services to make this possible.

It is this spirit of caring and community that will keep our town vital and strong.

Connie Kousman
Martha Zoerheide
Nancy Newbold
Leigh Callahan
Liz Gage
Laura Cousineau
Jan Lord
Jody Schubert
Reigh Sweetser