During 2007, there were three General Assistance cases. Case management included work search referrals, HUD/Section 8 referrals and interface with the Social Security Administration. Employable cases are monitored for client compliance in order to maintain eligibility for public assistance. All cash assistance granted to General Assistance recipients is reimbursed 100% by the NJ Department of Human Services to the Borough of Chatham. Quarterly advances by the State of New Jersey to Public Assistance Trust Fund II are predicated on case activity and the submission of monthly financial and statistical reports to the Department of Human Services Financial Reporting Unit.

During the year, the municipal welfare department received requests for assistance with utility payments, prescription costs and emergency food. Care and Share and Salvation Army funds were used to address these requests, as well as food certificates donated to the Fund. Social service information and referral services are provided to any Borough resident. Thanksgiving and holiday requests were addressed through donated baskets, gifts, and Care and Share food certificates.

The Local Assistance Board, appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the governing body, is an advisory board comprised of four members from the community; in addition, a member of the council serves as a liaison to this Board. The Board meets four times annually and provides oversight and direction to the municipal welfare department. The ongoing generosity and thoughtfulness of Borough residents, churches and organizations has enabled the Borough welfare department to respond to emergent social service situations that come to the attention of the department in a confidential and expedient manner.

* Includes donated food certificates ($500.00) and distributed certificates ($750.00)