



# CHARITIES Committee

Ralph Orleck, Chairman



The RISAA Charities Committee exists to lend a helping hand to others in need, and is a way of giving back to our community.

## THIS MONTH'S CONTRIBUTION

# Neighbors Helping Neighbors Rhode Island

Report by  
**TOM  
MEADE**



Winter was approaching, and the elderly widow had run out of heating oil. The oil company refused to deliver because, the company said, the woman's oil tank had deteriorated and was leaking.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors RI bought, delivered and installed a new tank, and then volunteers discovered that all the electricity in the woman's mobile home was running off extension cords. The group brought in an electrician to remedy a potential fire hazard.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors RI always seems to find a way to help. Based at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Charlestown, the non-profit group includes volunteers from all over South County — amateurs and professionals in the building trades. Sometimes, the group partners with other non-profit organizations.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors is this month's recipient of RISAA's Charity Committee. The donation will be matched, and all of the money will buy building materials, says **Tina Lundgren**, executive director.

The charity's goal is to help people remain in their own homes, but the job is becoming more difficult as



**Tina Lundgren, Executive Director of Neighbors Helping Neighbors RI accepted the RISAA donation.**

regulations change and the need increases.

"We're doing over double the amount of work we did two years ago," the last time RISAA contributed to the group.

A man who lost both of his legs needed a wheelchair ramp. Neighbors Helping Neighbors built one, and then the man discovered that his new wheelchair could not move on his old carpet. The group pulled up the old carpet and installed new flooring.



A woman went without hot water for a month before contacting Neighbors Helping Neighbors. The group got her a new water and an electrician to wire it correctly.

The stories go on and on. "Sometimes," Tina said, "the smallest thing you do is a real life changer."

More information about Neighbors Helping Neighbors RI, and how to contribute and volunteer is available online at [neighborshelpingneighborsri.org](http://neighborshelpingneighborsri.org).



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