Seeks to offer support to all individuals who are coping with hoarding and excessive clutter. Our goal is to foster a coordinated response among community agencies by raising awareness and providing referral resources about hoarding behavior. The Hoarding Task Force provides a sensitive environment while empowering those who are coping with these behaviors.

Serving all of Franklin County as well as Athol, Petersham, Phillipston, and Royalston.

“You are not alone”.

Updated 5/2010
**What is Compulsive Hoarding?**

It is the accumulation of clutter or difficulty parting with items causing marked distress or interferes significantly with normal use of the home or personal functioning. There can be significant health or safety risks. Many times there is significant conflict with family, neighbors or authorities. Examples of compulsive hoarding include multiple animals, accumulated garbage, excess papers, clothing and food.

**Why is Hoarding a Problem?**

Hoarding can result in violation of safety codes and lease agreements placing individuals at risk for eviction, fire, and falls. Excessive clutter also places emergency responders at risk. People who hoard often have feelings of anxiety, distress, and shame.

**How can I get help?**

- Contact Franklin County Hoarding Task Force for help in finding area resources at FCHoardingTaskForce@gmail.com
- E mail clutter.support.group@gmail.com for information on potential support groups in your area
- Visit the Clutterer's Anonymous Website http://sites.google.com/site/clutterersanonymous/
- Messiness & Hoarding Support Group http://health.dir.groups.yahoo.com/group/Messiness-and-Hoarding/

**How can I help someone with a hoarding problem?**

- Share your concern for safety and well being.
- Don’t judge or criticize their behavior or the problem
- Contact the Franklin County Hoarding Task Force for additional resource at FCHoardingTaskForce@gmail.com
- Visit the Children of Hoarders website at www.childrenofhoarders.com

**Community Agencies Involved**

- Franklin Regional Council of Governments 413-774-3167
- Tenancy Preservation Program 413-772-5636
- Greenfield Health Department 413-772-1404
- Franklin County Home Care Corporation 413-773-5555
- Greenfield Housing Authority 413-774-2932