

## New Hampshire

Housing • Single Family Home Repair Loan

### A Warm Welcome from the Home Team

Mary J. Dunn has been through a tough time over the last few years, but as a native of the New Hampshire North Country, she has a strong, independent spirit that can overcome anything life throws at her.

Mary was in California when she had to undergo emergency neck surgery, which prevented her from returning home. The next year, a physical injury kept her on the West Coast. Year three? That's when Covid-19 hit. Finally, after more than 1000 days away, she returned home to Pittsburg in the fall. However, there was a big issue staring her in the face: because of her injury, she was unable to lift and haul the wood necessary to heat the house.

That's when she called USDA Rural Development and found housing specialist Janice Le Blanc—"the best thing since sliced bread," according to Mary. Knowing that winter was on its way, Janice helped Mary complete a USDA 504 Home Repair application, then fast-tracked it for closing.

The Single Family Housing Repair Loan & Grant program provides funding for seniors to remove hazards in their house. For folks like Mary who live in the woods of the frozen north, it can literally be a lifesaver!

Janice also went above and beyond by helping Mary organize a team of pros to upgrade her heating system, including an electrician, propane installer, plumber and HVAC contractor. Rounding out the quick-acting crew were Mary's grandson and four of his friends to dig the trench for the propane tank.

Mary J. Dunn is back where she belongs, happy, toasty and warm thanks to everyday hometown heroes who joined together to help a neighbor, just in time for winter.



*Mary J. Dunn staying warm in her cozy house located in New Hampshire's North Country.*

**Date of Obligation:** 9/25/20

**Congressional District:** Rep. Kuster, New Hampshire 2nd; Sen. Shaheen and Sen. Hassan

**Partners:** Brian Croteau Generators, Norm Flanagan Plumbing & Heating, Stiles Fuel, Bishop Electric

**Demographics:** Coos County

**Impact:** Through a USDA home repair loan, Mary J. Dunn was able to upgrade the heating system in her house before the cold set in. After being away for three years, Mary needed help organizing the repairs, so her USDA housing specialist helped put together a team of big-hearted contractors.