Thanks to generous donors, The CareGivers Holiday Hopes Program delivered more than 280 gifts, valued at $7,500 to homebound elderly living in the Greater Manchester and Nashua area.

Volunteers telephoned CareGivers’ clients inquiring if they wanted anything for Christmas. The items were inventoried online along with the expressed need. There were some compelling stories, motivating donors to purchase the gifts.

For example, a woman had been sleeping on a mattress on the floor. A box spring, she said, would be her Christmas miracle. She received a $140 box spring.

Another lady received battery-operated candles after stating she loved holiday candles, but couldn’t have them since she used an oxygen tank.

A client yearned for a cardigan sweater because the apartment was drafty. One man recently broke his hip and simply wanted a pillow to help support his leg while sleeping.

A client had been sleeping on a mattress on the floor. A box spring, she said, would be her Christmas miracle. She received a $140 box spring.

Donors made others wishes come true. One woman replaced her threadbare bath towels with new ones. Another lady received battery-operated candles after stating she loved holiday candles, but couldn’t have them since she used an oxygen tank.

The presents were delivered via the Caring Cupboard food delivery program.

Other organizations participating in the Holiday Hopes Program include St. Mary’s Bank, People’s Bank, Oracle and Bedford Presbyterian Church.

“It wasn’t just about the presents,” said Sanda Gagnon, a member of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Greater Manchester Class of 2019. “It didn’t take long for the team to collectively donate more than $1,300 so that we could purchase approximately 45 gifts off of the wishlists of those seniors.”

In addition to the donations, we couldn’t wait to be a part of making the actual deliveries of these gifts along with the much needed groceries. It was heartwarming for us to be able to help in this way and to feel the spirit of giving right here in our own community,” said Gagnon.

It was heartwarming to feel the spirit of giving right here in our own community.