Organization created to sponsor and conduct all fundraising for, and to distribute funds to, relief and social agencies in the town of Easthampton, Massachusetts. Contains records of minutes, campaign reports, Presidents' and Treasurers' reports, and correspondence. Also included are scrapbooks with newspaper clippings and other printed material.
Civic organizations
Massachusetts (West)

Background on Easthampton Community Chest (Easthampton, Mass.)
In 1943, Easthampton citizens incorporated the Easthampton Community War Fund to sponsor and conduct all fundraising for, and to distribute funds to, the relief and social agencies in the town. Nine years later in 1952, the organization was renamed the Easthampton Community Chest.

Through the 1950's and early 1960's, however, the Chest failed to reach its campaign goals. Board minutes reflect the Chest's difficulties in finding volunteers to help with the campaigns, in educating the public and in developing interest in the Chest. Proposed solutions included dropping the Chest Drive, hiring a professional director, and holding a joint drive with the surrounding towns. The Easthampton Community Chest held its last drive in 1968. In 1969, the Easthampton Community Chest joined the Northampton Community Chest as the Hampshire United Fund.

Scope of collection
The collection is approximately .75 feet and consists of two series, including Administration, 1943-1968 and Scrapbooks.

Series I, Administration, contains the Easthampton Community Chest records maintained by the secretary in chronological order. Minutes (1943-1968), campaign reports, Presidents' and Treasurers' reports, and correspondence are found in a single sequence.

Series II, Scrapbooks, contains three Easthampton Community War Fund scrapbooks. The scrapbooks document campaign activity and included newspaper clippings and other printed material (1943-1945).

Arrangement
This collection is organized into two series:

Series 1. Administration (1943-1968)
Series 2. Scrapbooks (1943-1945)

Series descriptions
Series 1. Administration
1943-1968
Contains the Easthampton Community Chest records maintained by the secretary in chronological order. Minutes (1943-1968), campaign reports, Presidents' and Treasurers' reports, and correspondence are found in a single sequence.

Series 2. Scrapbooks
1943-1945
Contains three Easthampton Community War Fund scrapbooks. The scrapbooks document campaign activity and included newspaper clippings and other printed material (1943-1945).
Inventory
Series 1. Administration
1943-1968
By-Laws
1943
Box 1: 1
Incorporation Papers
1943-1963
Box 1: 2
Minutes and Correspondence
1943-1968
Box 1: 3-7
Series 2. Scrapbooks
1943-1945
Scrapbook
1943
Box 1: 1
Scrapbook
1944-1945
Box 2: 2-3

Administrative information
Access
The collection is open for research.

Provenance
Processing Information
Collection processed by Anneliese Ostendarp, 2003.

Language:
English

Acknowledgments
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Copyright and Use (More information)
Cite as: Easthampton Community Chest Records (MS 51). Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries.

Search terms
Subjects
Charities--Massachusetts--Easthampton--History--Sources.
Easthampton (Mass.)--Social conditions--Sources.
Easthampton Community Chest (Easthampton, Mass.)--Archives.
Easthampton Community War Fund (Easthampton, Mass.)--Archives.
Federations, Financial (Social service)--History--Sources.

Contributors
Easthampton Community Chest (Easthampton, Mass.) [main entry]

Genres and formats
Scrapbooks.

Link to similar SCUA collections
Civic organizations
Massachusetts (West)