

ANNUAL REPORT

2020



Partners in Philanthropy



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Meeting the Moment of 2020



When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in early 2020, the Greater Lowell Community Foundation saw that our most vulnerable neighbors were in trouble. We did what we do best – we helped our community. To meet the moment, GLCF established the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund to support low-income and marginalized people in our

region who faced incredibly complex challenges.

Our community rallied to support this fund and help out neighbors in need. One of the more memorable donations included a note from a family in Westford who donated the proceeds from their neighborhood yard sale "to help families or individuals who have suffered from the COVID outbreak." Others shared notes of encouragement: "These are moments when we all need to pull together." We read every word and shared them with the team - it kept us going and challenged us to do even more.

Additionally, we saw our nonprofit partners step up in countless ways during the pandemic. Within this annual report, we have highlighted some of their work. The innovative ways our nonprofit partners pivoted within an ever-changing environment to continue serving others was so inspiring.

In 2020, through grants from its GLCF COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund and the Massachusetts COVID Relief Fund, the foundation has supported 105 local nonprofit organizations with more than 190 grants totaling over \$2.9 million. Grants funding was distributed to all 20 GLCF communities served.

Our team of six is so proud to live in this community. We are so much stronger together.

Thank you for your support.

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Jay Linnehan

President and CEO



Design and Layout: Jennifer Aradhya Cover, town and food pantry photos (8 + 15): Kevin Harkins 2020 GLCF Stories: Kathy Register



- \$6,609,560 gifts received from donors
- \$4,436,213 million distributed to 269 nonprofits
- \$557,129 in scholarships were awarded to 277 students from 404 Scholarships
- · 389 endowed funds
- **\$50,953,660** million total assets

OUR MISSION

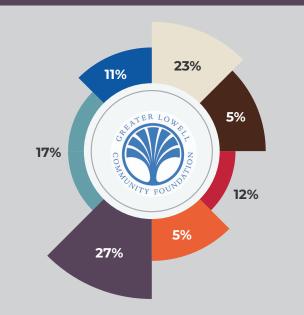
To foster community growth and development through funding, leadership, and collaboration to transform the lives of the individuals and organizations we serve

ABOUT GLCF

Established in 1997, the Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF) is a philanthropic organization comprised of more than 390 funds dedicated to improving the quality of life in 20 neighboring cities and towns. With financial assets of more than \$50 million, GLCF annually awards grants and scholarships to hundreds of worthy nonprofits and students. The generosity of our donors has enabled the Community Foundation to award more than \$25 million to the Greater Lowell community.

OUR VISION

Improving the quality of life in Greater Lowell through impactful, strategic philanthropy



2020 GRANT DISTRIBUTIONS

The year 2020 presented a host of challenges for nonprofits in our community. Fortunately, beyond GLCF COVID-19 funding, the 2020 grantmaking total of more than \$2 million was distributed to support Greater Lowell nonprofits.

- ☐ Education 23%
- Other 5%
- Health 5%
- Arts and Culture 12%
- **Human Services 27%**
- Community and Economic Development 11%
- Scholarships 17%









Community Partners Come to Aid of Seniors Facing Food Insecurity

In the spring of 2020, as COVID-19 began infecting older adults in high numbers, nonprofit agencies providing support to this demographic -- like Minuteman Senior Services (MSS) and Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley & North Shore (ESMV-NS) -- were hit hard by another jolt: Most of the volunteers they depended on to distribute meals to their senior clients were seniors themselves.

"Before COVID we had robust Meals on Wheels programs, as well as popular 'congregate meal' programs, which allowed people to eat together at their local senior centers," explained Patti Dubielak, Director of Marketing & Development at MSS, which serves 16 towns, including Bedford, Burlington, Carlisle, Concord, Littleton and Wilmington.

"Once the pandemic hit in March, all our programs were impacted," said Dubielak. "Plus, we lost about 60 percent of our volunteers because they were from high-risk groups, too."

Compounding the situation is the fact that food insecurity among older people continues to grow, added Jennifer Raymond, Chief Strategy Officer of ESMV-NS, which serves seniors in 28

communities, including Billerica, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Lowell, Tewksbury, Tynsgboro and Westford.

"Hunger among seniors is not new, but COVID has shined a light on the problem in a much more visible way," said Raymond. "We've seen a 30- to 35-percent increase in the numbers we are feeding."

Realizing these unforeseen forces were having a profound impact on elder health, last spring and summer GLCF distributed two COVID-19 Relief Fund Grants each to MSS and ESMV-NS, two nonprofits that support seniors in 14 of the 20 communities in the foundation's service area.

The spring and summer grants were distributed by GLCF from the Massachusetts COVID-19
Relief Fund. Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief
Fund supported those across the state most impacted by the COVID-19 health crisis, focused on essential frontline workers and vulnerable populations including the homeless, immigrant populations, people with disabilities, and those facing food insecurity. The fund worked in concert with regional community foundations and nonprofit leaders who partner with local leaders







Photos 1 + 2: Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley & North Shore (ESMV-NS) volunteers package and later deliver hot lunches to homebound seniors.; Photo 3: Minuteman Senior Services Dining Site Coordinator Marijana Petrovic packs frozen meals.

to understand the response and relief landscape, strategically filling in where gaps are pronounced.

And in November, GLCF continued addressing food insecurity among seniors by awarding another round of grants to both nonprofits from the foundation's own COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund.

"Food insecurity was a major focus of the Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund, and we realized elder-food insecurity was a growing concern," said Jennifer Aradhya, GLCF Vice President of Marketing & Programs.

"Communicating with local Councils on Aging gave us a solid understanding of the situation, as well as a strategy for a funding solution that would have the most impact. Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley & North Shore, and Minuteman Senior Services support more than 1,000 foodinsecure seniors in 14 of our communities. Partnering with these two nonprofits made perfect sense."

Once the pandemic lockdown began, both nonprofits had to quickly shift staff to work remotely, as well as (virtually) train a new crop of younger volunteers. With funding assistance from GLCF, group meals at senior centers were converted to "grab and go" sites, which allowed seniors to pick up meals and safely eat them at home. Both organizations adopted new "contactless" delivery protocols for their Meals on

Wheels programs, and made other innovations.

"Grant funding from the Greater Lowell Community Foundation is helping us keep older adults safely in their homes during the pandemic," said Kelly Magee Wright, Executive Director of Minuteman Senior Services. "In addition to our daily Meals on Wheels delivery of a hot lunch, we are also delivering seven-day frozen meals packs, and grocery-store gift cards to seniors at risk of food insecurity."

ESMV-NS is also using some of its GLCF funding to pilot a food shopping/delivery program for atrisk seniors, according to Raymond. "We learned that some consumers had additional nutritional needs beyond what could be addressed through standard Meals on Wheels," she explained.

"This funding from GLCF allowed us to launch and continue a grocery store shopping-and- delivery program for people who are facing food insecurity, but may not have the transportation or other resources to shop for the special dietary items they need," she said.

"Our seniors are especially vulnerable to serious complications from the COVID-19 virus, and is seeing food insecurity at much higher numbers," said Jay Linnehan, GLCF President & CEO. "These nonprofit partners have been very diligent and innovative in their approach to continuing services to Greater Lowell elders, while adapting to new safety rules. We are so grateful to them."

Focus On: Westford



GLCF provided grant funding to **Westford CAT** to purchase PPE supplies for staff members. Masks, gloves, hand sanitizer were made readily available for anyone entering the station. Additionally, cleaning supplies were purchased for office sanitizing.

As producers returned to record programs, equipment was purchased with the grant for better recording through Zoom (encouraging more virtual involvement) as well as mobile recording equipment to use "in the field."



community investment T

2020 Business & Organization Donors

A Brush with History, Inc. AB Breakfast Group Able To Serve-New England, Inc Acre Family Child Care Acton Police Association Align Credit Union All Sports Heroes Alpha Omega Sorority Alumni Chorus of Lowell High School Angkor Management Group, Inc. Aubert J. Fay Charitable Fund Autodesk Foundation AlivioPro, LLC Bammco Construction Barr Foundation Base Camp Yoga Battles Foundation, Inc. beWell Organic Medicine, Inc. Bill Stephens Automotive, Inc. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation Boch Honda Boisvert Fund **Boston Foundation** Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell Brett Tully Scholarship Fund **BRM Production Management** Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney, PC

Budget Buddies Inc. Burlington Girl Scout Troop 85417

Butler Monument Fund

C4 Innovations

Cambodian American Literary Arts Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association of Greater Lowell, Inc.

Carbonneau Insulation, LLC Carter Dalton Quinn Charitable Trust Center for Hope and Healing, Inc.

Cercle leanne Mance

Challenge Unlimited, Inc. at Ironstone Farm Charlotte and Michel LaPierre Char. Fund Chelmsford Business Association, Inc. Chelmsford Community Fund

Chelmsford Pediatrics Choate, Hall & Stewart, LLP

Circle Health

Citrin Cooperman & Company, LLP City of Lowell Women's Golf Tourn., Inc. Clarendon Early Education Services, Inc. Coalition for a Better Acre

Commencement Photos, Inc. Communities for Restorative Justice Community Family, Inc. Community Teamwork, Inc.

Congregation Beth Israel of the MV Corporation for the Celebration of Jack Kerouac in Lowell

Cove Hill Partners Cox Fuel Co., Inc. Craft Hot Sauce, LLC Cummings Foundation, Inc. Daly Holding Company, Inc. David E. Tully & Associates, PA Dawa, Inc.

DCU - Digital Federal Credit Union Delori/Riley Fund

Delta Sales of Amherst, Inc. Deluxe Corporation Foundation

Matching Gifts Program

Demoulas Foundation Deschenes Family Trust Discovery Museum Inc.

Donahue Family Fund Dow Realty Group, LLC

Dr. An Wang Middle School Duchesne One Family Trust Duke Family Fund

D'Youville Life & Wellness Community Foundation, Inc.

Eagle Claw Management, LLC Eastern Bank Foundation Eastern Salt Company, Inc.

Edge Group, Inc. Edward J. Babigan Scholarship Elevate New England, Inc.

Empire Regency Hospitality, LLC

Enterprise Bank Entrepreneurship for All

Essex County Community Foundation

Evans on the Common Facebook Bingo Players Faith Home, Inc

Family Dental Care of Milford, Prof. Assn. Fidelity Foundation

Fidelity Investments Charitable Gift Fund

Foundation M

Foundation Management & Pro Productions Fournier Plumbing and Heating

Francine & Ethan Royce Fund Francis Provencher Insurance Agency, Inc.

Franciscan Sisters of Allegany

Franco - American Day Committee Gallagher & Cavanaugh, LLP

GarMark Partners Greater Lowell Bar Association

Greater Lowell Chamber of Commerce, Inc. Greater Lowell Health Alliance

Groton-Pepperell Rotary Club Haartz Corporation

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell

Henry and Winifred Lyons Foundation Heritage Farm Ice Cream Heritage Hill Shave Co., LLC

Hidden Battles Fund Incompass Human Services Intuit Payment Solutions

J.C Gendreau Electric, LLC James F. O'Donnell & Sons Jamesco Development Inc.

lague Home Care Inc. Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union **INB & Associates**

Joncas Associates

Joseph P. Donahue Charitable Foundation Trust

JSR Strategies, LLC

Juniper Networks Foundation Fund

Kerfuffle Foundation Kishan Realty, LLC

Laborers' International Union of N. America Local # 429

Law Office of Daniel J. Mansur Law Offices of Claude B. Lavallee, Esq.

Leaders in Lowell LHS Class of 1957

Life Connection Center, Inc. Lowell Association for the Blind

Lowell Central Electric Co., Inc. Lowell Community Health Center

Lowell Development & Financial Corporation

Lowell Festival Foundation Lowell Firefighters Golf Association

Lowell General Hospital Lowell High School Lowell Housing Authority Lowell National Historical Park Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust

Lowell Plan, Inc.

Lowell Police Superior Officers Association

Lowell Sun Charities, Inc. Lowell Women's Week LowellNOW Luz Granite Corp

Magic Wireless Mahoney Oil Co. Make a Difference Fund Management Process Support

Marc Chandonnet Plumbing & Heating, LLC

Mark G. Gilchrist MD, LLC Mary E. Harrington Memorial Fund Massachusetts Cultural Council Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese

Speakers

Massachusetts Charitable Society McLane Middleton

Megan House Foundation, Inc. Merrimack Valley Food Bank, Inc. Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership

Middlesex Community College K-16 Pathways Up With Books, Inc. Middlesex Community College Foundation

Middlesex Savings Charitable Foundation Milipore Sigma Match Grants

Mill City Medical Group LTD Minute Man Arc for Human Services, Inc.

Minuteman Senior Services Murphy Construction N.E. Heritage Properties, Inc. NETSCOUT SYSTEMS, INC.

Network for Good New England Medical Insurance Agency, LLC

Ogonowski New Farm Families Endow. Fund

NextStep Nonprofit, LLC Non-Profit Alliance of Greater Lowell Nordson Corporation Foundation

Omicron PI Alumni One Can Help

Open Pantry of Greater Lowell Owl Diner Charities, Inc.

Pampered Chef Passe Temps Club

Paypal Charitable Giving Fund Performing Art Collective, Inc.

Peter S. Stamas Fund for the GLCF Phillips Academy PrideSTAR EMS, Inc.

Protiviti Red Hat

RENO Properties, LLC

Respiratory Delivery Systems, Inc. Retired Public Employees Committee for

Political Action

Richard K. and Nancy L. Donahue Charitable

Foundation Trust Rotary Club of Dracut Rotary Club of Lowell Rotary of Acton-Boxborough S. Levesque Corp.

Salem Five Salesforce.com, Inc. SecurityTrails

Shuley Nakamura Charitable Foundation

Siff Charitable Foundation

Silicon Valley Community Foundation Sisters of Charity of Quebec Smith's Barber Shop

Sompal, Inc./Store 38

South Middlesex Opportunity Council Stagnone Family Charitable Fund

Studio 26 Associates Sullivan Middle School PTO Swimming with a Mission, Inc. Tewksbury Firefighters Local 1647 Theodore Edson Parker Foundation

Thibault Foundation Trinity E.M.S., Inc. TVI Inc.

U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management

UMass Lowell

Union Sales Presentation Coaching, LLC

UTEC. Inc. Votze Butler Charitable

Walker's Gymnastics and Dance, Inc.

Washington Savings Bank Welcoming America

Western Avenue Studios BPV Lowell, LLC

Westford Community Fund WinnCompanies Wisdom Collective Women Accelerators Women Working Wonders Fund Woody's Auto Repair & Towing, Inc. Worldcom Exchange, Inc. Wormtown Brewery

financial report

2020 Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS

Cash and investments \$50,880,856
Unconditional promise to give \$61,091
Other assets - net \$11,713

Total assets \$50,953,660

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable/accrued expenses \$71,522
Grants payable \$57,355
Charitable gift annuities \$1,897
Fiscal agent and agency endowment funds \$6,705,012

Total liabilities \$6,835,786

NET ASSETS

Total net assets \$44,117,874

Total liabilities and net assets \$50,953,660

2020 Statement of Activities

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Contributions, grants and gifts \$2,994,972
COVID-19 contributions \$3,048,557
Investment Income \$6,222,850
Donated goods and services
and Other \$97,961

Total support and revenue \$12,364,340

EXPENSES

Program Services \$5,266,045
Fundraising \$235,027
General and administrative \$206,778

Total expenses \$5,707,850

Total Change In Net Assets \$6,656,490

Net Assets At Beginning of Year \$37,461,460

Net Assets At End of Year \$44,117,950

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

The goal of the Foundation's investment program is to preserve and enhance the value of donor gifts, maintain capital for the future, and meet community needs today. To accomplish this goal, we sustain a diversified portfolio overseen by multiple managers.

GLCF Endowed Funds Return

(through 12/31/20)

· 1 Yr. +17.95%

· 3 Yr. +11.74%

• 5 Yr. +11.91%

Founding Foundation Donors

We appreciate and acknowledge our founding foundations: The Theodore Edson Parker Foundation (Moses Greeley Parker and Mary Greeley Parker Morrison Foundation), Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust Fund, and Massachusetts Environmental Trust for their initial and continued support.

GLCF COVID-19 response









150+ grants
distributed to local
nonprofits from GLCF's
COVID-19 Fund



100+ nonprofits
received funding
from GLCF's COVID-19
Response Fund



\$2.9 millionin grants distributed
from GLCF's COVID-19
Response Fund



The Massachusetts
COVID-19 Relief Fund
supported those
across the state most
impacted by the
COVID-19 health crisis.
GLCF is grateful for
the fund's generous
support of Greater
Lowell nonprofits.

Due to the impact of the pandemic on vulnerable populations in our community, GLCF opened the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund on March 13 to support the unanticipated needs of area nonprofits.



150+ donors generously supported GLCF's COVID-19 Response Fund

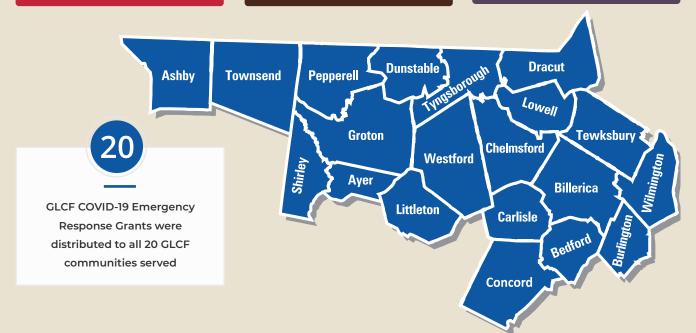


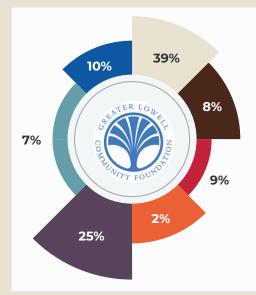
2020 RESPONSE PHASES

Phase 1: Preparedness/
Prevention
Small grants for PPF

Small grants for PPE, Essential Supplies

Phase 2: Strategic Response Larger grants for food insecurity, housing insecurity, technology, etc.





2020 COVID-19 GRANTS

Since March, through grants from the GLCF COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund and the Massachusetts COVID Relief Fund, the foundation has supported more than 100 local nonprofit organizations with grants totaling over \$2.9 million.

- ☐ Food Insecurity 39%
- Social Emotional 2%
- Housing Insecurity 25%
- Other 7%

- Education & Technology 8%
- PPE/Sanitation 9%
- Staff & Hazard Pay 10%

GLCF's 2020 COVID-19 Donors

GLCF would like to thank the following donors to the fund for their generosity and solidarity.

Able To Serve - New England, Inc

Mr. and Mrs. Joel Abrams

Ms. Jan Aceti

George & Kathy Allen

Alpha Omega Sorority

Mr. Howard Amidon and Ms. Lisa Tellekson

Ms. Jennifer M. Aradhya

The Armstrong Family

Ms. Leeann Atkinson

Mary J. Bacigalupo Community Fund

Barr Foundation

Mr. Kenneth Bassett

Blackbaud Giving Fund -Autodesk Foundation

Ms. Jill Block

Mr. Trevor Bloom

The Blount Family

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation

Boisvert Fund

Ms. Meg A. Bond

The Bromark Family Foundation

Ms. Carolyn Brooks

Mr. Bruce Brown

Ms. Nancy Jean Bump

Ms. Phyllis M. Carr

Chelmsford Community Fund

John and Linda Chemaly

Lynn and Peter Cina

Hilary and David Clark

Ms. Patricia L. Coffey

Mr. Michael Collins

Congregation Beth Israel of the

Merrimack Valley

Ms. Deirdre Connolly

Cove Hill Partners

Cummings Foundation, Inc.

Ms. Heather Curtis

Ms. Madeline Dahlin

Ms. Joanne Doherty

Mrs. Nancy L. Donahue

Ms. Barbara N. Dunsford Eastern Bank Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. David Emmerich

Enterprise Bank

Jane and Lance Eskelund

Ms. Barbara Estabrook

Faith Home, Inc

Fidelity Foundation

Susan Fordella Williams

Foundation M

Dr. and Mrs. Daniel R. Frantz

Gallagher & Cavanaugh, LLP

Mr. Joe Gangi

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond H. Gatti

Mr. Robert R. Gilman

Ms. Vera Grbic

Ms. Grace Katherine Greenough

Haartz Corporation

Mr. William D. Haddad

Ms. Stacie Hargis

Mrs. Elizabeth Gail Hayden

Mrs. Christine Heaton Brown

Ms. Ellen E. Hertzmark

Ms. Rachel T. Hervieux

Warren and Judith Hilton Charitable Fund

Mr. Dana Hirst

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest E. Huber

Mr. Wayne Jenness

Mr. Steven Joncas

Juniper Networks Foundation Fund

Ms. Belinda Juran

Kishan Realty LLC

Ms. Cynthia Jean Koch Ms. Jessica Lander

Leaders in Lowell

Mr. Charles Lehman

Jay and Patti Linnehan Charitable

Mr. Henry E. Lohmer

Ms. Mary H. Lorenz

Lowell Five

Lowell Sun Charities, Inc.

Ms. Mary A. Mahaney

Massachusetts Charitable Society

Ms. Christine McCall

Ms. Mary K. McCarron

Mr. and Mrs. James M. McCloy

Mr. Kevin McNally

Dr. and Mrs. Eric A. Meikle

Midnight Tango Fund

Mr. Danae Moss

Dr. and Mrs. Cory S. Myers

NextStep Nonprofit, LLC

Committee to Elect Steven A. Nocco

The Nordson Corporation Foundation

Mr. Mikhail Nossov

Omicron PI Alumni

Mrs. Priti T. Patel

Mr. and Mrs. Harold G. Pratt

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Quinn

Mr. Dhiren Rathod

James N. and Julia B. Reichheld

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Mr. Raul Rios

Mr. Andrew Rocha

Mr. Wade Rubinstein

Salesforce.com, Inc.

Ms. Ann Scannell

Mr. Evan Schapiro Mr. Gary Sepe

Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Shohet

Mr. David Smiley

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. St.

Germain Mr. and Mrs. Christopher J.

Stagnone

Mr. Jay K. Stephens

Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Sullivan Sunflower of Hope Project

Fundraiser

Ms. Rachel Sussman

Ms. Linda Sutter D. Lisle Swanson and

Amy McDermott Swanson Fund

Mr. Scott Tarbox Theodore Edson Parker

Foundation

Ms. Robin A. Toof Mr. Michael Vagos

Mrs. Germaine T. Vigeant-Trudel

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert S. Wagner, III

Aaron Watman DDS

Mr. Daniel Herbert Webster

Westford Community Fund

Bob Williams

Ms. Pamela Wolfe Women Working Wonders Fund

Ms. Susu Wong

Ms. Amy Woo

Ms. Carla A. Woundy

Ms. Lisa Wright

GLCF's 2020 COVID-19 Response Grant Recipients

GLCF was honored to support the following nonprofit organizations:

Aaron's Presents

Able to Serve-New England, Inc

Alternative House, Inc.

Ashby Fire Department

Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence Lowell Project

Billerica Adventure Series Corporation

Billerica Community Pantry, Inc.

Billerica Council on Aging

Billerica Schools Nutrition Services

Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell

Bridging Independent Living Together, Inc.

Budget Buddies, Inc.

Cambodian Mutual Assistance Assoc. of Greater Lowell, Inc.

Care Dimensions

Catie's Closet, Inc

Center for Hope and Healing, Inc.

Challenge Unlimited, Inc. at Ironstone Farm

ironstone Farm

Chelmsford Board of Health Chelmsford Community Exchange

Clarendon Early Education Services, Inc.

Clear Path for Veterans New England

Coalition for a Better Acre

Collegiate Charter School

of Lowell

Community Day Care Center of Lawrence, Inc.

of Lawrence, Inc.

Community Teamwork, Inc.

Dignity Matters, Inc

Dracut Council on Aging

Dwelling House of Hope Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc.

Elevate New England, Inc.

Eliot Presbyterian Church

End 68 hours of hunger

Feed the Fight Lowell

Gaining Ground, Inc. Girls Incorporated of

Greater Lowell, Inc.

Greater Lowell Family YMCA Greater Lowell Health Alliance

Habitat for Humanity North Central Mass., Inc

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell

Hidden Battles Event

House of Hope, Inc.

Incompass Human Services

International Institute of New England

Into Action Recovery Inc

Kids in Tech, Inc. Latinx Community Center

for Empowerment Life Connection Center, Inc.

Lifting Lowellians Assistance & Mutual Aid

Living Water Fellowship

Living Waters Ministry of Hope

Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry, Inc. Lowell Alliance for Families

and Neighborhoods

Lowell Association for the Blind Lowell Community Charter

Public School

Lowell Community Health Center

Lowell General Hospital

Lowell House, Inc. Lowell Humane Society

Lowell Parks & Conservation

Lowell Telecommunications Corp.

Lowell Transitional Living Center Massachusetts Alliance of

Portuguese Speakers Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

Massachusetts Military Support Foundation

Megan House Foundation, Inc.

Merrimack Valley Food Bank, Inc. Middlesex Community College

Middlesex Community College Foundation

Mill City Grows

Minute Man Arc for Human Services, Inc.

Minuteman Senior Services

Nature Connection, Inc.

New England Paralyzed Veterans of America

North East Educational & Dev. Supports Center

Northeast Arc, Inc.

On the Move

One Can Help

Open Pantry of Greater Lowell Paul Center for Learning and

Recreation

PCEA Neema Church, Inc.

People Helping People, Inc.

Pepperell Aid from Community to Home

Philanthropy Massachusetts Power of Flowers Project Project LEARN, Inc. Provision Ministry, Inc.

Refuge Art School

Rise Above Foundation, Inc.

Seven Hills Extended Care at Groton - Seven Hills Pediatric

South Sudanese Enrichment for Families, Inc.

St. Paul's Soup Kitchen, Inc.

Strongwater Farm Therapeutic Equestrian Center in Tewksbury

The Phoenix

The PLUS Company

Town of Carlisle Council on Aging

Town of Chelmsford

Townsend Council on Aging

Troubled Waters, Inc.

University of Massachusetts Foundation, Inc.

UTEC, Inc.

Virginia Thurston Healing Garden VNA Care Network, Inc.

Wayside Youth & Family Support Network, Inc.

Westford Community Access Television, Inc.

Westford Council on Aging Westford Food Pantry

Westford Rotary Club Charitable Endowment, Inc.

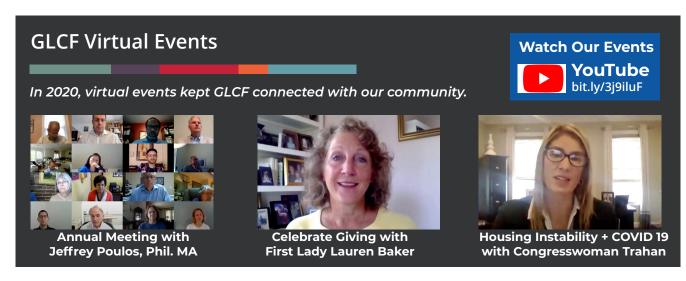
Wilmington Community Fund Wish Project, Inc.

YWCA of Lowell









racial equity action fund

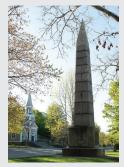
On June 10th, the GLCF announced at our annual meeting the creation of the Racial Equity Action Fund. This fund will provide resources to address action items that advance racial justice and equity building in Greater Lowell.

2020 Racial Equity Grants - \$84,500

- Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell (Lowell): Addressing Racial Inequities as a Trauma-Informed Community
- Budget Buddies, Inc. (Chelmsford): Virtual Financial Empowerment Program for Women with Latinx Community Center for Empowerment
- Building Audacity (Lynn): Say Their Names (Greater Lowell)
- Cambodian American Literary Arts Association (Lowell): Cambodian American Literary Arts Association Community Dialogue and Workshop Series

- Cultivate Care Farms (Bolton serves Greater Lowell): Diversity Training and Consultation
- Free Soil Arts Collective (Lowell): Hidden in Plain Sight: Stories of Black Lowell
- Kids in Tech, Inc. (Lowell): Afterschool Tech Club Program
- Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership (Lowell): Project Genesis Home Buyer Training Program
- Project LEARN, Inc. (Lowell): Elevating Stories, Changing Narratives – A Student-Led Antiracism Program
- Tewksbury Public Library (Tewksbury): Public Library Libraries Working Towards Social Justice

Focus On: Concord



GLCF awarded **Gaining Ground** over \$30,000 to get fresh produce to people struggling to put food on the table. A significant portion of the grant came from the COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund. Gaining Ground normally relies on the help of thousands of volunteers to grow, harvest, and donate the nutritious produce from the farm. GLCF's support last year helped make it possible for Gaining Ground to continue normal operations and levels of food production despite needing to temporarily suspend their volunteer program.



GLCF Grant Helps Nonprofits Improve Virtual Programming

Virtual well-baby visits for new moms and infants; monitoring a nest of turtle eggs in the wild; cooking videos led by a local nutritionist; and online nature walks with a botanical illustrator. These are just a few examples of the new online programming local nonprofits have created, thanks to technical-training classes from Lowell TeleMedia Center, funded by a grant from the Greater Lowell Community Foundation.

In spring of 2020, when the pandemic forced nonprofit organizations into lockdown mode, they moved their face-to-face programs online. However, as summer fast approached, many realized they needed help creating virtual programming to attract young people.

"Kids are usually outside running around during the summer, but all that changed this year with COVID-19," explained Wendy Blom, now retired Executive Director of Lowell TeleMedia Center (LTC). "Our local nonprofits knew they had to start offering online summer programming -- and they had to do it quickly."

Recognizing this need, the Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF) awarded a \$5,000 grant to LTC to organize a series of Media Making classes for ten youth-serving nonprofits. Offered in late June and early July, the training covered Zoom, social media, TikTok, cell-phone video, podcasting, and iMovie editing.

The response to Media Making classes was overwhelmingly positive, said Blom. "I was amazed that so many organizations -- and how many staff -- wanted to take our classes." LTC trained 115 people, she said, and both small and large nonprofits took advantage of the six courses. The online content they created was also highly varied.

Jane Calvin, Executive Director of Lowell Parks & Conservation Trust (LPCT), said her staff of four welcomed the training. "It was perfect timing," said Calvin. "We had already started creating virtual content but had questions about how

to do it better and how to get it out to a wider audience."

One of the few accredited urban land trusts in the country, LPCT protects land throughout Lowell and provides community programming to connect residents to natural resources in the city – including outdoor after-school and summer programs.

"When COVID shut everything down, I told my staff, 'Be creative! Let's take advantage of this time to get out to Trust properties we haven't videoed before," Calvin recalled.

So, Environmental Educator Emily Wood began making virtual nature walks, encouraging viewers to create nature journals to keep track of the plants and animals they encountered. Wood's engrossing videos also feature beautiful timelapse botanical illustrations she draws on camera.

The Trust also created virtual content teachers could use, added Calvin. In previous years, three Lowell science teachers had run popular "turtle-adoption" programs in their classrooms. Shortly after COVID-19 shut down schools, a Trust staff



Eva Cortes, a WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor, provided well-baby sessions online.

member noticed that a rare Blanding's turtle, a threatened species, had laid eggs in her neighborhood. She began making short videos as she kept watch over the nest.

During the summer, in conjunction with Zoo New England, LPCT monitored the nest, and eventually, eight baby turtles hatched. Trust staff and volunteers are now raising the turtles in a terrarium in the office and plan to release them back into the wild next spring.

Lowell's Community Teamwork Inc. (CTI), a community action agency with more than 500 employees, also benefitted from the Media Making classes, according to Amy Weatherbee, Manager of Grants & Planning.

"By March 16, word of mouth just shut down, so word of mouth went virtual," said Weatherbee. "We had to pivot quickly to online program delivery, and when this opportunity at LTC came up, we jumped at it.

"Not only did our summer-youth programmers want training, but we also asked if staff from other CTI divisions could attend Media Making classes," she said. The Foundation agreed, and Community Teamwork sent more than 30 staffers from across the organization to the virtual classes.

As a result, CTI's Entrepreneurship Center began hosting daily Zoom calls for small-business owners with questions about how to apply for federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans, Weatherbee explained.



During the summer, in conjunction with Zoo New England, LPCT monitored the nest and eventually eight baby turtles hatched.

No longer able to hold in-person nutrition workshops, a nutritionist in CTI's Women, Infants & Children (WIC) program created a series of popular "healthy eating" cooking videos. Another WIC staffer moved her well-baby sessions online, and in the process, discovered that her client list grew because new moms found it easier to attend virtually.

According to Weatherbee, these are just a few of the many ways CTI utilized Media Making classes to improve client outreach. "The Foundation was great. It stepped in and quickly provided muchneeded help to agencies that had to switch to the realities of remote work."

Focus On: Groton



Children living at **Seven Hills Pediatric Center** have also benefitted from a GLCF grant to purchase five iPads, plus five tall standers to hold the devices. An 83-bed skilled nursing center in Groton, Seven Hills serves profoundly disabled and medically complex children.

When COVID-19 began spreading, the facility had to completely lock down. Families were not allowed to visit, and children had to remain in their rooms and on their floors. The iPads were used to connect children with their families again.



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Focus On: Chelmsford



From Chelmsford Community Exchange (CCE):

"We are so thankful for the recent GLCF grant. At the end of July 2020 we were feeding about 800 clients a month; our most recent numbers are 1000 a month. Given the current Coronavirus conditions we are projecting our numbers to increase at least for the short term. The grant money will assist the pantry in meeting this projected demand. The Greater Lowell Community Foundation has really come through for us." - David T. Eberiel, CCE



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