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SEEM Collaborative Awarded Cummings Foundation Sustaining Grant

The \$200,000 will be distributed over 10 years



(L-R) Maureen Crowley, Principal of Campus Academy Alternative High School in Stoneham; Dr. Catherine Lawson, Executive Director, SEEM Collaborative; Joyce Cummings, Founder of the Cummings Foundation; and Bill Cummings, Founder of the Cummings Foundation

Stoneham, MA (6/7/19) – SEEM Collaborative is one of the local nonprofits sharing in Cummings Foundation’s \$25 million grant program in 2019. The Stoneham-based organization has been awarded a \$20,000 Sustaining Grant, to be disbursed over 10 years starting June 30, 2019.

SEEM Collaborative is an educational collaborative that provides a range of consultative services to public school districts and their students as well as educational programming for students with varying disabilities.

“We are humbled and excited to be selected for a Cummings Foundation Sustaining Grant. This funding will enable the Collaborative to invest in the community based and experiential learning opportunities needed to support students in developing their vocational and transitional skills.”

The Sustaining Grants initiative builds on Cummings Foundation’s *\$100K for 100* program. First offered in 2012, *\$100K for 100* annually awards \$10 million through multi-year grants of \$100,000 each to 100 nonprofits that are based in and primarily serve Essex, Middlesex, and Suffolk counties. Grant recipients that received their final grant disbursements in 2018 were automatically considered for \$15 million in Sustaining Grants.

“We introduced Sustaining Grants to help alleviate the constant burden of fundraising so nonprofit professionals can spend more of their limited time and resources on actually providing services,” said Christina Berthelsen, grants manager at Cummings Foundation.

Cummings Foundation has awarded nearly \$250 million to date in Greater Boston alone. Funds are generated through commercial properties that are owned by, and operated for the sole benefit of, Cummings Foundation. All of its buildings are managed pro bono by Woburn commercial real estate firm Cummings Properties.

Sustaining Grants winners were selected primarily by a 33-member volunteer committee, which included former state legislators, CEOs of local companies, and a retired justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, among many others. Committee members met with each nonprofit twice to learn how the *\$100K for 100* funds helped to advance its mission, and how it might put a 10-year grant to use.

View the complete list of the 50 Sustaining Grants winners at www.CummingsFoundation.org. An additional 100 winners will be announced in June through the *\$100K for 100* program.

About SEEM Collaborative

SEEM Collaborative is governed by 10 public school districts (Stoneham, Melrose, Lynnfield, Woburn, Reading, North Reading, Winchester, Wilmington, Saugus and Wakefield). The Collaborative provides a full range of services to students in the northeast region of Massachusetts. Services range from educational programming to consultative services that are provided in district and/or at home. Each student receives the blend of services needed to support his/her unique needs and to enable academic, social and emotional advancement.

About Cummings Foundation

Woburn-based Cummings Foundation, Inc. was established in 1986 by Joyce and Bill Cummings and has grown to be one of the three largest private foundations in New England. The Foundation directly operates its own charitable subsidiaries, including New Horizons retirement communities in Marlborough and Woburn. Its largest single commitment to date has been to

Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. Additional information is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org.

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