

Winning Home, Inc. Pledges \$383,818 to Programs for Local Children

Woburn-based non-profit funds programs through organizations that serve disadvantaged youth

WOBURN, Mass. (February 3, 2021) **Winning Home, Inc.**, a private, non-profit charitable organization that provides services and support to economically, socially, physically, emotionally, or mentally handicapped or disadvantaged children and their families, announced today a total 2020 commitment of \$383,818 in grant monies to organizations devoted to supporting the development and welfare of area children.

"Winning Home has been funding programs that benefit children in Massachusetts since 1998, and we have been fortunate to aid valuable programs that directly enhance the lives of our local children," said Albert F. (Chip) Curran, Jr., treasurer of Winning Home. "We are pleased to close 2020 with ample dispersed funds that support many new and returning programs, and are actively seeking applications for the 2021 grant season."

Winning Home is focused on children and their families predominantly on the North Shore of Massachusetts, and successfully closed the year by granting funds to 22 local programs, detailed below.

Lazarus House Ministries, Inc.: \$15,000 Lazarus House supports families and individuals who are homeless and/or struggling with poverty by providing a clean, nurturing and safe environment for children while parents work to improve their living situation. This Winning Home grant will be used towards providing life-enhancing tools to parents such as employment assistance, ESL classes, and workshops on topics such as self-esteem, conflict resolution, and budgeting.

Council of Social Concern: \$100,000 A charitable, community-based agency, Council of Social Concern requested funds to support agency programs that provide low-income children and their families with emergency and supplemental food assistance, affordable early education and childcare, parenting education classes, and support services.

Raw Art Works: \$25,000 Supporting 500 at-risk youth in Lynn, Raw Art Works offers a continuum of more than 20 free programs in the arts, including an award-winning film school, visual and expressive art groups, single gender groups, mentoring and leadership development programs, community arts, summer programs, and free arts programming for at-risk elementary and middle school youth.

The Children's Room: \$10,000 The "Parenting While Grieving" educational series, hosted by The Children's Room, teaches parenting skills and education on how children of different ages experience and express grief. This Winning Home grant will underwrite this program.

Woburn Community Educational Foundation, Inc. \$10,000 The mission of the Woburn Community Educational Foundation is to increase private investment and community involvement in the Woburn Public Schools, with a goal of supporting educational programs and initiatives that empower teacher creativity and innovation. Funds from Winning Home will provide resources to the Educator Grant Program, which invites educational professionals to apply for funds to support educational programs not funded by the regular school budget.

Gaining Ground, Inc.: \$12,000 Gaining Ground in Concord, Mass. grows organic produce for hunger relief with help from 3,000 volunteers of all ages and abilities who work and learn in the fields. This year's grant will enable partnerships with recipient organizations to increase the impact of food distribution through education, cooking classes, meal preparation, and free farmers markets.

Lovelane Special Needs Horseback Riding Program: \$10,000 Lovelane is a therapeutic horseback riding program that provides services to 130 special needs children. Funds will be used for tuition assistance. Students range from two years of age through adulthood and come from 38 Massachusetts towns.

Pathways for Children: \$10,000 Pathways for Children provides robust social services and education to children and families in a full-day, year-round environment with extended hours to provide flexibility to working parents. This grant will fund the School Age Care program, which provides 'out of school time' education for 70 K-12 students in the Gloucester center.

Mission of Deeds, Inc.: \$5,000 Mission of Deeds, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization dedicated to assisting families or individuals transitioning to a new home after leaving a shelter. Funds will be used toward the purchase of 100 cribs and 1,500 beds to assure every child in the program has a bed in which to sleep.

Horace Mann Educational Associates (HMEA): \$6,000 Horace Mann Educational Associates serves more than 3,800 Massachusetts children and adults with autism or other special needs. The grant will be used to renovate the Darnell School for Educational and Behavioral Services in Hudson with a handicap elevator.

UTEC: \$10,000 UTEC is a newly-licensed center of early education focused on proven-risk adults and their young children. The goal of UTEC is to break the cycle of poverty and violence for these vulnerable young families by providing education and child care to parents while also providing high-quality early education to their children.

The Open Door: \$20,000 The mission of The Open Door is to alleviate the impact of hunger on the community by providing access to healthy and nutrient-dense food to those in need. Funds will be used to support three critical school-based Mobile Markets (free farmers markets) to low-income children and families in Ipswich and Gloucester.

James L. McKeown Boys & Girls Club of Woburn: \$83,333 Winning Home has supported the Woburn Boys and Girls Club since 1998, with a 17-year commitment totaling \$1.6M in community support. The mission of Woburn Boys and Girls Club is to inspire youth to find their greatness, through programs centered on leadership, team-building, and community enhancement.

Strongwater Farm Therapeutic Equestrian Center: \$5,000 Strongwater's mission is to provide therapeutic horse riding to children with developmental disabilities.

Wildflower, Inc.: \$5,000 This Lexington based non-profit sends children who are grieving the loss of a family member to summer camp.

Community Harvest Project: \$5,000 Community Harvest grows and provides free food to families in need.

The Haven Project, Inc.: \$5,000 The grant to the Haven Project will help address the unmet needs of unaccompanied homeless young adults in Lynn and surrounding communities.

St. Charles School: \$15,000 St. Charles School received a grant to purchase Chromebooks and laptop computers for grade school children for remote learning.

Sojourner House: \$7,485 Sojourner House is a family shelter founded in 1981. In addition to providing shelter for families and permanent housing, Sojourner House also operates a food pantry which is free to the families of Sojourner House as well as the community at large.

Project Home Again: \$5,000 Project Home Again provides low-income families, free of charge, with household goods, furniture, and small appliances.

NEADS: \$15,000 NEADS serves adults and children with physical disabilities, deafness and autism by partnering people with custom trained assistance dogs to enhance independence and social interaction especially in public situations.

Community Rowing, Inc.: \$5,000 Community Rowing, Inc.'s Para Rowing Program enhances the quality of life for youth with all types of disabilities by giving them the opportunity to fully participate in the sport of rowing.

To apply for a 2021 Winning Home Grant, please visit www.winninghome.org.