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Dear Friends,

As we mail this newsletter the school buses have started ambling down the streets again. The air is cool and dry after the hottest summer we can recall. It's time to shake off the lethargy and report on the many programs we support through your caring and generosity.

It is our policy to maintain a close connection with programs we support through site visits or inviting leaders to our Board meetings. In August Board member Helen Carr visited the collaboration between the **Franklin Summer Urban Campers** and the Boston Refugee Youth Enrichment Campers. Both camps are neighbors in Dorchester and sponsored by Phillips Brooks House at Harvard. During the summer the counsellors work on building bridges and improving communication between the groups using Restorative Justice Skills. At the Field Day campers jointly created a banner for the day, participated in team sports and impromptu games.



On an especially hot muggy August day Betty and Roger visited Danehy Park in Cambridge to see the Summer Market in the Park held weekly by **Food for Free**. In spite of the heat Fiona said people were lined up patiently waiting long before the market opened and all the produce had disappeared within 15 minutes. We show you here the empty baskets.

At the annual **Strong Women Strong Girls** April Jump into Spring the Greater Boston

groups gathered together at the Reggie Lewis Center at Roxbury Community College. There the girls experience the energy and excitement of being part of the larger SWSG family.



Of interest this past year is a program called **New Beginnings Re-Entry Services**. The founder, Stacey Borden, and Kristin Phillips, Development associate, attended our January meeting at the invitation of Board member Jackie Neel. In 2001, many years before "Me Too" became common vernacular, we began supporting the **Victim Rights Law Center** in their work to provide civil legal support to victims of sexual harassment and violence.

Your contributions are working to promote the development of healthy children and families, prevent violence, and bring hope to others. These programs are a bright and optimistic spot in our often distressing world. This newsletter is our only form of fund-raising. Your loyal support enables us to continue our work **In Anne's Spirit**.

On behalf of the Board, we thank you and wish you hope and peace,

*Roger and Betty Borghesani*

*"In Anne's Spirit"*

A non-profit, voluntary organization dedicated to reducing the incidence and effects of violence by promoting development of healthy children and families and to providing scholarships that encourage personal growth through community involvement.

**The Anne E. Borghesani Foundation** partners with selected programs where our support can make a difference. Board members work closely with program directors to assure that our goals are met. We are a volunteer Board and our only expenses are for printing and mailing the newsletter.

### **New Beginnings Re-Entry Services**

*Supporting and empowering women to successfully navigate the complex challenges of reentering their communities.*

New Beginnings Reentry Services (NBRES) is an innovative program created to address issues faced by incarcerated women as they return to society. Stacey Borden, having served several prison sentences herself, resolved on release in 2010 to never return to prison. With the help of family, counseling and a strong support system, she obtained a BS and a Master's degree in Counseling with a concentration in Addictions and Trauma.



**Ms. Borden and Ms. Phillips** Wishing to help other women overcome this revolving door experience, Ms. Borden founded NBRES to help women heal and reintegrate successfully into their communities and families. According to Ms. Borden: *The mission of NBRES is provide a structured, 18 month program and support services for women to successfully transition from incarceration back to their families and community. The ultimate goal of NBRES is to reduce and eventually eliminate recidivism.*

Using the case management model, coordination of services begins before release from prison during outreach visits. Staff work with the women to assess their needs and goals and develop an Individual Action Plan. After release the women join a 6-session weekly support program which includes physical and psycho-social referrals, assistance with medical insurance, housing advocacy, family reunification programs, job training programs, and group meetings.

As part of this six week program, participants are given a Welcome Home Gift Basket including basic essentials to help women transition back to the community – a T pass, phone cards, support for GED classes and counselling, gift certificate for underwear and toiletries. In addition they have access to recycled clothes appropriate for job interviews.

*In Anne's Spirit* awarded a grant of \$5000 to NBRES to provide "Welcome Home Gift Packages" for twenty participants.

For information see [www.newbeginningsreentryservices.org](http://www.newbeginningsreentryservices.org)

A recent ACLU of California study reports that 97% of incarcerated women have suffered sexual and/or physical abuse over their lifetimes. These experiences can lead to patterns of drug abuse, criminal behavior, and repeat incarcerations

### **Food for Free**

*"Accessing enough healthy food remains a challenge for many families in Greater Boston. Cambridge has a poverty rate of 13.9%, but 45% of public school students live in households below the poverty line. Poverty is a reliable predictor of low food-security."*

We have supported Food for Free's innovative food distribution programs targeted to alleviate hunger in Cambridge school children for three years. A key component is the Weekend Backpack program in response to concerns that some children lacked adequate food over the weekends.



These children were given backpacks containing two breakfasts and lunches and healthy snacks. They also piloted after-school based markets in several Cambridge schools.

Last summer they established weekly markets in several parks. To avoid barriers to use (such as lack of awareness, transportation needs, embarrassment, and fear of deportation) these school and park markets are open to the public and require no identification.

The impact of these markets is documented in their recent grant request:

*Food For Free's School and Summer Markets distributed about 83,500 pounds of food in 2017. That's the equivalent of about 69,600 meals. Together, School and Summer Markets reach 500 families in a year—about 1,400 people in all, of which about 900 are children.*

Food for Free "rescues" food from waste by partnering with grocery stores, restaurants, farmers markets, universities, and businesses to collect foods that might otherwise be discarded. They then distribute it through their programs. This is supplemented by purchase of other foods through grants.

*In Anne's Spirit* supported their 2018 request for \$4000 to expand the school based community markets to a fifth school next year.

For more information see [www.foodforfree.org](http://www.foodforfree.org)

## Victim Rights Law Center

*"As I travel, I see people who are more likely to be legally punished for invading the house of someone than for invading the body of someone. We are struggling with those laws and improving them - thanks to you - step by step."*

Gloria Steinem

Ms. Steinem was honored at the yearly Shining Star Gala sponsored by Victim Rights Law Center (VRLC) where tribute is paid to those working for victims of sexual abuse. The Foundation was recognized as a founding supporter of VRLC since 2001 as it works to provide civil legal expertise to victims. During these years VRLC has become a nationally



Stacy Malone, Gloria Steinem, Anita Hill

Photo courtesy Cheryl Richards Photography

recognized developer of best practice methods and provider of services to assault victims. With assistance from pro bono attorneys, they provide free civil legal support to more than 400 rape and assault victims a year. Much of the funding VRLC receives is restricted and cannot be used for clients under 13 years. The support they receive from Anne's foundation remains critical to their work with young victims.

Supported in part by a grant from In Anne's Spirit, Victim Rights Law Center developed a 12 page guide directed to young victims of sexual assault and their parents, titled "How do I talk about the violence I experienced? A guide for K-12 students and care takers." Last year our grant supported VRLC collaboration with design experts to publish the guide online and make it available on the VRLC website.

In the words of VRLC:

"Many young people experience violence but lack the terminology and information to know what to call these experiences. They are often unaware of their rights and resources. Tools are now available on the VRLC website: infographics, information, and other resources meant to be a guide for young people and their parents or guardians, allowing them the ability to identify experiences such as sexual violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual harassment, and to learn about the general legal remedies available to them."

A link to this K-12 guide can be found on their website ([www.victimrights.org/resources-survivors](http://www.victimrights.org/resources-survivors)).

We are pleased to continue our partnership with VRLC with a grant of \$7,500 this year to be used to further make this important information easily accessible to youth through electronic social media.

For more information see [www.victimrights.org](http://www.victimrights.org).

## Strong Women Strong Girls

In Anne's Spirit has supported Strong Women Strong Girls (SWSG) since 2000 when it began providing after school programming to girls in third through fifth grade. College women from Boston College, Harvard, Northeastern, Simmons, Tufts and UMass Boston mentor more than 826 girls in 60 greater Boston sites. These mentors engage with the girls to empower one another while studying contemporary and historical female role models and working on skill building activities, which strengthen self-esteem.

Supported in part by a grant from us, SWSG recently revised their three year curriculum, increasing standardization across the program. This included revisions in the training for the Junior Mentors Program (JUMP) which recruits selected sixth grade students for training as a 'near-peer mentor.' This provides valuable continuity for the girls with SWSG's as they transition to middle school.



Betty and Roger with Junior mentor, Amalia and Marikate Taylor

According to executive director, Siiri Morley:

*"Alumnae of the Core Program serve alongside college mentors as near peer mentors to girls from their own communities. These junior mentors help lead the Core after-school workshops, participate in 24 hours of leadership workshops to continue skill building and receive support around their leadership role. They design a final project where they facilitate a lesson for the college mentors on a topic of importance to them."*

In 2017 the Foundation granted SWSG's \$7000 to support further development of the JUMP program, increasing participation to include 25 middle school students, a vulnerable and often underserved population.

For more information see [www.sws.org](http://www.sws.org)

## Crossroads

Crossroads has been providing summer residential camping programs for 1000 at-risk youth from Greater Boston for more than fifty years. More than a summer camp, they have developed year round programming to assist campers in leadership development throughout the school year. This has resulted in a high school graduation rate of 96%.

A new endeavor is the addition of a 12-month Fellowship Program for Crossroads alumni following college graduation. In their 2017 grant request, Deb Samuels, then executive director, wrote:

*There is a critical mentoring relationship between our fellows – themselves former members of the Crossroads community who have completed college and are in the midst of forging career paths – and our participants, who are learning that more is possible for them than they were aware. This is the aspect of the Fellowship Program we are most invested in.*



As they look to transitioning from a pilot program to implementing the Fellowship Program on a permanent basis, their goal is to establish a professional development curriculum to be

used with all fellows. Board member Kristin O'Sullivan, also a part of the Crossroads team, reports that:

*Our 2017 fellows provided essential support for our program goals and developed as young professionals. The fellows' strengths were matched to their role on the team, leading to more continuity in their responsibilities and helping to deepen relationship development with the young people they served along with encouraging their own professional development through coaching for their planning and facilitation skills.*

*In 2018, the fellowship program will continue to support the program team in the areas of leadership development, college access, and community action. They are engaging Crossroads youth and teens in new and creative ways and contribute to Crossroads' strategic priority of improving youth engagement, participation, and retention in our programs.*

In 2017 Anne E. Borghesani Community Foundation granted Crossroads \$5,000 to support a second pilot year of the Fellowship Program. We look forward to continuing *In Anne's Spirit* our partnership with Crossroads."

**For more information see [www.crossroads4kids.org](http://www.crossroads4kids.org)**

### Franklin I-O Summer Program in Dorchester

*"The residents of Franklin Field, Franklin Hill, and those connected to these communities are a vibrant, resilient people with a rich history, who have been plagued by the difficulties associated with poverty, racism, weak educational infrastructure, and especially violent crimes. For the past*

*several summers, Franklin I-O has had campers who have lost siblings, fathers, cousins, and friends to violence."*

Quote from grant application

The Foundation has given a yearly grant to the Franklin Program in Dorchester for 12 years. Sponsored by students from the Phillips Brooks House at Harvard, this community based day camp serves 80 at risk school age children.



A typical day at Camp begins with breakfast and the Franklin chant to build community. Mornings are spent reinforcing literacy and math skills to combat summer learning loss.

Special projects combine counselor's and camper's interests in history, arts, and music. Afternoons find the campers making field trips to museums, pools, and Boston landmarks.

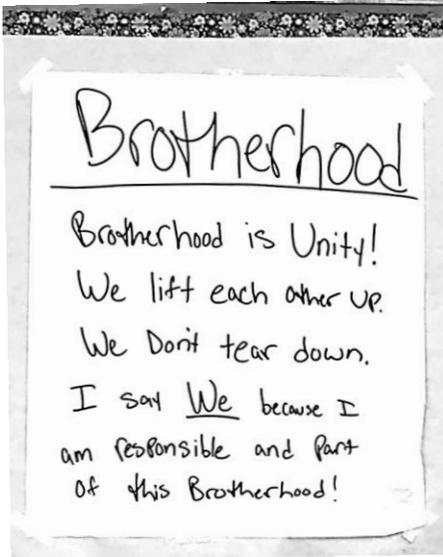
Counselors are Boston area college students, often historically connected to the community who serve as role models for the campers. Often former campers serve as Junior counselors in high school. This year's grant request was to fund, in part, one of these junior counselors, Amari (called "Purple"). Co-directors Nick Durham and Devon Campbell write:

*Purple's energy and charismatic leadership style gives him the ability to connect with campers in unique ways. Last summer, Purple was paired with Jamaal, a student at Wheelock College who had also grown up in the community. The two were able to transform their Oldest Boys classroom (boys ages 12-13) into what they referred to as a "brotherhood." This summer, Jamaal is returning to the Oldest Boys classroom alongside Purple. Oldest Boys campers are the veterans in the camp. Purple and Jamaal will play especially strong roles in their lives as they begin navigating their teenage years, acting as powerful and relatable role models both over the summer and even after they "graduate" from Franklin I-O. The presence of positive male role models is particularly important for young men, and the guidance the boys will receive from Purple and Jamaal will give them the tools they need to undertake nonviolence and prosocial behavior*

Also requested was funding for more training in Restorative Justice Circles. Again from their grant request:

*Restorative justice is an approach to resolving conflict and preventing harm that strives to restore relationships. A process usually conducted in circles, it encourages participants to work together to repair harm done within a community and better deal with the larger violence and*

trauma they experience outside of camp. Before this program was started, the existing forms of discipline did nothing to help campers learn how positively and peacefully to resolve their conflicts. Restorative justice, used both inside and outside the classroom, is a healthy and sustainable way for campers to grow.



The *Daily Circle* allows each camper time to express himself and be heard by others without critique. Both campers and junior counselors appreciate the opportunity to be honest and build trust among their group.

The Borghesani Foundation granted Franklin I-O \$5000 in

June of 2018 to fund Purple's salary as a junior counselor, support the efforts of Franklin I-O to prevent violence and promote peaceful relationships through the use of restorative justice 'circles', and to support the annual collaboration with a neighboring community camp, the Boston Refugee Youth Enrichment program.

For more information see [www.pbha.org](http://www.pbha.org)

**Anne E. Borghesani Memorial Prize  
Lexington High School**

The Anne E. Borghesani Memorial Prize at Lexington High School was established by Anne's classmates in 1991 to be given to a female graduate who shares in Anne's commitment to family, friends, and community.



Potter, Volante, Tavangar, and Michelson in presentations to health classes about teen mental health issues and helped students connect to services at LYFS. When reflecting on the Prize application which contains memories written by Anne's friends, Mona wrote:

In May, 2018, Steve Volante presented Anne's Prize to **Mona Tavangar** who will attend Tufts University next fall. While at LHS Mona was a member of the Youth Board of Lexington Youth and Family Services. As such she participated

*Reading that Anne did everything "for the love of it and because of her belief in what she was doing" struck a chord with me. I also identify with Anne's qualities of friendship. Whenever I've been in a leadership position, my goal has always been to unite my team and form a sense of community. Like Anne, I want to bring the friends I make into a greater group.*



Potter, Volante, Medley, and O'Sullivan while we celebrate what Brooke Medley has contributed to this (LHS) community. Brooke has lent her spirit, talents, and initiative to many places from LHS to a therapeutic riding center, to an orphanage in Chinese Mongolia. Perhaps the best example of Brooke's accomplishments is the four years she has served on the Teen Advisory Board at Cary Library.

Last year **Brooke Medley**, presently a Biology major at University of Vermont, was awarded the LHS Prize. At the Awards Ceremony in May of 2017, Stephen Volante stated:

*Tonight we honor Anne Borghesani*

The LHS Committee, comprised of Anne's classmates, meets yearly to select the recipient. This endowed Fund is separate from the Borghesani Foundation and is managed by the Lexington Trustees of Public Trusts. It now awards \$2500 yearly.

**Anne E. Borghesani Memorial Prize  
Tufts University**

The Anne E. Borghesani Prize at Tufts was established at the time of Anne's death in 1990 through generous contributions from Anne's family and friends. One of the first recipients in 1991, Carolyn Surgent, an art history major, travelled to East Berlin less than two years after the fall of the Berlin wall to visit museums off limits to Western visitors during the Cold War.



In 1991 the words *global economy* were not commonplace and junior year abroad meant primarily study in Europe. Since then recipients have studied, pursued independent research projects, and participated in internships on every continent. And the need to explore, ask critical questions, and understand other cultures is even more crucial today.

**Gizzi, Boehm, Fantozzi, Burk and Reilly**

