

Our Community. Your Foundation.

Impact Update: Summer 2020



Message from the President

Dear Friends,

This is the 25th year that the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts that has been mobilizing philanthropy for the benefit of our region. This milestone coincides with some of the most difficult periods in our region's history as the COVID-19 pandemic and the long-overdue attention of the violence toward the Black Lives Matter movement sweep across this nation at large. These issues have also witnessed a surge of generosity and commitment to a shared set of values that inspires us to lead and partner to face challenges together and to

emerge better for it.

When we asked the region to come together through our SouthCoast Emergency Response Fund, you responded immediately and generously. As I wrote in our Spring Impact Update, "We will get through this. Together." It is our commitment that the same spirit will inform and guide our anti-racism work.

In this, our anniversary year, we are taking the opportunity to examine both what we have accomplished and what we strive to accomplish at the Community Foundation. I will be speaking more about this at our Annual Meeting on July 7th, 2020. We hope you will join us for that. Click [here](#) to register.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "John Vasconcellos".

John Vasconcellos,
President

SouthCoast Emergency Response Fund Update

The months-long fight against the COVID-19 outbreak has tested each of us as we care for our friends, families and neighbors who are sick, out of work, hungry and in unstable housing situations. We are providing financial support to nonprofit organizations in our region serving essential front-line workers and vulnerable populations, including the homeless, immigrant families,

people with disabilities and those facing food insecurity.

To date, we have awarded \$2.68 million to organizations that are making a difference in the battle against the effects of the disease through the [SouthCoast Emergency Response Fund](#), which has raised more than \$4.2 million from a wide range of corporate donors, foundations, and individuals who answered our call to come together on behalf of our community. We are so grateful to the foundations, businesses and

private individuals who have given so generously. We are also deeply appreciative of our partnership with the Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund which has brought significant funds to our region.

In the latest round of grants, the Community Foundation is awarding \$725,000 to 15 non-profit organizations providing services to people in need. Please visit our [website](#) for details of the grantees.

“It is stunning to see how so many non-profits, pop up food organizations, churches, community leaders and everyday incredible folks, have come together to focus on supporting and helping others,” said Desa VanLaarhoven. “In the SouthCoast we are surrounded by amazing people, leaders, organizations, business, churches, and neighbors that have created giant circles of compassion, that love beyond themselves, that listen intently, build bridges, and will sacrifice for the greater good. Without private philanthropy this work would be nearly impossible and with it, we are unstoppable.”

Desa is the Executive Director of [Round the Bend Farm in Dartmouth](#), which received \$30,000 for a new program called Manifest Love, a collaborative endeavor that will provide healthy foods on the tables of 120 under-served families through an innovative partnership with New Bedford non-profits YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts, Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.) and NorthStar Learning Centers.



SouthCoast Emergency Response Fund Grantees



SouthCoast Emergency Response Fund Grantees

The [Hockomock Area YMCA in North Attleboro](#) received \$100,000 to provide family-sized grocery bags to those in need in the communities they serve. During the first week of COVID-19 closures, they gave out 74 bags. That has grown to more than 1,000 bags per week.

“Since the closure of our facilities on March 15th, our YMCA has shifted its focus to meeting two critical community needs right now, and we are continually doing so. We are proud that since that day, we have served

113,780 meals and distributed 10,886 family food bags, valued at \$50 each,” said Kate F. Moore, Director of Philanthropy for the Hockomock Area YMCA in North Attleboro. “In addition, we remain focused on providing quality emergency childcare programming for 80 children of health care providers, first responders, and other essential personnel. None of this would have been

possible without the grants with which the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts has supported us.”

For FAQ’s about this fund, nonprofit resources and updated COVID-19 news please visit our [website](#).

Support Today

Grant Opportunity

The **MacGregor Fiske Award** was established eight years ago to recognize a journalist who is relatively new to the field, encourage them to persevere in the profession, and to honor the contributions of journalists in sustaining an informed society. Last year’s honor included a prize of \$2,000.

The Fiske Award Committee wants to give two awards this year: one, as in past years, to a working novice journalist, and a second to a talented novice news professional whose career might have been temporarily derailed.

For more information and how to apply, please visit our [website](#).

The deadline for nominations is Friday, July 17th, 2020.

Scholarships in View

We awarded more than \$492,000 in scholarships this year — our biggest year yet — along with our largest single-year scholarship ever.



Derek Arribada, a graduating senior at New Bedford High school, was awarded a \$44,115 Albert F. Carr scholarship toward his pursuit of a marine engineering degree.

“I am a first-generation college student and this is a big deal for me and my family,” Arribada said in accepting his award.

Since 2002, the Community Foundation has awarded approximately \$3.8 million in scholarship awards. Today, with more than 60 scholarship funds in our portfolio, the Community Foundation provides hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to students, based on financial need, individual circumstance and overall character.

While the COVID-19 shutdown prevented Dr. Irwin and Joan Jacobs (pictured above) to meet personally with this year’s Jacobs Scholars, they did mark the occasion with a virtual reception for these 2020 scholarship winners:


- **Ana Curry (New Bedford High School)** will attend Wheaton College in the fall to begin her studies in biology with a pre-med track. She looks forward to a profession in sports medicine.
- **Jacqueline Le (New Bedford High School)** will attend Harvard University in the fall to begin her studies toward a computer science degree. She wishes to research applications of machine learning.

- **Grace Richmond (New Bedford High School)** will major in computer science at Wentworth Institute of Technology. She would like to attend graduate school to obtain her master's in cybersecurity with a goal to work with National Security Agency.
- **Mya-Joy Westgate (Global Learning Charter Public School)** plans to study nursing at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.
- **Abigail Arruda (Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School)** will attend the University of New Hampshire to study pre-veterinary science and pursue a career as a veterinarian of small animals.

Upcoming Events

Annual Meeting

Please mark your calendars for our 25th Annual Meeting, which will be held **Tuesday, July 7th at 5 p.m.** Join us via Zoom by [registering here](#). We will be reviewing all that we have achieved during the past year and what we hope to accomplish in the year ahead.



The Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts cordially invites you to attend our

25th ANNUAL MEETING

TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2020
5 PM
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM
Registration Required ([click here](#))
Questions: pgrime@cfsema.org

Celebrating 25 Years!
We hope you can join us

**Our Community.
Your Foundation.**


Summer's Last Blast

Friday, September 11, 2020

Get ready for a Summer's Last *Blast* like we've never had!

The look and feel of this annual event may be different this year, but don't be fooled, we are planning a fun-filled evening you won't want to miss! Community of friends, music, laughter, dancing and more – Stay Tuned!

Proceeds from the event will support the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS!

Summer's Last Blast

SAVE THE DATE
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2020
To benefit the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts

**Our Community.
Your Foundation.**

Connect with the Community Foundation on social media!



