

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 19th, 2020**

**CONTACT: John Vasconcellos at 508-996-8253 ext. 201 or [jvasconcellos@southcoastcf.org](mailto:jvasconcellos@southcoastcf.org)**

### **The Community Foundation Awards \$55,000 to 25 Nonprofits Providing Youth Summer Programming**

NEW BEDFORD — The SouthCoast Community Foundation awarded a total of \$55,000 in August to 25 local nonprofit organizations for summer programs serving youth in the region.

The awards were made from the SouthCoast Emergency Response Fund, which the foundation established in March 2020 to support nonprofit organizations on the front lines of the COVID-19 outbreak. To date, the fund has raised more than \$5.58 million and granted more than \$4.78 million to nonprofits providing emergency support for vulnerable populations, including the homeless, immigrant families, and those facing food insecurity in our region.

A wide range of corporations, foundations, and individuals have donated to the fund, responding to the Community Foundation's call to come together on behalf of our community. The partnership with the Massachusetts COVID-19 Relief Fund has come to a close, but the SouthCoast Community Foundation continues to make emergency grants of their own in response to growing community needs. Please consider making a donation on our website [www.southcoastcf.org](http://www.southcoastcf.org).

"Many of us have powerful memories of summers on Buzzards Bay and throughout the region, given the year we are all having, we owe it to our youth to help them create memories, make friends, breathe fresh air, learn a skill, and have a summer" said John Vasconcellos, President of the SouthCoast Community Foundation.

Among the recipients of the summer program grants is Gnome Surf, of Fall River. "We are a 501c3 nonprofit Surf Therapy program that provides an alternate and innovative form of healthcare that addresses both physical and mental health as well as, emotional well-being. We aim to create a world where kindness, love, happiness, compassion and self-confidence are available to All Kids of All Abilities." Said Chris Antao, Founder of Gnome Surf. "The SouthCoast Community Foundation has been instrumental in helping us to provide life altering services to over 750 families throughout Massachusetts. It has helped attract tourism and more support to small businesses in the area as well."

Details of each grantee's work can be found listed below. Grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 were distributed to the following organizations:

#### **Grantees:**

- [Attleboro Area Interfaith Collaborative](#)
- [Attleboro YMCA](#)
- [Bay Coast Rowing Center, Inc.](#)
- [Boys and Girls Club of Fall River](#)
- [Boys & Girls Club of Greater New Bedford/Wareham](#)
- [Boys & Girls Club of Plymouth](#)
- [Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South](#)
- [Brockton Area Multi-Services, Inc.](#)
- [Buzzards Bay Coalition](#)
- [Citizens for Citizens](#)
- [Community Boating Center](#)
- [Dennison Memorial Community Center](#)

- [Dream Out Loud Center](#)
- [Gnome Surf](#)
- [New Bedford Art Museum/ArtWorks!](#)
- [NorthStar Learning Centers](#)
- [Old Colony YMCA](#)
- [Old Dartmouth Historical Society](#)
- [On Stage Theatrical Productions, Inc.](#)
- [Our Sisters' School](#)
- [PAACA](#)
- [United Neighbors of Fall River](#)
- [YMCA Southcoast](#)
- [Youth Opportunities Unlimited, Inc.](#)
- [YWCA of Southeastern MA](#)

### **How to give**

You can help those most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic by supporting our region's nonprofits on the front lines. Donations to the SouthCoast Emergency Response Fund may be made online at on our website [www.southcoastcf.org](http://www.southcoastcf.org).

For general questions and inquiries about the Fund, please direct your inquiry to [emergencyfund@southcoastcf.org](mailto:emergencyfund@southcoastcf.org). For any questions regarding making a donation, please contact the Community Foundation's Development Manager, Tricia Grime at [pgrime@southcoastcf.org](mailto:pgrime@southcoastcf.org). Lastly, for media inquiries and interview requests, please contact Jasmyn Baird at [jbaird@southcoastcf.org](mailto:jbaird@southcoastcf.org).

*The SouthCoast Community Foundation is a public charity serving thousands of people who share a common goal of improving the quality of life through philanthropy throughout the region. More information about the Foundation can be found at <https://southcoastcf.org/>*

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