

Merrimack Valley YMCA awarded \$100,000

Lawrence nonprofit receives Cummings Foundation grant

The Merrimack Valley YMCA is one of 100 local nonprofits to receive grants of \$100,000 each through Cummings Foundation's "\$100K for 100" program. The Lawrence based organization was chosen from a total of 574 applicants during a competitive review process.

The Merrimack Valley YMCA is a not-for-profit association dedicated to improving the quality of life for all through a wide variety of programs that promote healthy spirit, mind, and body. The Merrimack Valley YMCA strives to be a place where everyone has the opportunity to grow, learn, and thrive through a wide variety of high quality services and programs.

Representing the Merrimack Valley YMCA, Chief Operating Officer Francis J. Kenneally, joined approximately 300 other guests at a reception at TradeCenter 128 in Woburn to celebrate the \$10 million infusion into Greater Boston's nonprofit sector. With the conclusion of this grant cycle, Cummings Foundation has now awarded more than \$260 million to Greater Boston nonprofits alone.

"We are honored to be selected to receive a Cummings Foundation \$100K for 100 Grant," said Kenneally. "The impact the Cummings Foundation has on our communities, through the YMCA and other organizations, is tremendous. The funding will strengthen the YMCA's ability to provide quality academic services and support to students from Lawrence."

The award from the Cummings Foundation will allow the Merrimack Valley YMCA the opportunity to provide a number of unique, educational activities for Lawrence youth and teens during school, after school and throughout the summer. Through our educational initiative, the YMCA will help support the academic achievement of over 1,000 youth and teens from Lawrence by providing fun, high quality educational programs including Teen Achievers, Lawrence Music Clubhouse, Adelante Education Program and Summer Learning Loss Prevention.

The \$100K for 100 program supports nonprofits that are based in and primarily serve Middlesex, Essex, and Suffolk counties. Through this place-based initiative, Cummings Foundation aims to give back in the area where it owns commercial buildings, all of which are managed, at no cost to the Foundation, by its affiliate Cummings Properties. Founded in 1970 by Bill Cummings, the Woburn-based commercial real estate firm leases and manages 10 million square feet of space, the majority of which exclusively benefits the Foundation.

"By having such a local focus, we aim to make a meaningful positive difference in the communities where our colleagues and leasing clients live and work," said Joel Swets, Cummings Foundation's executive director. "We are most grateful for the nonprofit organizations that assist and empower our neighbors, and we are proud to support their efforts."

This year's diverse group of grant recipients represents a wide variety of causes, including homelessness prevention, affordable housing, education, violence prevention, and food insecurity. Most of the grants will be paid over two to five years.

The complete list of 100 grant winners is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org.

Cummings Foundation announced an additional \$15 million in early May through its Sustaining Grants program. Through these awards, 50 local nonprofits will receive ongoing funding of \$20,000 - \$50,000 for 10 years.

The history behind Cummings Properties and Cummings Foundation is detailed in Bill Cummings' self-written memoir, "Starting Small and Making It Big: An Entrepreneur's Journey to Billion-Dollar Philanthropist." It is available on Amazon or cummings.com/book.

About the Y

With its headquarters located in Lawrence, Massachusetts, nestled in the heart of the Merrimack Valley, the Merrimack Valley YMCA is represented by the Andover/North Andover YMCA, the Lawrence YMCA, the Methuen YMCA, Camp Lawrence and Camp Nokomis on Lake Winnepesaukee, and Day Camp Otter in Salem, New Hampshire. Each of these branches and camps serve the needs of distinct and unique communities, making the Merrimack Valley YMCA an organization rich in cultural, social, and economic diversity. Through quality programs, services, volunteers, and staff, the Merrimack Valley YMCA is constantly working to help make healthier lives achievable for everyone.

About Cummings Foundation

Woburn-based Cummings Foundation, Inc. was established in 1986 by Joyce and Bill Cummings. 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.



Chief Operating Officer Francis J. Kenneally celebrates with other Lawrence based recipients of the Cummings Foundation \$100K for 100 grant program.

Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Ed Center awarded \$100,000

Lawrence nonprofit receives Cummings Foundation grant

Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center is one of 100 local nonprofits to receive grants of \$100,000 each through Cummings Foundation's "\$100K for 100" program. The Lawrence-based organization was chosen from a total of 574 applicants during a competitive review process.

The Merrimack Valley Immigrant & Education Center, formerly the Asian Center, has served the immigrant community of Greater Lawrence for 32 years providing ESOL, Workplace, Financial Literacy, Youth Writing and Citizenship Preparation classes. In addition, the Center offers immigrant services and outreach to underserved elder population

Representing MVIEC, Executive Director, Judy Chmielecki, and Program Coordinator, Karen Sheridan, joined approximately 300 other guests at a reception at TradeCenter 128 in Woburn to celebrate the \$10 million infusion into Greater Boston's nonprofit sector. With the conclusion of this grant cycle, Cummings Foundation has now awarded more than \$260 million to Greater Boston nonprofits alone.

"We are thrilled to be a recipient of the

Cummings Foundation's \$110 K for 100."

MVIEC will use the grant to provide low-income immigrants with ESOL and Workplace Education classes to support them in their quest to be gainfully employed and achieve citizenship status.

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Lawrence High School Graduates of 2010 through 2012

The Library received a large amount of LHS yearbooks (2010 and 2012) from the high school. They are giving them away.

If interested, please contact Louise Sandberg in the Main Library, at 51 Lawrence St.