

Foundation Trust grant recipients thank trust's generosity

By Tara Vocino



Massachusetts General Hospital Revere Youth Zone Program Manager Michael Lenson and MGH Revere HealthCare Administrative Director Deborah Jacobson said the \$7,000 grant that the Foundation Trust awarded is a great opportunity for 15 middle school students to learn mega robotics in two 10-week sessions. (Advocate Photos by Tara Vocino)

During a three-hour luncheon on Monday afternoon at Dryft Revere, grant recipients thanked the Foundation Trust for its generous donations and shared how the money will be distributed.

"In 2019, the Foundation Trust provided over \$300,000 in grants and scholarships to local communities," Foundation Trust Executive Director Dr. Joseph Spinazzola said. "We're thrilled to expand our geographic reach to new Massachusetts communities in 2020, including Everett, and can't wait to see the impact of programs that are planned for the coming year."

Foundation Trust grants support program infrastructure, operations, initiative seeding, program expansion or

evaluation in one or more of the Foundation Trust funding tracks: overcoming trauma and adversity, empowering at-risk youth and communities, restoring dignity and quality of care for adults living with chronic conditions, and advancing inclusivity in the arts, according to Foundation Trust Manager Lauren Liecau.

More than \$50,000 was awarded to 10 programs serv-

ing Revere, which represents the greatest number of Foundation Trust grants awarded to a single community. Grant recipients include Beachmont Improvement Committee, MGH Revere Youth Zone, Revere CARES, Revere Community School, Revere High School Gender and Sexuality Alliance/ Restorative Justice Project, Re-

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Revere High School Assistant Principal Christopher Freisen said the grant went toward ReBoot, which helps students with behavioral issues to succeed.



Revere Community School ESOL Instructor Susan Lopez De Oliveira with Revere Community School Coordinator Fatou Drammeh said the \$16,000 grant will impact a lot of lives, especially in the immigrant community.



Grant recipient Revere CARES Program/Communications Manager Viviana Cataño-Merino, Mayor Brian Arrigo, grant recipient Revere CARES Youth Specialist Debora Guimaraes, Foundation Trust Executive Director Dr. Joseph Spinazzola, City Council Vice President Ira Novoselsky, Foundation Trust Manager Lauren Liecau and grant recipient Revere CARES Director Dr. Sylvia Chiang-Raposo

Massachusetts General Hospital Revere Youth Zone Program Manager Michael Lenson said middle school students built robots and drove a car without it falling off the table through the \$7,000 Foundation Trust grant.



Revere Police Activities League Director Kris Oldoni said the grant helped at-risk youngsters to build trust with police officers, school personnel and other adults.



Revere High School Gender and Sexuality Alliance Advisor Kerri Langlais-Emilian said the grant helped to offset the club's expenses.



Grant recipient Revere High School Assistant Principal Christopher Freisen, Mayor Brian Arrigo, Foundation Trust Executive Director Dr. Joseph Spinazzola, grant recipient Revere Community School Coordinator Fatou Drammeh, grant recipient ESOL Instructor Susan Lopez De Oliveira, City Council Vice President Ira Novoselsky and Foundation Trust Manager Lauren Liecau.

Alliance for Health and Environment announces Valentine Volunteer Information Night

AUGUST – The Alliance for Health and Environment encourages residents of Revere, Saugus and Lynn to attend a public meeting of the Alliance on Thursday, February 13 from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at the Saugus ITAM (1 Beachview Ave., Saugus).

The Alliance is hosting an informational public meeting to mobilize residents who are negatively impacted by the operations of the Saugus incinerator and its unlined ash landfill.

Join neighbors to learn how you can volunteer and take action in the Alliance's campaign to close the unlined Saugus ash landfill. This meeting will feature round-robin trainings in which residents will learn how to activate to make a positive difference!

The Alliance for Health and Environment was formed in 2016 with the goal of raising awareness of incinerator ash disposal activities in Saugus, reducing pollution associated with waste incineration and ash disposal, and promoting environmental justice for communities impacted by waste incineration and ash disposal. Members include public officials, concerned residents of Saugus and Revere, as well as representatives from many highly respected environmental advocacy groups, including the Conservation Law Foundation, Clean Water Action, Toxics Action Center, the Saugus River Watershed Council, Saugus Action Volunteers for the Environment, Friends of Belle Isle Marsh and the Point of Pines Beach Association.

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grants, special education programs, upgrades and staffing of fire and police departments, housing and energy assistance and much more. On a regional level, it affects us through regional transportation planning, highway improvements, health care, law enforcement, just to name a few."

Rana, who is Director of the city's Healthy Community Initiatives, stressed the importance of full participation. "The Census is a foundational part of our democracy, and it helps focus resources on unmet needs in the community," she said. "The Census questionnaires will be available online in 12 languages in addition to English, and telephone responses will be accepted in all those languages as well."

Colella, who is the city's Election Commissioner, has been through the census process before and realizes the importance of publicizing the process. "We make a tremendous effort to be visible throughout the community to get people to participate," she said. She plans to use the City of Revere's Mobile City Hall and hold informational events throughout Revere as the process continues.

Participation in the federal census is confidential as a matter of federal law. Information about individuals, their homes and businesses – or any identifiable information – cannot be released and is used exclusively to produce statistics. "Unfortunately, there may be confusion or concerns about participating in the census, but participation is completely anonymous," Arrigo said. "Everyone should feel completely safe and assured that their information is

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vere Police Activities League, Revere Society For Cultural/ Historic Preservation, Revere Youth In Action and Share Your Love Foundation.

The Foundation Trust was established to "fill the gaps" left by larger foundations. By supporting the important ongoing work of local small to medium-sized nonprofit organizations, the Foundation Trust aims to enhance individual well-being and community development.

Interested nonprofit organizations and municipal-run programs in Chelsea, Everett and Stoneham are invited to submit letters of inquiry through Thursday, March 5.

For information, including detailed application instructions, visit FoundationTrust.org. —Tara Vocino may be reached at printjournalist1@gmail.com.

secure and private." By April 1, every home in the nation will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Participation can be completed online, by telephone or by mail. Questions presented in the federal census are simple, but important. Every answer contributes to the important statistical data that forms the basis of decisions about federal funds distribution. The U.S. Census Bureau will never contact a person via email or telephone and request financial information or a Social Security number. The federal census does not require a Social Security number – and, in fact, will never ask for a Social Security number – and makes no inquiry about money, political affiliation or financial information.

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