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MNN Massachusetts Nonprofit Network **XX Citizens Bank**[®]

June 8, 2015

Nonprofit Excellence Award Sponsors



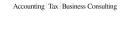




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BlumShapiro



Dear Friends,

Welcome to Nonprofit Awareness Day, a statewide celebration of the impact of nonprofits across the Commonwealth.

Nonprofits are the heart and soul of our communities. They are classrooms full of exploration and parks with rolling green hills and dusty baseball fields. They are symphonies ringing wondrous notes and halls bursting with art. They are advocates for the voiceless and offer space for bodies and minds to heal. And when needed, they provide the most vital and basic necessities. In addition to their unmistakable social impact, nonprofits are important economic engines in Massachusetts: they generate more than \$234 billion in annual revenue and make up almost 17% of the state's workforce.

We are here today at the State House to celebrate the tremendous accomplishments of nonprofits and shine a light on the enduring practices and game-changing innovations that have made our nonprofit sector a force, not just for social good, but for economic growth. Exemplifying this are the 32 Nonprofit Excellence Award finalists, who represent the most innovative, creative and effective work being done in every region and subsector of the state. We are honored to present the Public Official of the Year Award to Senate President Stan Rosenberg, a dedicated leader who understands the important relationship between government and the nonprofit sector.

As part of Nonprofit Awareness Day, organizations across the state—both nonprofits and the businesses that support them—are using social media to share stories, pictures, and statistics that illustrate their scope and scale through the #NonprofitsMakeSense campaign. We encourage you to participate in this social media movement today that tells our neighbors, colleagues, and elected officials why #NonprofitsMakeSense by following the instructions on page 3.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating Nonprofit Awareness Day 2015. With you as our partners, and champions like Senate President Rosenberg and our 32 exceptional finalists, the potential impact of our work together is limitless.

Sincerely,

David Shapiro Board Chair, Massachusetts Nonprofit Network

Jerry Sargent President, Citizens Bank, Massachusetts

Schedule of Events

Welcome Kristy Lee, New England Cable News

MNN Annual Meeting Jonathan Spack, CEO, Third Sector New England, MNN Governance Committee Chair

Presentation of Board Governance Award AAFCPAs

Presentation of Collaboration Award BlumShapiro

Presentation of Advocacy Award Citizens Bank

Presentation of Public Official of the Year Award Citizens Bank and MNN Board Chair

Remarks from MNN's Board Chair David Shapiro, President and CEO, MENTOR

Honoring Dawnn Jaffier through the Light of Dawnn Awards

Presentation of Young Professional Award Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts

Presentation of Innovation Award BNY Mellon

Presentation of Communications Award Comcast

Presentation of Small Nonprofit Award Insource Services

Presentation of Leadership Award Appleton Partners

Closing Remarks David Shapiro





Public Official of The Year

Senator Stan Rosenberg was unanimously elected by his colleagues to be the President of the Massachusetts Senate in January 2015. He was first elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1987 and was elected to the Senate in 1991, where he has held leadership positions such as Majority Leader, President Pro Tempore, and Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. Some of

Sen. Rosenberg's major accomplishments include the passage of a 2000 bill aimed at curtailing racial profiling; being a leading voice on Beacon Hill for marriage equality; and the passage of a wage hike for the Commonwealth's lowest-paid human service workers. The Senate President is a dedicated leader who is committed to transparency and understands the important relationship between government and the nonprofit sector.



Nonprofit Awareness Day Emcee

In her role as evening anchor for NECN, Kristy Lee reports on an array of important, timely topics ranging from local business and nonprofit sector updates to human interest stories. Her news career began in Boston in 1997, when she worked at WHDH as a weekday morning and noon anchor. Prior to that, she was the weekend anchor/reporter at the ABC affiliate in

Palm Springs, California as well as the CBS affiliate

in Spokane, Washington. This is the third time Kristy has emceed MNN's Nonprofit Awareness Day celebration.

NONPROFIT AWARENESS DAY #nonprofitsmakesense

Massachusetts Nonprofit Network

XX Citizens Bank®

Participate in the #nonprofitsmakesense Social Media Movement

Today, join us for our annual **#nonprofitsmakesense** social media movement on Nonprofit Awareness Day to increase awareness of the impact and diversity of the thousands of nonprofits across

the state in a way that's fun and easy to share.

Use the hashtag **#nonprofitsmakesense** on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram to share stories, pictures and videos from the people you meet, finalists, award winners, and special guest speakers. We also encourage you to share your organization's stories, stats, and images to showcase your own impact.

And don't forget to connect with MNN and the Nonprofit Awareness Day Presenting Sponsor Citizens Bank on social media:



@ma_nonprofitnet
@massnonprofitnet
f /CitizensBank
f /massnonprofitnet



Citizens for Juvenile Justice

The only independent nonprofit working statewide to improve the juvenile justice system, Citizens for Juvenile Justice's (CFJJ) mission is to advocate for a fair and effective juvenile justice system to promote the healthy development of children and youth. In 2013, CFJJ launched its Justice For Kids campaign, a multi-year effort to change the state law designating 17 as the age at which adolescents face the adult justice system. This incredibly comprehensive and effective campaign included well-documented research which was widely disseminated to many audiences, and the forming of a broad coalition of supporters, with a total of 83 organizations as well as over 80 legislators who cosponsored the related legislation. Because of these coordinated efforts, decision makers at every level of government became supportive of moving kids under 18 to the juvenile system and as a result the laws were amended.

Massachusetts Communities Action Network

Since its inception in 1985, Massachusetts Communities Action Network (MCAN) has been instrumental in advocating for economic and racial justice across Massachusetts. In 2014, MCAN led efforts to raise the state-level minimum wage to \$11 an hour and grant up to five days of sick time for all workers, the strongest state-level sick time policy in the country. In order to achieve these amazing results, MCAN played a pivotal role in creating and leading the Raise Up MA coalition, which brought together faith, community, and labor organizations, as well as thousands of volunteers, to advocate for the cause. Thanks to the coalition's strong community and voter engagement efforts, MCAN activated a diverse audience to support the campaign, and helped to pass Ballot Question 4 in 2014, increasing the state minimum wage and earned sick time laws.

Victim Rights Law Center

The Victim Rights Law Center's (VRLC) mission is to provide legal representation to victims of rape and sexual assault, and to promote a national movement committed to seeking justice for these victims. The VRLC is the first nonprofit law center in the country solely dedicated to serving the critical legal needs of sexual assault victims, and remains the only organization in Massachusetts providing free, comprehensive legal services to victims. In an efforts to change the way college campuses respond to sexual assault, in 2010 VRLC submitted a white paper and met with the Obama administration to articulate the legal obstacles encountered by campus sexual assault survivors. Since then, the organization has led the local and national dialogue on the topic, increased public awareness through earned media efforts, and helped change policies at colleges and at the federal level.



Excellence in Board Governance

Actors' Shakespeare Project

Founded in 2004, Actors' Shakespeare Project (ASP) was created by a group of actors and teaching artists to promote accessible, resonant, text-focused, and actor-driven Shakespeare productions and programs. In 2011, the Board of Directors recognized the opportunity to increase ASP's effectiveness, visibility, and funding, and worked closely with the organization's staff to implement a three-year strategic plan. Thanks to systematic and consistent efforts led by the board, ASP was able to better meet its mission through: more robust, multi-year funding sources; a space for ASP's artists and youth program participants to work; and an increased investment in staff, artists and teaching artists. With their creative thinking and stalwart guidance and support, the ASP Board made it possible for the organization to thrive artistically, as well as from educational and organizational standpoints.

The Susan B. Anthony Birthplace Museum

The museum is dedicated to preserving the birthplace and raising public awareness of the 19th century pioneering feminist and suffragist Susan B. Anthony. The fourteen members of the Board of Directors recognize the importance of honoring and protecting the great legacy of this American heroine and social reformer, and work tirelessly to ensure that the museum accurately embodies all that Susan B. Anthony achieved in her lifetime. The highly engaged and active board worked together to identify a clear and compelling need and consequently started the accreditation process for the Alliance of American Museums. This incredible honor is only achieved by 6% of the museums in the US.

The Theater Offensive

By presenting the diversity of LGBT lives in art, The Theater Offensive (TTO) breaks through personal isolation, challenges the status quo, and builds thriving communities. After identifying the compelling need for more input from young participants in development of TTO youth programming, the Board of Directors created the Leadership and Inclusion Council—a group of youth leaders who are involved in all design and evaluation decision-making for TTO youth programming. The board continues to work closely with young council members, incorporating their feedback into their decision-making and organizational governance. TTO Board members have gone above and beyond to engage with youth leaders, introducing them to the functions of the board, and involving them in subcommittee meetings and discussions. Through their hands-on approach and inclusive attitude, the TTO Board of Directors is successfully grooming the next generation of influential leaders in the LGBT community.

Excellence in Collaboration

Big Sister Association of Greater Boston

For the past four years, the Big Sister Association of Greater Boston has collaborated with the Boston Housing Authority (BHA) and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts (BCBSMA) to improve life outcomes of girls who reside in Boston's public housing developments. Through this strong collaboration, Big Sister has been able to leverage BHA's relationships to improve community outreach, recruit and refer girls living in the public housing developments to mentoring programs, and facilitate communication with their families. And by partnering with BCBSMA, Big Sister has been able to participate in the company's annual community service day, during which they plan and execute renovation projects to improve the housing developments where the girls they serve live. So far, 110 girls living in the public housing developments have been served by this collaboration, and expansion plans are underway.

Boston Celtics Shamrock Foundation

The Boston Celtics Shamrock Foundation applies a team mentality and relies on key partnerships with New England-based nonprofit organizations to provide programs that directly benefit children in need. In a recent collaboration, the foundation worked with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston to decrease drowning among inner city youth by teaching the young members how to swim. Through coordinated efforts, the collaboration effectively utilized what each partner had to offer, including engaging Boston Celtics player Brandon Bass who took swim lessons with the children. The collaboration received international recognition and was covered widely in local media. But most importantly, because the groups worked together, 874 youth at Boys & Girls Clubs across the city learned how to swim and the program is now at work in Lawrence.

Mystic Valley Elder Services

Each year Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) assists more than 15,000 individuals across eight communities. Through its Senior Nutrition Outreach Program, the organization collaborates with community food pantries to provide free groceries to older adults and adults living with disabilities who have limited mobility and/or access to transportation. MVES found Bread of Life to be an ideal partner for their work, identifying closely with the organization's commitment to bring food to those in need, and recognized the ability to leverage their existing relationship with the Greater Boston Food Bank. MVES and Bread of Life work together to determine the most efficient way to select and order appropriate foods from the food bank; deliver the food to the sites; set up the on-site food pantries; and supervise the delivery and distribution of the food items each month. Through their partnership, more than 775 low-income older adults are able to access 2.5 bags of free food each month, helping them to eat nutritiously and take better care of their health.



Excellence in Collaboration (Cont.)

One City, One Library

A dynamic government-private partnership focused on improving literacy skills citywide, One City, One Library (OCOL) breaks down barriers across city departments by focusing on a common goal: providing access to literacy resources for young residents in Worcester where 72% of students live in poverty and 62% of children fail to read at grade-level. Founded in 2013, OCOL is a collaboration among the Worcester Public Schools, the Worcester Public Library, the City of Worcester, and the Worcester Education Collaborative. This collaborative model encouraged the group of diverse entities to address a variety of areas for improvements including the reconfiguration of the city's transportation routes, literacy-focused summer program offerings, and altering Family Health Center services in low-income communities to coincide with library hours at nearby OCOL branches.

United Way of Massachusetts Bay & Merrimack Valley

In 2010, the United Way of Massachusetts Bay & Merrimack Valley identified a clear and compelling need in the local community: they decided to tackle the learning loss that low-income children experience at a much higher rate than their middle-class peers during summer vacation. The Summer Learning Collaborative, a partnership between the United Way and Building the Out-of-School Time Network, focuses on integrating fun and engaging literacy-based activities into existing community-based summer programs. Through the effective definition of roles, and by leveraging the expertise of each partner, United Way and BOSTnet, along with the 22 program sites, have created a unique model that builds capacity and enhances existing summer programs that already enroll large numbers of low income students. In the summer of 2014, the Summer Learning Collaborative reached more than 2,500 children in Greater Boston, Greater Lynn, Lawrence, and Lowell.

Excellence in Communications

Fenway Health

Founded in 1971, Fenway Health enhances the well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities through access to high quality health care, research, education, and advocacy. After identifying areas that needed improvement within the organization's website, Fenway Health developed and executed a comprehensive communications plan to better position the organization's online presence and reflect the vibrancy and vitality of the communities they serve. Fenway's in-house design team followed a rigorous process to understand their digital needs, which were then translated to features built into the new and improved website that went live in January 2015. Since the updated website is a fully responsive site that balances patient and organizational information, educational resources, advocacy tools, and marketing support, Fenway's marketing and communications team now has the bandwidth to create and execute a robust content and social media strategy to further bring the organization's mission and brand to life.

Lovelane Special Needs Horseback Riding Program

Lovelane's mission is to provide high-quality therapeutic horseback riding to achieve occupational, physical, speech, cognitive and other therapeutic gains, focusing on children with special needs. In order to prevent donor fatigue for their two annual events, Lovelane implemented a new communications strategy to deliver its mission to the next circle of potential supporters, known as the "friend-of-our-friend" circle. Through the use of mail, e-news, earned and social media, the organization targeted new audiences to significantly increase attendance numbers at events and exceed fundraising goals. The communication strategy included clear, compelling and creative messaging aimed at different audiences. The innovative approach proved effective, as 54% of the attendees at the most recent event had no prior relationship to Lovelane yet contributed \$102,635 in donations.

Urban Edge Housing Corporation

Established in 1974, the mission of the Urban Edge Housing Corporation is to develop and sustain healthy and diverse communities in Jamaica Plain, Roxbury, and surrounding neighborhoods. In order to better communicate available resources to their constituents, Urban Edge built a robust 5 year communications strategy. The plan included the hiring of a Communications Manager, implementation of social media tools, and an upgraded website, as well as a revamping of their materials. Just one of the positive outcomes was that the organization's newly created Facebook page proved to be a great success, attaining an organic reach of over 25,000 potential first-time home-buyers.





A Little Easier Recovery

A Little Easier Recovery's mission is to empower breast cancer patients to regain their dignity and control, and lead a better quality of life during their cancer treatment. Through the Jacki Program, the organization takes an innovative approach to meet the crucial needs of patients that undergo these treatments by teaching them how to best manage the pain and discomfort of post-surgical drains. The program's patented "by a patient for a patient" design, use of a dedicated oncology network for one-on-one care planning with patients, and ability to recycle gently used Jacki's (recovery jackets) through the Pay-it-Forward Program, demonstrates the true innovative nature of the nonprofit sector in its ability to address an unmet need in our community.

Fitchburg Art Museum

The Fitchburg Art Museum serves as a vital engine for creativity, education, and community building in Central New England. Recognizing the need to adapt to Fitchburg's changing economy and demographics, the museum developed a strategic plan to increase outreach, collaboration, and partnerships. Through the innovative "community-as-client" approach, all museum programs are imagined, prioritized, and evaluated by their ability to serve the community Gallery, which hosts 10-12 exhibitions a year that are organized by local schools, community groups, and artist organizations. The Museum has also instituted a number of changes to engage the Latino population, which makes up 40% of the total population in Fitchburg. Within two years of adopting the community-as-client philosophy, museum attendance rose 50%, particularly among students and Latino visitors from its immediate neighborhood.

Lovin' Spoonfuls

Since 2010, Lovin' Spoonfuls has been a leading innovator in the food rescue movement. While 40% of all food produced in the U.S. goes to waste each year, in Boston, a staggering one in five people are food insecure. Lovin' Spoonfuls connects community resources and links grocery stores, produce wholesalers, and farms to local meal programs and social service entities serving those in need. Their direct-distribution model provides a local, sustainable, scalable solution that bridges the inevitable overflow of food production, and the ever-growing need for fresh, healthy food in our communities.

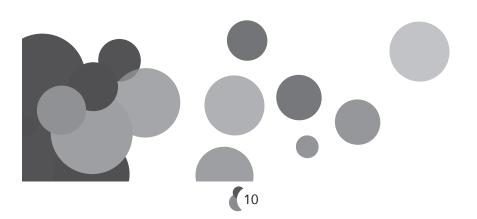
Excellence in Innovation (Cont.)

Sociedad Latina

Recognizing that Boston's Latino populations are disproportionately affected by chronic diseases like obesity, diabetes, and heart disease, Sociedad Latina knew they needed an innovative approach to break through the linguistic, cultural, and structural barriers preventing Latino residents from receiving effective healthcare. To address these issues, Sociedad Latina implemented an evidence-based Promotoras de Salud (Health Worker) model to reach Boston's Latino community where they live, work, worship, and play. Through this model, Sociedad Latina has been able to implement a variety of activities into the community including bilingual nutrition workshops, grocery tours, cooking classes and fitness activities for 1,200 low-income Latino parents and families. Further outreach has been conducted through events, social media, as well as individual case management to provide ongoing support in adopting healthy lifestyle changes.

uAspire

uAspire is a national nonprofit with a mission to ensure that all young people have the financial information and resources necessary to find an affordable path to- and through- postsecondary education. After recognizing that many high school graduates, particularly those from low-income backgrounds, encounter a range of obstacles during the summer after graduation that can lead them to change or even abandon their college plans, uAspire developed an innovative solution to address this phenomenon, know as "summer melt." uAspire partnered with Harvard researchers to design, implement, and test three different interventions aimed at reducing summer melt. After testing, it was found that text message support increased fall college enrollment by 7.1%, compared with 4.5% via peer mentoring. uAspire's success with text messaging as a cost-effective way to assist students on a large scale has generated interest and excitement in national media and among funders.





Jessica Brayden

As Executive Director for the past six years, Jessica Brayden is committed to raising RESPOND's visibility and reach within the community, enabling the organization to fulfill its important mission of supporting victims of domestic violence. During her tenure, she has formed valuable partnerships with local businesses, donors, and police, and become a strong leader in Somerville. Jessica's impact is felt in every facet of the organization, including her personal support of survivors, development of cutting edge programs, fundraising, and the hiring of talented and compassionate staff. Because of her advocacy and passion, RESPOND now has an inclusive shelter that allows men- a unique concept for this type of organization.

Catherine D'Amato

As President and CEO of the Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB), Catherine D'Amato focuses her time and attention on raising over \$29 million in annual private and public support that allows GBFB to deliver much-needed relief to individuals and families fighting hunger. Now approaching her 20-year anniversary at GBFB, her primary goal is to ensure the organization accomplishes its main strategic objective: providing one meal a day to every person in need in Eastern MA. Catherine has taken the organization from distributing 8 million pounds of food in 1995 to an annual distribution of 51 million pounds today. Further, her tireless efforts have raised the overall visibility of GBFB, attracted more food, financial and strategic partners, and helped to attract strong talent.

Barry Dym

Eight years ago, Barry Dym leveraged his background in teaching and created the Institute for Nonprofit Management and Leadership (INML) in response to several community-wide needs, including the need for better skills among nonprofit leaders and the lack of diversity among top leadership. INML aims to transform communities by equipping the most promising nonprofit leaders with the skills, confidence and resources they need to make their organizations innovative and sustainable. Much of what Barry has been able to accomplish with INML is credited to his long-cultivated relationships as well as his teaching style. So far, INML has graduated 600 nonprofit leaders from 270 difference organizations; strengthening the nonprofit sector in the Commonwealth.

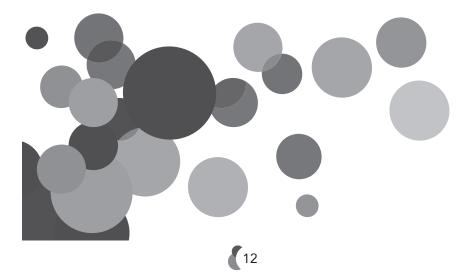
Excellence in Leadership (Cont.)

Paulo Pinto

As Executive Director of the Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers (MAPS), Paulo Pinto is responsible for overseeing the agency's finances, operations, and health and social services, ensuring that their mission of improving the lives of Portuguese-speaking individuals and families across Massachusetts is met. Under his leadership, the agency has expanded many of its programs, most notably HIV/AIDS/STI prevention, screening and referral services; elder services; and domestic violence and sexual assault services. Paulo's passionate leadership has allowed the agency to help thousands of individuals and families each year, empowering and strengthening Portuguese-speaking communities across the Commonwealth.

Jean Ford Webb

In 2012, Jean Ford Webb, the founding Executive Director of Mother Brooks Arts and Community Center, wrote a proposal to the Town of Dedham for the re-use of a decommissioned elementary school. Jean's letter led to the transformation of a 39,000 square foot abandoned building into an engine of neighborhood revitalization and a thriving center for the arts and education. Recognizing the many challenges a startup organization faces, Jean assembled a group of neighborhood activists tasked with tackling the organizational needs and goals necessary to successfully launch the new arts center in the community. Her dedication to seeing the center flourish is unwavering, and as the only person on staff she takes on a breadth of responsibilities, such as key fundraiser and grant writer, as well as building superintendent. Her vision and commitment to building a strong and lasting foundation, combined with her charismatic, compelling, selfless and welcoming-leadership personify the center.



Excellence by a Small Nonprofit

Easthampton Community Center

Despite having only one paid employee and an operating budget of \$150,000, Easthampton Community Center has made an incredible impact on the community, distributing 626,000 pounds of food through its food pantry in 2014, and offering a wide range of programs including a Clothing Closet, Community Care Kitchen, Alcoholics Anonymous groups, weight loss and exercise classes, and much more. Supporting the center are numerous dedicated volunteers, without whom the center would not be able to achieve the great impact it has on the Easthampton community.

Extras for Creative Reuse

Since 1981, Extras for Creative Reuse has provided more than 600 educators and 50 organizations with reusable, recycled, and surplus materials to reach 150,000 students with creative learning. Extras for Creative Reuse has grown substantially in recent years and built its capacity to increase revenue, memberships and attendance, and triple the amount of materials sent to its members. The organization recently reevaluated its operations, recruited new board members and volunteers, and improved their database. With a budget of less than \$100,000, their impact is worth \$1.5 million in savings to their members each year, plus the 250,000 pounds of materials no longer dumped in landfills each year.

Provincetown Arts Press

Founded in 1985, Provincetown Arts Press exists to promote, sustain, enhance, and preserve creativity in the nation's oldest art colony, located at the tip of Cape Cod. With a full-time staff of four, a board of directors, and a board of advisors, the nationally distributed publication works tirelessly to publish reviews, essays, fiction, interviews, journals, performance pieces, poetry, and more, drawing upon a century-long tradition rich in art, theater, and writing. With a circulation of 6,000, Provincetown Arts Press strategically works with various other organizations to expand their reach and leverage resources.

Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts

The Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts (SEAC) assists new Southeast Asian immigrants, refugees and long-term residents in Central Massachusetts, so that they can become strong contributors to the community while maintaining their unique cultural identity. The organization's approach serves clients with a "whole-person development" to make sure more than just their basic needs are met. The organization is constantly developing its staff and volunteers so that they are equipped to serve more people. Despite its small budget and only two full time staff, for more than 15 years SEAC has consistently met the high demand for culturally-sensitive service among the Asian community and provides assistance to almost 8,000 individuals and families each year.

Excellence by a Young Nonprofit Professional

Scott Bailey

As Managing Director of MassChallenge Boston, Scott Bailey, 27, manages 12 employees and oversees all operations, partnerships, and impact across the New England area to ensure the organization is meeting its mission of supporting high-growth, high-impact startups. Scott began as an intern at MassChallenge and has held various roles within the organization over four years. Skilled at identifying and creating high-value connections across many partners and stakeholders, he is credited with fundamentally changing the organization and making a dramatic impact on the company's effectiveness and long-term success.

Sara Bartolino

Since co-founding Transforming Education in 2009, Sara Bartolino, 27, has served as the organization's Executive Director. Leading one of the first organizations to do development and measurement around socioemotional learning and cognitive development, Sara is responsible for securing organizational partners; hiring staff; resource development and fundraising; and meetings with elected officials. She works relentlessly to support educators and education systems, and to equip students with the mindset, essential skills, and habits to succeed in college, a career, and life. Transforming Education works with 1 million+ children through school districts and 5,000 students in Boston through the organization's research collaborative.

Robbie Bergquist

In 2004, at the age of 12, Robbie Bergquist co-founded Cell Phones for Soldiers, which provides free communication services and emergency funding to troops and veterans, with his sister Brittany. Now 23, he serves as director for the national nonprofit, handling the day-to-day operations of the charity and serving as a spokesperson promoting its mission nationally and internationally. Through his leadership and tireless efforts, over the past 10 years Cell Phones for Soldiers has been able to provide more than 213 million minutes of talk time for military members to connect with loved ones, fulfilling approximately 3,000 calling card requests each week.

Vanessa Aguirreche Snow

Vanessa Aguirreche Snow has been involved with Hyde Square Task Force since she was a youth leader at the age of 14. Today, at 28, she serves as Manager of Organizing and Policy Initiatives, a position that allows her to combine her passion for art and social activism. Vanessa has made it her mission to support her local community and her efforts have made a clear impact: she led the fight to have the Blessed Sacrament Church bought by a community-based nonprofit, rather than a luxury condo development firm; created the Youth Arts Advocacy initiative, which brings together 15 youth arts groups in Greater Boston; and supported efforts to have the Latin Quarter recognized by the City of Boston as "Avenida de las Americas."

Excellence Award Nominations

AFC Mentoring All Dorchester Sports League Amal Women's Center America SCORES Boston American Bladder Cancer Society Angels Answer Asian Women for Health Belmont Media Center Boston After School & Beyond Boston CASA Bridge Over Troubled Waters **Bridges** Together Brockton Area Multi-Services, Inc. **Building Impact** Cafe UTEC (a social enterprise of UTEC) Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association Cambridge School Volunteers CareerVillage Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Boston Center for Human Development Children's Investment Fund Children's Vision Massachusetts Coalition Codman Square Health Center College Bound Dorchester College Diabetes Network Community Boat Building Community Call Community Connections of Brockton **Community Harvest Project**

Cooperative Metropolitan **Ministries Cystic Fibrosis Foundation** DJ Dream Fund Dream Out Loud Center **EdVestors Express Yourself** Families First Parenting Programs Family Independence Initiative Fishing Partnership Support Service For Kids Only Afterschool Friends of the Dighton-Rehoboth Marching Band Gilbert Albert Community Center Girls' Leadership, Organized Women (Boston GLOW) Give Back Time Good Sports GreenLight Fund **Health Imperatives** Healthworks Community Fitness HMFA Homes for Families Hospitality Homes Interaction Institute for Social Change Iron Work Farm of Acton Jewish Vocational Services Junior League of Worcester Katie Brown Educational Program Lahey Health Love Life Now Foundation

Excellence Award Nominations (Cont.)

Lynn Community Health Center Massachusetts Fallen Heroes Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance Massachusetts Protective Mothers for Custodial Justice Mercy Meals and More MetroWest Mediation Services MMAS Black Box Theater & Morini Gallery More Than Words Natural Resources Trust of Easton Northampton Survival Center Nubian United Benevolent International Association One Can Help Partners for Youth with Disabilities Plymouth 400 Project Bread **Project Citizenship Project STEP Recovery Without Walls** Red Sox Foundation **Rise Above Foundation** Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy Scholars Strategy Network Screening for Mental Health Sibling Connections Sitters Without Borders Social Venture Partners Boston Springfield Boys & Girls Club

Sustainable Endowments Institute Technology for Autism Now The Brookview House The Concord Review The Dr. Antoinette D. Parvis Charitable Foundation The Home for Little Wanderers The Immigrant Learning Center The Marble Collection The Steppingstone Foundation Toward Independent Living and Learning United Planet United Way and Mass Housing & Shelter Alliance **Urbanity Dance** UTEC - United Teen Equality Center Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. Warmer Winters Wellesley Education Foundation WHALE - Waterfront Historic Area LeaguE Wheelock College Winchester Community Music School Worcester Animal Rescue League Worcester Youth Orchestras WORK Inc.

MNN Board of Directors

David Shapiro MENTOR: National Mentoring Partnership, Chairman, Youth & Education Sector

Jennifer Aronson The Boston Foundation, At-Large Member

Jim Ayres United Way of Hampshire County, At-Large Member

Michael Curry Mass League of Community Health Centers, Health Sector

Joe Diamond Massachusetts Association for Community Action, At-Large Member

Suzanne Frechette Nonprofit Alliance of Greater Lowell, Northeast Region

Jeffrey Greim Bay Path University, Pioneer Valley Region

Emily Haber Massachusetts Service Alliance, At-Large Member

Michelle Hantman United Way of Greater New Bedford, Southeast Region



Karen Koller RCAP Solutions, Central Region

Lisa McNeill Cape Cod Volunteers, Cape & Islands Region

Susan Nicholl MetroWest Nonprofit Network, Metrowest Region

Jeffrey Poulos Associated Grant Makers, Philanthropy Sector

Jennifer Ryan The Trustees of Reservations, Environment Sector

Jonathan Spack Third Sector New England, At-Large Member

Colby Swettberg Silver Lining Mentoring, Greater Boston Region

Bill Walczak At-Large Member

Megan Whilden Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Berkshire Community College, Berkshires Region

Matt Wilson MASSCreative, Arts & Culture Sector



Kaitlin Henry Operations and Development Coordinator

Lily Lynch Director of Communications

Emily Tamanaha Director of Membership and Programs

Thank You to our Excellence Award Judges

Larry Bigelow Citizens Bank

Rebecca Donham Metrowest Health Foundation

Rebecca Fracassa Comcast

Jeff Greim BayPath University

Stephanie Guidry The Boston Foundation

Robin Kelley AAFCPAs

Annie Latham YNPN Boston

Carol Lavoie-Schuster Essex County Community Foundation

Lisa McNeill Cape Cod Volunteers

Kristin O'Malley Cape Cod Foundation Susan Nicholl Metrowest Nonprofit Network

Deborah Pearce

Kristin Peterson COSA/Community Action

Trevor Pollack Barr Foundation

Deb Samuels Crossroads for Kids

Derrick Shallcross Highland Street Foundation

Sandy St. Louis Third Sector New England

Sharon Stone Insource Services

Sandy Tarrant Casner & Edwards

Megan Whilden Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Berkshire Community College

Matt Wilson MASSCreative

SAVE THE DATE

For MNN's Annual Conference **ADVANCE**

October 21, 2015

MNN's annual conference in October is the largest local gathering of nonprofit professionals and convenes more than 600 nonprofit and business leaders to learn, share, and connect.

This year's conference, ADVANCE, focuses on the evolution of our sector through the development and strengthening of our nonprofit workforce. The nonprofit sector is built on its human capital. Employees in the sector are smart and innovative, and their passion is matched only by their ability to find creative solutions to tackle historically persistent challenges and the new ones that emerge every day. By focusing on recruiting, retaining, and developing a strong and stable workforce, nonprofits are able to carry out their mission more effectively.

To learn more visit: www.massnonprofitnet.org/conference



WHY JOIN?

Nonprofit members of the Massachusetts Nonprofit Network help strengthen MNN's voice on behalf of the nonprofit sector and have access to a wide array of services and benefits that help them save money, build capacity, and better serve their constituents.

BENEFITS:

- Discounts on HR, IT and financial services, insurance, office supplies, local events, and select business and nonprofit publications
- Unlimited opportunities to post job and internship positions for free in our online Career Center
- Discounts for your entire staff on MNN events, conferences, and trainings across the state that provide nonprofit employees with learning and networking opportunities
- An experienced advocate working on behalf of MNN members at the state and national level
- An immediate network of hundreds of nonprofit and business leaders
- The opportunity to increase organization and mission visibility through MNN's robust mailing list, extensive social media following, highly trafficked website, and awareness-building activities
- Access to resources, news, and information relevant to the nonprofit sector

MNN connects me and my organization to a community in the nonprofit sector... The policies that MNN advocates for benefit our entire sector state-wide and pulls us together as a community serving the residents of our state. And, I share best practice resources from MNN with my board and our membership.

- A. Rima Dael, Executive Director, Country Dance and Song Society

To learn more or to join visit: massnonprofitnet.org/join

















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