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The Dimock Center awarded \$225,000 Cummings grant

Roxbury nonprofit receives 3 years of funding from Cummings Foundation

Roxbury, June 2, 2023 – The Dimock Center is one of 150 local nonprofits that will share in \$30 million through Cummings Foundation’s major annual grants program. The Roxbury-based organization was selected from a total of 630 applicants during a competitive review process. It will receive 225,000 over three years.

Recognized nationally as a model for the delivery of comprehensive health and human services in an urban community, The Dimock Center provides over 19,000 people annually with convenient access to high-quality, low-cost health care and human services to a community that is primarily low-income and people of color.

“This generous funding from Cummings Foundation will help us expand our vital substance use disorder treatment services to respond to the urgent increased need in our community. We are so grateful for the support of the Cummings Foundation for this important life-saving effort.” shares Dimock President and CEO, Dr. Charles Anderson.

The Dimock Center is on the front lines of the substance use epidemic, helping thousands of men and women each year on their journey to recovery. The Dimock Center currently offers counseling and addiction services, an inpatient detox center for men and women, a women’s clinical stabilization services unit, and multiple residential programs for men and women.

The grant, as part of the Restoring Hope Capital Campaign, will support the renovation and expansion of the historic Dr. Marie E. Zakrzewska Building to create Boston’s first post-detox clinical stabilization services (CSS) program for men. Together Dimock’s CSS programs will reach more than 1,000 men and women annually.

The Cummings \$30 Million Grant Program primarily supports Massachusetts nonprofits that are based in and serve Middlesex, Essex, and Suffolk counties.

Through this place-based initiative, Cummings Foundation aims to give back in the areas where it owns commercial property. Its buildings are all managed, at no cost to the Foundation, by its affiliate, Cummings Properties. This Woburn-based commercial real estate firm leases and manages 11 million square feet of debt-free space, the majority of which exclusively benefits the Foundation.

“The way the local nonprofit sector perseveres, steps up, and pivots to meet the shifting needs of the community is most impressive,” said Cummings Foundation executive director Joyce Vyriotes. “We are incredibly grateful for these tireless efforts to support people in the community and to increase equity and access to opportunities.”

The majority of the grant decisions were made by about 90 volunteers. They worked across a variety of committees to review and discuss the proposals and then, together, determine which requests would be funded. Among these community volunteers were business and nonprofit leaders, mayors, college presidents, and experts in areas such as finance and DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion).

“It would not be possible for the Foundation to hire the diversity and depth of expertise and insights that our volunteers bring to the process,” said Vyriotes. “We so appreciate the substantial time and thought they dedicated toward ensuring that our democratized version of philanthropy results in equitable outcomes that will really move the needle on important issues in local communities.”

The Foundation and volunteers first identified 150 organizations to receive three-year grants of up to \$225,000 each. The winners included first-time recipients as well as nonprofits that had previously received Cummings grants. Twenty-five of this latter group of repeat recipients were then selected by a volunteer panel to have their grants elevated to 10-year awards ranging from \$300,000 to \$1 million each.

This year’s grant recipients represent a wide variety of causes, including housing and food insecurity, workforce development, immigrant services, social justice, education, and mental health services. The nonprofits are spread across 46 different cities and towns.

Cummings Foundation has now awarded \$480 million to greater Boston nonprofits. The complete list of this year’s 150 grant winners, plus nearly 1,500 previous recipients, is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org.



Dimock staff pose outside the Dr. Marie Zakrzewska building where more than a thousand people each year will receive life-saving substance use disorder treatment.

About The Dimock Center

The Dimock Center aims to create a healthier Boston by breaking down barriers to care and correcting racial health inequities. Each year, Dimock provides high-quality health care, mental health support, and early education to over 19,000 people in our community, regardless of their ability to pay. Dimock is committed to serving Boston’s most vulnerable and caring for the whole person, right where they live.

Founded in 1862, as the New England Hospital for Women and Children, The Dimock Center was the first hospital in New England opened and operated by women for women. Noted for its role in the history of women in medicine, Dimock strives to continue in the spirit of trailblazers like Dr. Marie Zakrzewska, who founded the hospital, and Mary Eliza Mahoney, the country's first Black nurse who studied there in 1879. Please visit www.dimock.org to learn more about The Dimock Center.

About Cummings Foundation

Woburn-based Cummings Foundation, Inc. was established in 1986 by Joyce and Bill Cummings of Winchester, MA and has grown to be one of the largest private foundations in New England. The Foundation directly operates its own charitable subsidiaries, including New Horizons retirement communities, in Marlborough and Woburn, and Cummings Health Sciences, LLC. Additional information is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org.

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