

**First Parish Waltham  
Jones Partnership Fund  
Grant Recommendations for 2020**

**African Cultural Services Inc. \$1,500**

Sponsor: Susan Weddig

Trying to keep the immigrant families together, facilitating social events for learning and keeping these communities aware of their heritage. Attention will be drawn to the older folks and the kids will be performing a play /skit on assimilation. The organization uses tools of stories and dialog to achieve its objectives

**The Cat Connection \$1,400**

Sponsor: Martha Gallagher

Aim is to help low income and the immigrant population with spaying/neutering cats (who would otherwise not be able to afford these services). Educating the public of the advantages of spaying/neutering cats and the best way(s) to deal with community cats. The target goal for this project is reach15 cats.

**Chaplains on the Way \$2,000**

Sponsor: Leslie Gildersleeve

Purchase McDonald's gift cards in bulk. Then, one of our chaplains will go to McDonald's on Main Street every weekday morning at 7:30am to hand out gift cards to unhoused people. Our goal is to be able to offer a card to anyone who needs it, so that all unhoused people have the option of at least one hot meal a day, and a meal in which they can choose what they eat. We expect to give 30-40 cards a day.

**Chesterbrook Community Foundation \$800**

Sponsor: Pam Penton

The organization seeks to bring together children from three housing developments for a fall party. These are families that may be having only this party in the entire year. The aim is to have the young ones experience a moment perhaps they only wish for, this may also enhance their development both socially and personal morale.

**Community Day Center of Waltham \$2,500**

Sponsor: Roberta Walz

This year's project focuses on health. Help will be provided to the homeless community on an as-needed basis, to cover co-pays, transportation to and from medical appointments and escort/ advocates to medical appointments where needed.

**Diaper Depot \$2,200**

Sponsor: Colleen Bradley-MacArthur

The Diaper Depot distributes feminine products to mothers using a WIC or Mass Health. Products are purchased in bulk and re-packaged into monthly amounts for distribution. First Parish members and friends may contribute supplies to the project and assist with the distribution and/or packaging.

**Families for Depression Awareness \$1,000**

Sponsor: Carla Hillyard

To pilot a Parent Speakers panel featuring parents whose children suffer from teen depression. Parents will share their experiences with other adults with the goal of eliminating teen suicides by reducing stigma about teen depression among adults and helping parents understand their role in diagnosis and treatment.

**Food Link** **\$2,700**

Sponsor: Donna Vanderclock

Food Link is a food rescue non-profit that uses the power of over 200 volunteers to collect and distribute food to 47 social service agencies in Eastern Massachusetts. Food Link partners with grocery stores, farms, and cafes to utilize high-quality foods that would otherwise be wasted. These funds will support our existing partnerships in Waltham with Chesterbrook Community Foundation, Costco, and Jewish Family and Children's Services, where we will continue rescuing food and providing free access to local agencies.

**Greater Boston PFLAG** **\$500**

Sponsor: Devin Shmueli

Educate and train the staff and board (all white ) toward addressing cultural differences to a non-white population as we discuss LGBTQ issues. We believe the first step is to address our own racial preconceptions and misunderstandings before we can partner with congregations and organizations in non-white neighborhoods and communities.

**Healthy Waltham** **\$5,000**

Sponsor: Muffy Young

With the onset of the coronavirus, and at the request of Mayor McCarthy, Healthy Waltham is increasing food offerings from once a month to twice a month. Residents of Waltham--a community whose members are already among those most vulnerable--must overcome social isolation, the decrease of available resources, and the uncertainty of the future. COVID-19 has made accessibility to fresh food and needed toiletries for them even more difficult, and sometimes impossible. For this reason, Healthy Waltham is expanding its mobile-based pantry to serve those in greatest need. Healthy Waltham is projecting the increased Food Pantry service for five months, from April through August.

**In Good Company** **\$1,500**

Sponsor: Barry Stearns

"Radiance of the Day" is a new musical theater piece we are creating in collaboration with the Eureka Ensemble (eurekaensemble.org), whose social justice mission has helped inform the play. "Radiance" incorporates music from the cultures of many of today's immigrants as well as first-hand accounts of their challenges, and will demonstrate that people can unite for a common purpose, despite differences in culture and language.

**Middlesex Human Service Agency** **\$1,800**

Sponsor: Candace Holman

The MHSA Bristol Lodge Food Pantry provides free food to those in need every Wednesday. Food is provided by the Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB) and private donations. GBFB would like MHSA to service more people and will increase our food delivery quantities. MHSA does not have enough shelving units to accommodate larger food deliveries. MHSA would like to install additional shelving, paint the food pantry and have electrical work done at the program.

**(NAMI) National Alliance on Mental Illness - Newton/Wellesley Affiliate** **\$300**

Sponsor: Scott Shurr

Produce critical situation cards and distribute to the community for people with mental health issues, their families and supporters. These cards will help understand crisis situations; what to do and whom to call for assistance in an emergency.

**Opportunities for Inclusion** **\$1,000**

Sponsor: Jon Taylor

We seek funding to continue and expand opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, to volunteer in the Waltham community. Participating in service projects provides a sense of purpose, pride and accomplishment and builds connections in the community. Individuals with disabilities are not typically asked to give back, but are ready, able and eager to help others, with proper support. We will run a combined community service/social event and other service activities through our Recreation Program.

**Waltham Boys and Girls Club** **\$2,500**

Sponsor: Sue Genser

Working closely with the Waltham Public Schools and adhering to guidelines set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Waltham Health Department, Boys & Girls Club staff are providing and distributing free "grab-and-go" meals curbside at several strategic locations throughout the city. This "no contact" model ensures safe delivery of this critical program - currently serving over 500 students a day.

**Waltham Farmers Market** **\$2,800**

Sponsor: Dan Taylor

SNAP funds are matched up to \$10.00 per week per customer to allow low income families access to fresh fruits and vegetables. Vendors are promptly reimbursed.

**Waltham Fields** **\$1,500**

Sponsor: Bill VanderClock

The Mobile Outreach Market (MOM) is a weekly subsidized farmstand-style market in Waltham from July-October. Located in the former Fitch school lot, it is designed to get fresh organic vegetables to households struggling to make ends meet. Customers take a share of vegetables and either pay \$5 in cash or with SNAP benefits, or get them for free with a voucher they receive from one of the 15+ partner organizations.

**Waltham High School Show Choir** **\$1,000**

Sponsor: Rachel Learned

We develop students' self-worth using discussion, lessons and performance. Paying for copyrighted songs will allow students access to a variety of high quality music. The Show Choir season is typically funded by the profit from an annual Eastern Show Choir Festival in April. This festival profits around \$17,000, and was canceled due to COVID-19. The WCPA created backup fundraisers to make-up some of this \$17,000, but due to the stay at home order we have not been able to implement new fundraisers.

**Waltham Mills Artists Association** **\$500**

Sponsor: Joel Weddig

Waltham Open Studios invites the public to visit art where it's made on November 7 and 8, 2020. The artists propose fresh ways to promote the weekend. Translating more event materials, revamping the web and mobile experience and advertising are three strategies for the 2020 event.

**Waltham Partnership for Youth** **\$1,000**

Sponsor: Martha Creedon

This program strengthens the connection among a diverse cohort of organizations serving teens in Waltham. We meet monthly to advance Program Development and to strengthen our working relationship with each other so that we can better serve our teens.

**Waltham Philharmonic Orchestra****\$500**

Sponsor: Marianne Cutter

The Waltham Philharmonic Orchestra will continue to develop its Community Outreach Program to attract student players to the orchestra, host a Student Concerto Competition, offer an exceptional young musician or musicians the opportunity to perform as a soloist with the orchestra, partner with the Plympton Elementary School, and produce free chamber music performances for the community.

**WATCH CDC****\$1,000**

Sponsor: Deb Jose

The Immigrant Appreciation Night is an event aimed at increasing understanding of and appreciation for the contributions of the immigrant community in Waltham. The event - held at First Parish - is also designed to increase interaction between the immigrant population and the community at large.

<b>Number of Grants</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Total of all Awards</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>