

JONES PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE 2024 FUNDING PROPOSAL

Friends of the Waltham Family School

Amount awarded - \$2,100

Project Director: Jackie Herrera

Elisse Ghitelman (sponsor)

The Family Support Emergency Fund offers critical assistance to immigrant families during times when they are unable to afford fundamental needs like winter coats, groceries, utility bills and essentials for hygiene and babies.

It not only addresses immediate physical needs like warmth and nutrition but also a sense of security and stability, helping families to focus on building their new lives without the added stress of financial hardship.

Waltham Choral Parents Association

Amount awarded - \$2,000

Project Director: Alyssa Cincotta

Rachel Learned (sponsor)

Music Unlimited Show Choir is among the premier performing groups in our community. This grant allows us to keep the cost to participate in show choir at \$0 - many student participants from the high school would not be able to join the group if there was a cost to them or their families. The Show Choir performs throughout the Waltham community during the school year.

Waltham Boys and Girls Club

Amount awarded - \$2,100

Project Director: Erica Young

Sue Genser (sponsor)

The third annual Juneteenth Waltham will be an all-day program to explore and celebrate Juneteenth through cultural arts, building off the success of the first two years of this event. This year's event will feature music, speeches, poetry, dance, information booths, food sampling, voter registration and recreational activities.

The Cat Connection

Amount awarded - \$1,900

Project Director: Elisif Brandon

Martha Gallagher (sponsor)

Our CatNAPS program targets low-income and immigrant populations in the greater Waltham area. Many people get pets without considering the associated medical costs. Spay and neuter costs alone easily run into the hundreds of dollars. Because of this, people decide to forgo the procedure. Our action plan is to reach these pet owners and provide the encouragement, motivation and funding to neuter their pets. In addition low cost Vet care is also provided.

Downtown Waltham Partnership - Watch City Steampunk Festival

Amount Awarded: \$900

Project Director: Melissa Honig

Sponsor: Alice Taylor

The Watch City Steampunk Festival is a one-day public event in the Waltham Common area that uses the theme of “steampunk” to explore music, art, fashion and technology. “Steampunk” refers to a Victorian-style version of science fiction, as if we lived in a world where everything H.G. Wells and Jules Verne dreamed of came true. This event draws crowds from around the region to Waltham.

Sanctuary Ministry (Boston)

Boston Area Campus Ministry

Amount Awarded: \$1,500

Project Director: Matt Meyer

Sponsor: Plum Kennard

Sanctuary Boston will reach out to Boston area colleges, including Waltham, to spread information about Unitarian Universalism while building “community” for UU college students through three events: 1) a Friendsgiving meal in November ; 2) sending care packages to students during finals ; and 3) supporting UU campus leaders who are founding new UU student organizations through kickoff events. The mission is to attract greater young adult participation.

Radio Uganda Boston

Radio Uganda Boston

Amount Awarded: \$1,700

Project Director: Anisha Namagembe Sponsor: Peter Babi

The Radio Uganda Boston's Summer Splash Festival at the Waltham Common is a free event that takes place on the first Saturday of July. It celebrates the cultural heritage of Uganda that gives attendees an opportunity to experience traditional music, dance, artisans, games and food from Uganda.

Opportunities for Inclusion

Opportunities for Inclusion (formerly GWArc)

Amount Awarded: \$1,000

Project Director: Joanne Raymond Sponsor: Jonathan Taylor

Provide opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to perform community service in Waltham. By participating in community service projects, these individuals gain an important sense of purpose, pride and accomplishment.

Chaplains on the Way

Increasing Food Security for Waltham's Unhoused Residents

via the Chaplains on the Way Winter Breakfast Program

Amount Awarded: \$ 3,400

Project Director: Jill Gaulding Sponsor: Leslie Gildersleeve

Chaplains on the Way seeks funding to support the Winter Breakfast Program - which provides a safe, warm, and caring space for the unhoused each weekday morning. The program has operated successfully over the past four years (from 2020 through 2023) in close partnership with First Parish Waltham. Specifically, support is needed for the purchase of food, which is vital to address the increasing level of food insecurity and to maintain a hospitable gathering place.

Community Day Center

Case Manager's Helping Hands Fund 2023

Amount Awarded: \$ 2,200

Project Director: Carolyn Montallo Sponsor: Roberta Waltz Trudeau

The Case Manager's Helping Hand 2024 project directly supports the Community Day Center of Waltham's largest and most significant program—case management for unhoused individuals. This has been an ongoing project for several years now, thanks to the Jones Partnership Fund. Over the years, money has been distributed to clients for ID cards, driver's license renewals, rideshares to medical appointments, detox facilities and rehabilitation centers, and for move-in costs.

Food Link

Rescuing Food and Alleviating Hunger in Waltham

Amount Awarded: \$3,100

Project Director: Rachel Albert Sponsor: Donna VanderClock

Food Link distributed over 10,000 meals worth of rescued food to people facing food insecurity in Waltham in 2023. Funding from the Jones Partnership Fund will sustain this level of food distribution in 2024.

Food Link reaches populations especially vulnerable to food insecurity, including at-risk youth, people experiencing homelessness, and children.

Healthy Waltham

New Healthy Waltham Community Market

Amount Awarded: \$3,500

Project Director: Myriam Michel Sponsor: Muffy Young

Healthy Waltham boasts Waltham's largest pantry, providing a culturally responsive experience, including traditional ethnic foods and multilingual outreach. We also take smaller pantries under our umbrella; these are extremely small organizations that do not have the infrastructure or fundraising ability to maintain an independent pantry.

We are best known for our welcoming approach and low barriers to entry. We strive to offer food that families want to eat, as well as food in its natural state. Our offerings are produce-heavy, and unprocessed meat (vs. foods such as hot dogs). This is in concert with Healthy Waltham's mission.

Waltham Philharmonic Orchestra

Community Outreach Project

Amount Awarded: \$1300

Project Director: Haig Iskenderian

Sponsor: Marianne Cutter

The Waltham Philharmonic Orchestra's Community Outreach Program is an ongoing program that has three facets:

1. To provide free admission for students to WPO concerts so that they may experience and enjoy a variety of music from classical to pops to contemporary original compositions.
2. To support the orchestra's concert featuring a winner of the Student Concerto Competition.
3. To support free chamber music performances in the Waltham area, including one at the First Parish Church.

Waltham Open Studios

2024 Waltham Open Studios

Amount Awarded: \$1400

Project Director: Andrea Tishman

Sponsor: Joel Weddig

Open Studios provides an annual Fall weekend opportunity for artists to share their works and creative processes with the public. It is a time when art is uniquely accessible and enables people to experience art outside of museums or other cultural institutions. This exchange between artists and the public creates a vital sense of community here in Waltham.

Waltham Fields Community Farm

Outreach Market

Amount Awarded: \$1700

Project Director: Stacey Daley

Sponsor: Bill VanderClock

With the ease in Covid-19 restrictions, Waltham Fields hopes to return to disturbing high-quality produce to those in need from their farmstand stall - as was the case before the pandemic - while continuing their hybrid program to reach individuals who can't make it to the stall. The community we serve is multicultural and we will be making promotional and informational materials available in multiple languages.

Waltham Farmers Market

SNAP Match: Building Community through Healthy Food Access

Amount Awarded: \$3200

Project Director: Amy Meyers

Sponsor: Dan Taylor

The WFM links local producers and small farms to the Waltham population and matches SNAP and EBT beneficiaries' funds in order for these folks to afford more healthy and fresh products. The WFM also provides a welcoming space for people to gather and belong

Chesterbrook Community Foundation

Community Day

Amount Awarded: \$1200

Project Director: John Cassa

Sponsor: Pam Penton

This has been an ongoing project organized every year for the students of the Chesterbrook Learning Center in the Chesterbrook Housing Development. The event is completely free, not only to registered participants and their families but extends to the Chesterbrook Gardens community throughout, regardless of annual registration or participation.

Community Day is typically celebrated with free food, an inflatable bouncy house and ice cream truck and other large game activities.

African Cultural Services

Food Distribution and Outreach

Amount Awarded: \$2000

Projector Director: Juliet Najjumba

Sponsor: Susan Weddig

The Food Pantry consists of distributions to Africano families of food picked up from Healthy Waltham at their bi-monthly pantry. We supplement this with culturally sensitive foods that provide a “taste of home” such as matoke (African plantain), cassava, tilapia, ground nuts, and maize.

Performance opportunities at the church by our dancing or drumming groups are also possible (we performed last fall and are scheduled for April 2024 too).