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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Southborough Community Fund Distributes Over \$53,000 to Local Nonprofits & Town Agencies *Grants will aid Human Services, Arts & Culture, Environment, and Community Building Initiatives*

November 14, 2017- The Southborough Community Fund (SCF), a fund of the Foundation for MetroWest, recently hosted its fourth annual Grant Award Celebration at Pilgrim Congregational Church in Southborough, where they distributed \$53,590 to nine local nonprofit organizations and town agencies. The grants will support initiatives that address human services, arts and culture, environment, and community building needs. Since 2014, SCF has granted more than \$190,000 to organizations serving the Southborough community.

Karen Gadbois, member of the community board of the Southborough Community Fund, said “This is a well-deserved, diverse group of grantees and we are proud to support them this year. It’s an honor to help them pursue their missions for the benefit of the Southborough community.”

Art on the Trails Program Director Catherine Weber said, "Southborough Open Land Foundation is thrilled to receive a Southborough Community Fund grant for Art On the Trails 2018. This generous funding will broaden the impact of the program to wider audiences, so that all can enjoy art and poetry in harmony with nature at Elaine and Philip Beals Preserve in the coming Spring, Summer and Fall of 2018."

The 2017 Grantees are:

Assabet Valley Mastersingers: To support the ‘Choral Gems for Romantic Organ’ concert at Pilgrim Church in March 2018 (\$2,500)

Friends of the Southborough Council on Aging: To provide meals twice a month for seniors and their primary caregiver(s) (\$6,240)

Friends of the Southborough Youth Commission: (recipient of three SCF grants)

- To support the Southborough Youth and Family Services (SYFS) Camp Scholarship Program (\$10,000)
- To support an emergency fund that will be used to provide basic goods and/or services to Southborough residents who have demonstrated needs (\$10,000)
- To support SYFS’ multi-generational mentoring program called Project Friend (\$1,000)

Pilgrim Church – Messiah Community Chorus: To support the Messiah Community Chorus’ presentation of Handel’s Messiah, an annual tradition in Southborough (\$1,000)

Southborough Historical Society: To support the stabilization of its historical collections and to develop educational exhibits and materials for the community (\$10,000)

Southborough Library: To purchase laptops for the pilot of a Scratch Coding Club that will be open to students in grades 3-5 (\$3,000)

Southborough Open Land Foundation: To support the 2018 Art on the Trails program to be held at the Elaine and Philip Beals Preserve (\$4,100)

Southborough Stewardship Committee: To provide trailhead signage in Southborough Town Forest to increase visibility and mitigate hazards by removing safety concerns (\$750)

Thrive Support & Advocacy: To support the Extended Day program at Algonquin Regional High School for young adults ages 18-25 that addresses a gap in services for those living with autism spectrum disorder or other intellectual and developmental challenges (\$5,000)

About Southborough Community Fund:

Established in 2014 by local residents, the Southborough Community Fund (SCF) promotes a spirit of philanthropic giving to help enhance the quality of life for all Southborough residents. As a fund of the Foundation for MetroWest, the SCF is a source of funding to support community needs and opportunities in the areas of Family Support, Arts & Culture and the Environment, and provides ways for residents to make an immediate impact in their community. For more information, please visit:

www.foundationformetrowest.org/Southborough

About Foundation for MetroWest

Established in 1995, the Foundation for MetroWest is the only community foundation serving the 33 cities and towns in the region. We promote philanthropy in the region, help donors maximize the impact of their local giving, serve as a resource for local nonprofits and enhance the quality of life for all our residents. Since inception, the Foundation has granted \$14 million to charitable organizations and currently stewards more than \$18 million in charitable assets for current needs and future impact. To learn more, please visit www.foundationformetrowest.org or call 508.647.2260.

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