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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Fund for Wellesley Distributes \$30,000 to Local Nonprofits

Grants will aid Students, Youth and Community Building Initiatives

Wellesley, Massachusetts June 14, 2017: The Fund for Wellesley, an endowed fund of the Foundation for MetroWest, recently hosted its annual Grant Award Ceremony at Babson College's Sorensen Center where they distributed over \$30,000 to seven local nonprofit organizations in the areas of Community Building & Civic Engagement and Youth Development & Opportunity. To date, The Fund for Wellesley has granted more than \$230,000 to local nonprofit organizations serving the Wellesley community.

The Fund for Wellesley community board member Jamie Ebersole reflected on the role the Fund has played in the community since its establishment in 2008: *"The Fund for Wellesley is excited to continue its mission of providing access to Wellesley's resources for all residents and helping build community within the town. Our seven grant recipients highlight the diversity of nonprofit and governmental organizations working in town to improve our quality of life and meet the needs of the community."*

2017 Grantees:

WELLESLEY SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION- To support the development of an online Town Common Scholarship and Financial Aid Application.

WELLESLEY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT- To support adding Texthelp's Browsealoud service—which helps make websites more accessible with easy speech, reading, and translation tools—to the Town's website.

WELLESLEY RECREATION DEPARTMENT- To support the Town's first-ever Family Campout, at which families can come together to enjoy an eco-friendly evening of games, a camp fire, and a variety of educational experiences.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS MASSACHUSETTS- To support Wellesley High School's Unified Champion School track program, bringing students with and without intellectual/developmental disabilities together.

WELLESLEY CHORAL SOCIETY- To enhance the social engagement of seniors through attendance at and participation in the Society's concerts (funded through the Al Robinson Fund for the Arts).

OUT METROWEST- To support the Wellesley meetings of the Umbrella program, which provide a safe space for teens to connect with transgender and gender non-conforming peers and adult mentors.

WELLESLEY FRIENDLY AID- To support Wellesley Connects, an all-volunteer college mentoring program, in its second year at Wellesley High School.

About The Fund for Wellesley- The Fund for Wellesley, an endowed fund of the Foundation for MetroWest, serves as a permanent source of funding to foster innovation and collaboration in support of community needs and opportunities. The mission of The Fund for Wellesley is to promote the common good and to benefit all residents of the town. For more information, visit thefundforwellesley.org.

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. The Foundation promotes philanthropy in the region, helps donors maximize the impact of their local giving, serves as a resource for local nonprofits and enhances the quality of life for all our residents. The Foundation has granted over \$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 foundationformetrowest.org.

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