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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Teen Philanthropists Grant more than \$85,000 to Local Nonprofits

June 8, 2016 (Natick, MA) — The Foundation for MetroWest announced today that students from across the MetroWest region have distributed \$87,000 in grants to area youth-serving nonprofits as part of the Foundation's Youth in Philanthropy program during the 2015-2016 school year.

As one of the oldest and largest programs of its kind, the Foundation's Youth in Philanthropy program teaches teens to become civic experts and leaders through studying the philanthropic process and awarding grants to initiatives that enrich the lives of MetroWest youth. The experiences teens gain are as valuable as the grants they make. Youth in Philanthropy participants acquire powerful leadership and life skills as they learn first hand what it takes to work as a team, present convincing arguments, and understand a budget. Since 1997, the Foundation's Youth in Philanthropy program has given more than \$1,000,000 in grants to hundreds of nonprofits while engaging over 1,100 youth. The Foundation currently offers 14 programs year-round, which will engage more than 250 middle and high school students in 2016.

"Youth in Philanthropy is a proven youth development leadership program," said Judith G. Salerno, Executive Director of the Foundation for MetroWest. "Our innovative program encourages young people to look beyond themselves and see how they can make an impact in their own community."

Participating students from Concord Academy, Concord-Carlisle High School, The Fenn School, Middlesex School, and Nashoba Brooks School in addition to students participating in community-based programs in Sudbury, Natick and Wellesley reviewed grant proposals, conducted site visits, and made final decisions on grant distributions. The following is a breakdown of grant recipients chosen by each program:

Concord Academy – Parmenter (\$4,000), Rise Above Foundation (\$4,000), and A Place to Turn (\$2,000)

Concord-Carlisle High School – Doc Wayne Youth Services (\$4,325) and United Way of Tri-County's Ready to Read program (\$3,675)

The Fenn School – The Food Project (\$3,200), Resiliency for Life (\$2,400), More Than Words (\$2,400) and MinuteMan Arc (\$1,000)

Middlesex School – Waypoint Adventure (\$5,000), Families for Depression Awareness (\$3,000) and The Discovery Museums (\$1,500)

Nashoba Brooks School – English at Large (\$4,500) and A Place to Turn (\$1,500)

Youth in Philanthropy, Natick– Hope and Comfort (\$5,000) and Read to a Child (\$5,000)

Youth in Philanthropy, Sudbury – Friends of Resiliency for Life (\$5,000), Rediscovery Inc. (\$5,000), Waltham Fields Community Farm (\$4,000), Open Table (\$3,500), Save A Dog (\$1,500) and Care Dimensions (\$1,000)

Youth in Philanthropy, Wellesley – Babson College Office of Faith and Service (\$3,000), Wildflower Camp Foundation (\$3,000), Lovelane Special Needs Horseback Riding Program (\$2,000) and Plugged in Teen Band Program (\$1,000)

Summer Institute for Youth Leadership Session #1 – Mass Audubon’s Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary (\$2,500)

Summer Institute for Youth Leadership Session #2 – Plugged in Teen Band Program (\$2,500)

Interested in Getting Involved?

Our Summer Institute for Youth Leadership is a camp-style program designed for middle and high school students looking to make an impact in their community while developing their leadership skills. We also will be offering our semester-long Youth in Philanthropy program this fall in Natick and Sudbury, available free of charge to high school students from across MetroWest. **Both programs are currently accepting applications.** Learn more by visiting our website at: www.foundationformetrowest.org/SUMMER

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 \$11.6 million to charitable organizations and currently stewards more than \$16 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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