



TOWN OF WELLESLEY
525 Washington Street
Wellesley, MA 02482
781-431-1019



COMMUNITY FUND FOR WELLESLEY
3 Eliot Street
Natick, MA 01760
508-647-2260



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fifth Round Grants from the Wellesley COVID-19 Relief Fund Total \$5,360

May 28, 2020 (Wellesley, MA) – In a fifth round of grant funding, the Wellesley COVID-19 Relief Fund is awarding \$5,360 to local non-profits and Town departments to fund a voter education program and to purchase equipment needed to produce reusable personal protection equipment (PPE) for local hospitals and frontline workers in Wellesley.

These most recent grants bring the total amount of money awarded by the Relief Fund to nearly \$55,000 in only five weeks.

The Wellesley COVID-19 Relief Fund is a partnership between The Community Fund for Wellesley, an endowed fund of the Foundation for MetroWest, a tax exempt 501(c)3 organization, and the Wellesley Board of Selectmen, that addresses unmet needs in our community resulting from the Coronavirus crisis. Grant proposals are reviewed by the members of the COVID-19 Relief Fund Committee which is comprised of community members, elected officials and staff from the Town of Wellesley, and are awarded to local non-profits and Town departments on a rapid and rolling basis.

- **Educating voters:** The Wellesley League of Women Voters is receiving a grant to reprint voter information yard signs to promote the new date, time and location of the upcoming Wellesley Local Elections. The original election date of Tuesday, March 17 was changed due to the Coronavirus crisis. In-person voting for the rescheduled elections will take place on Saturday, June 13, 2020 from 8 a.m. to noon at the Babson College Recreation and Athletic Center. Residents may also request a ballot by mail to vote safely from home.
- **Printing reusable personal protection equipment (PPE) to keep frontline workers safe:** A grant administered by the Wellesley Youth Commission will fund the purchase of two 3D printers and a two-and-a-half month supply of filament for a student-led, three-person team producing critical N95 masks and face shields that will be donated to Wellesley hospitals and frontline workers. In just over two months, the 3D printers can produce 11,000 pieces of PPE. The lifespan of the printers is 5-10 years. When the Coronavirus crisis has passed and PPE is readily available again, the printers will be used for Youth Commission projects.

The PPE printing project was conceived by Wellesley High School junior Seth Tobin, with assistance from Ben Lublin and Devon Barker. For Tobin, the project reflects his faith and personal values of Tikkun Olam (repairing the world) and community.

“When this pandemic hit, Ben, Devon, and I knew that we needed to step up and help because the challenges we face are only going to be solved if we work together as one community. Producing

reusable personal protection equipment (PPE) including N95 masks, face shields, and ear protectors for use in Wellesley has allowed us to incorporate these principles. We are incredibly thankful for the overwhelming amount of support we have received,” he said.

Up-to-date information on the COVID-19 Relief Fund and photos of the grant recipients and programs are regularly shared on the [Town of Wellesley website](#) and on the Community Fund for Wellesley’s Facebook page [@CFFWellesley](#).

Show Your Support

To donate to the Wellesley COVID-19 Relief Fund or learn more, please visit: www.CFFW-COVID.org

Donations are accepted electronically using the link above or by sending checks made out to the [Foundation for MetroWest](#); please specify in the memo line ‘Wellesley COVID-19 Relief Fund’ and mail to:

Community Fund for Wellesley
c/o Foundation for MetroWest
3 Eliot Street
Natick, MA 01760

About the Community Fund for Wellesley

The mission of the Community Fund for Wellesley is to promote the common good and to benefit all residents of our Town. The Fund serves as a permanent source of funding to foster innovation and collaboration in support of community needs and opportunities. The Community Fund for Wellesley was established in 2008 in celebration of Wellesley’s 125th birthday. A dedicated group of Town residents had a vision to create a fund that would exist to benefit members of the Wellesley community for generations to come. In the past 11 years, the Fund has made grants of over \$400,000 to more than 30 local non-profits and Town of Wellesley departments.

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