

# ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS PETER & ELIZABETH TOWER FOUNDATION

2021



Dear Friend,

2021 is another year that will go down in history books. The continued resilience of our grantee partners, staff, and partner organizations enabled so many families to connect with the services and support they need. The ability to reframe goals, shift existing thought-patterns and remain nimble in the face of adversity was pivotal to our shared success.

Discovering new ways to connect with grantees, the board, and each other during this time was of the utmost importance. We discovered hybrid meeting models that took us one step closer to the day when we're able to gather in person, full-time.

We also continued to assess the impact the pandemic has had on communities and streamlined funding to nonprofits that support young people dealing with mental health issues. Making the decision to simplify the grantee application process allowed us to expand the applicant pool and connect with organizations that might not have first appeared to fit into our existing funding priorities. We also learned more about important smaller nonprofits we would not have explored in previous years.

Our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) evolved as our board and staff made a commitment to focus on many elements fundamental to DEI. We began to look at what this meant individually, as well as foundationally, and how we could best apply what we learned to our four areas of interest: Intellectual Disabilities, Learning Disabilities, Mental Health, and Substance Use Disorders.

The Foundation's areas of interest do not discriminate. However, this is not true for many of the systems working with young people and their families to address these issues. We have a deeper understanding of existing inequities, especially for BIPOC children, young adults, and their families when it comes to seeking services and support in our communities.

We welcomed Peter Byrnes and Mollie Doyle, the two newest members of the Board of Trustees and the grandchildren of Peter and Elizabeth Tower. This next generation will bring fresh perspectives while maintaining a commitment to our grant partners.

The shifting and pivoting throughout 2021 would not have been possible without the support and hard work of our board, staff, advisory team, grant partners, and the communities we serve.

We look with confidence and resolve toward the future, helping to shape and improve our communities and their residents.



Tracy A. Sawicki Executive Director



Elizabeth C. Tower (1920–2013), *Red Display*, 1979 Oil on canvas, 40<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" x 36<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>"; Gift of Tom and Penny Flickinger, 1989

#### FEATURED ARTWORK

As a prolific painter, Elizabeth C. Tower loved everything about art—exploring it, talking about it, and spending time with those who make it. Her artwork was exhibited frequently throughout the 1960s and 1970s but rarely available commercially. Her work, displayed above and on the cover, is also featured on the foundation's website at <u>TheTowerFoundation.org</u>.

## WHAT'S WITHIN

This year's Annual Highlights feature the evolution of our grant partners and how they continued to provide valuable resources to the communities they serve despite an ongoing pandemic.

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As grantmaker, partner, and advocate, the Tower Foundation strengthens organizations and works to change systems to improve the lives of young people with learning disabilities, mental illness, substance use disorders, and intellectual disabilities.

# REPLACING THE "WAIT TO FAIL" PARADIGM WITH EARLY SCREENING

Researchers believe that early intervention is pivotal in assessing and diagnosing children who may have a learning disability. The EarlyBird program makes it possible for educators to diagnose dyslexia and other reading disorders in preschool and kindergarten through a fun, interactive computer game.

EarlyBird is backed by scientific research and is quickly turning into a game-changing tool for educators in Essex County.

EarlyBird was created to change the learning trajectory of children nationwide by implementing a proactive, preventive approach instead of a reactive response to struggling readers. It was developed and scientifically validated at Boston Children's Hospital in partnership with faculty at the Florida Center for Reading Research. EarlyBird integrates key literacy milestones shown to be most predictive of later reading success.

"Tower has been an instrumental funder from the beginning because of their knowledge of children with learning disabilities and the importance of early screening," said Carla E. Small, CEO and co-founder, EarlyBird Education. "They knew how helpful a tool like this could be for educators and continued to support us every step of the way."

EarlyBird is now in five school districts in Essex County thanks to the Tower Foundation's relationship with the Essex County Learning Community.

"Tower was a very early funder of the science to develop the screener in the form of a game," said Jane Feinberg, Essex County Learning Community Director. "They supported the bench science early on, before the learning community got it into classrooms."

EarlyBird decreases the barriers to accessing a screening tool, and is easy for educators to manage during the school day, while also fun for students to use. The program also provides support for students who are diagnosed with dyslexia or another reading disorder. Videos and activities are available for teachers to incorporate into their lesson plans after a child has been assessed.

EarlyBird is now used in 17 states and has helped more than 12,000 kids to date across the country.



## COMMUNITY CHANGE GRANTS REMOVING POLICE FROM MENTAL HEALTH

Partnership for the Public Good (PPG) is a community-based think tank created to support nonprofit partners and community groups by advancing policy issues, policy development, and promoting community initiatives. PPG works alongside 325 partners, including community groups and nonprofits that serve Erie and Niagara Counties.

In 2021, PPG, healthcare agencies, service providers, parent associations, and public advocacy groups identified a growing need to assist youth experiencing mental health and substance use disorders ending up in the justice system. Arrest data from Buffalo revealed that Black children are disproportionately affected by substance use arrests, and PPG wanted to help find a way to handle the situation.

Joining forces with community partners, PPG started a coalition to change the trajectory of youth dealing with mental health and substance use disorders called *Decriminalizing Behavioral Health: A Western New York Coalition to Separate Mental Health and Substance Use Response from The Punitive Justice System.* 

"The goal is reversing the trend of young people with mental health challenges and substance use issues entering the criminal justice system and ending up with increased contacts with police and increased rates of arrests," said Andrea Ó Súilleabháin, executive director, Partnership for the Public Good. "The only way to effectively change these outcomes is through systems change, policy change, and collaboration."

PPG is working toward systematic changes to remove police from situations better served by mental health professionals and civilian response models while addressing the root causes of substance use and behavioral health issues affecting at-risk young adults.

### CASE STUDY AMPLIFYING THE VOICES OF YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH THE ADVISORY TEAM

The Tower Foundation leverages technology to bring together young people from different communities and funding areas to participate in Tower's Advisory Team.

In 2021 the Advisory Team grew to 10 members, adding a mix of diverse voices. All members have roots in Western New York and Eastern Massachusetts, and their lived experiences include learning and intellectual disabilities, addiction recovery, and mental health challenges. They review and provide feedback on grant applications, participate in philanthropy and grantmaking team-building activities, and take on leadership roles. The feedback is invaluable to organizations because it comes from the perspective of the individuals they aim to serve.

## COMMUNITY CHANGE GRANTS CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH CAMPAIGN

The Tower Foundation awarded a community change grant to the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (MSPCC) on behalf of the Children's Mental Health Campaign. The Children's Mental Health Campaign (CMHC) works to ensure that all children in Massachusetts have access to resources to prevent, diagnose, and treat mental health issues in an effective and compassionate way. The CMHC also conducts solution-oriented research and advocates for policy change.

CMHC's latest research found that children experiencing a mental health crisis were being held in hospitals for a long time due to a lack of adequate psychiatric staff. This led CMHC to create a <u>Pediatric Behavioral Health Urgent Care report</u> that included alternative solutions for kids facing mental health emergencies.

"A silver lining in the very dark cloud that was COVID-19 was the openness to innovation," said Nancy Allen Scannell, director of external affairs at MSPCC. "Because of the pandemic and a clamping down of access to behavioral health for kids, there was a need for creative solutions to help as soon as possible, and we were there to help."

The recommendations included virtual therapies as part of mobile crisis intervention teams and developing new ways to access care in a timely and appropriate manner in locations like behavioral health urgent care settings. The campaign also created a coalition of experts that advocated for a systemwide mental health response shift. Many of the recommendations are being adopted and implemented by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Services including behavioral health urgent care centers for kids with intellectual and developmental disabilities are starting to roll out now, with an opportunity for providers to designate themselves as behavioral health urgent care centers.

## COVID RESPONSE GRANT BRIDGING THE MENTAL HEALTH GAP ON BEHALF OF IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

Bridges from Borders (BFB) is a nonprofit startup founded by Yan Liu in July 2020, during the heart of the COVID-19 pandemic. BFB is a non-traditional mental health service provider serving the Asian immigrant community in Buffalo, New York. Its mission is to provide mental health support in a culturally appropriate way to teenage immigrants, by helping them bridge the gap between their native cultures and American culture. BFB provides advocacy, education, and counseling services.

Yan remembers how she felt when she arrived in America from Shanghai, China, nearly four years ago. It wasn't just the language barrier she had to get used to. She also remembers having to acclimate to a brand-new system of learning how things worked.

For many immigrants, transitioning to a new place is difficult, and the support is minimal. Yan set out to create a safe place where all are welcome and encouraged. Despite the pandemic, BFB opened its doors from the start, knowing the community needed the services. After opening, BFB looked for funding to help support its mission. They applied for and were awarded a Tower Foundation COVID-19 Response Grant. Without the support of Tower, Yan says she isn't sure if BFB could have survived the first year.

"I never had this kind of support. Tower trusted that we would make good use of the money and use it to support our community. I don't know how they knew, but they did," said Yan Liu, founder, and president of BFB. "Tower also took it a step further by sponsoring us in the Get Ready Program, which prepared me to better manage Bridges from Borders."



## COVID RESPONSE GRANT HELPING INDIVIDUALS BY SUPPORTING FAMILIES

Greater Lynn Senior Services (GLSS), a nonprofit serving individuals ages 60+ and other adults living with disabilities, has provided services in Lynn, Lynnfield, Nahant, Saugus, and Swampscott, Massachusetts for more than 40 years.

More than 300 staff members work alongside volunteers, providing hands-on support in the homes of 4,000 individuals every day.

They deliver meals, provide transportation to medical appointments, assist with household chores, and more. GLSS support services provide recipients with the ability to live independently and thrive.

Through its role in the Greater North Shore Link, a collaboration of community agencies, GLSS began providing services to children as young as three, creating more livable communities for local residents of all ages. The initiative began in 2018, and there are already about 1,000 individuals participating in the program each year.

"Whether someone has mobility issues, severe vision impairment, a debilitating chronic disease, or behavioral health issues, many of the challenges they face and the resources they need are similar—whether they are age three or 73," said Valerie Parker Callahan, co-chief executive officer of GLSS.

Often, the support involves not only an individual, but an entire family. GLSS' staff of community partner coordinators (CPCs) may be brought in to assist a school-aged child with autism or to help a parent get a child with complex health needs to the frequent medical appointments. The child may be living in a single-parent household with other siblings, and the family may be experiencing struggles with food, housing, language barriers, domestic violence, and more.

"Our CPCs not only advocate on behalf of the mother in developing an individualized education plan for a special needs child, but also help her negotiate with the landlord, ensure the family can access local food pantries, and create a budget to stretch limited dollars further," said Parker Callahan. "Some of the children and adults in the program have very complex health needs, so helping the family get home medical equipment is also often a component of what we do."

Thanks to the support of the Tower Foundation, GLSS hired a full-time, licensed mental health counselor. She's been able to help with intake as new individuals come on board the program, debriefing with the CPCs and ensuring that none of the individual's or their family's needs fall through the cracks.

In autumn 2022, the GLSS mental health counselor will begin offering a support group for parents of children with complex needs in the Lynn Public Schools. It's something that's been needed and wanted for a long time, but something the organization did not previously have the resources to offer.

"We hope this parental support group will introduce us to new families who may need our help but aren't aware of the supports the program can offer," said Parker Callahan. "In that way, funding from the Tower Foundation provided us with a big leap forward."



nage courtesy of Andrea Wenglowsky

#### CASE STUDY

### EMPOWERING YOUTH THROUGH MUSIC

On Buffalo's West Side stands Buffalo String Works (BSW), an after-school program teaching children from refugee families how to play the violin. The organization's mission is to teach kids about music while also cultivating a positive space that supports student development, confidence, and commitment.

Kids ages six to 18 attend three days a week after school for two hours a day. BSW recently extended its hours to better serve students, allowing them a safe space to play videos games, hang out, and relax on Saturdays. They call this 'Saturday café.'

All participants are students of color and participate in the program at no cost. With median family incomes of program participants hovering around \$22,000, 99% couldn't otherwise afford an after-school program like this.

"Music education is the vehicle, but the goal is much more than developing musical skills. It's about nurturing the whole student, developing all parts of them, and helping them become leaders," said Yuki Numata Resnick, executive director, and co-founder of BSW.

The start of the pandemic proved how important BSW was for students. Throughout the location's closure, BSW supported 85 students attending classes via Zoom three days a week with almost perfect attendance.

With the help of the Tower Foundation, BSW hired a second community health worker to assist with the student's emotional and mental health needs. The community health workers speak multiple languages to ensure they can effectively communicate with families from different backgrounds, and if they can't speak the language, a translation service is provided.

Soon, BSW plans to open additional sites to serve more students across Buffalo.

Policy papers have led to significant advocacy efforts on mental health issues, informing legislation in local communities across the nation.

## THINK BIGGER DO GOOD POLICY SERIES

With a goal of improving the lives of people living with mental illness, the <u>Think Bigger Do Good Policy</u> <u>series</u> addresses current behavioral health policy issues through solution-oriented papers. The series brings together national experts to address the most pressing policy issues affecting mental health.

The series has issued 26 papers. Each is intended to inform and educate policymakers and their staff by considering issues at the local, state, and federal levels. The papers provide tangible recommendations on how to address mental health challenges that exist within communities.

"We have a unique opportunity to be this non-partisan voice in behavioral health," said Alyson Ferguson, chief operating officer at the Scattergood Foundation, one of the four foundations that fund the series. "We can be an objective, trusted resource disseminating solutions to organizations."

One recent policy paper, <u>New Opportunities to Improve Mental</u> <u>Health Crisis Systems</u>, featured one solution—the soon-to-beimplemented 988 emergency number. Individuals can soon dial this number if they experience a mental health crisis. When individuals call the number, they will be linked with services using real-time tracking. A mobile crisis team including a licensed therapist and a non-clinician (e.g., psychiatric technician or peer specialist) will be dispatched, rather than law enforcement officers who arrive when someone dials 911. This paper contributed to national legislation for the implementation of the emergency number 988.

In July 2020, Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairperson Ajit Pai announced a nationwide three-digit number that would effectively establish 988 as the '911' for mental health emergencies. Under Pai's guidance, the FCC adopted rules requiring all phone service carriers to direct 988 calls by July 16, 2022, to the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

Think Bigger Do Good recently released <u>an additional paper on</u> <u>the 988 emergency number</u>, which provides recommendations on how communities can implement the number and use it to enhance local mental health programs. In 2021, the Think Bigger Do Good series built on the work of the 988 paper by bringing together leading experts to formulate a comprehensive crisis response system that local communities can adopt as the focus of the next paper.

The Tower Foundation—with its Think Bigger Do Good partners, the Thomas Scattergood Foundation, Peg's Foundation, and the Patrick P. Lee Foundation—enlists policy experts who can clearly communicate and report on the most crucial mental health topics to help create change at all levels of government.

## WEAVING DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION INTO THE FABRIC OF THE TOWER FOUNDATION

In 2021, we intentionally sought to better understand the intersectionality of race, disabilities, and the role they play in young peoples' lives. We know that people do not live single-issue lives, and that some young people face more challenges than others due to systemic inequalities that have long existed.

At the Tower Foundation, we believe that young people with intellectual disabilities, learning disabilities, mental illness, and substance use disorders should have the chance to achieve their goals, regardless of their race, ethnicity, family background or the challenges they face.

We are working to support grantee organizations that help individuals live fruitful lives through programming tailored specifically for them, delivered in their communities.

The Board of Trustees adopted five diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) goals to advance our vision of achieving equitable communities where all young people are valued, included, and accepted for who they are.

"We know that significant disparities exist across our focus areas. Adopting DEI goals is important to our Foundation because it supports our decision-making as we work toward increasing equity in the communities we serve," said Tracy Sawicki, executive director of The Tower Foundation.

We are committed to our ongoing DEI journey and our goals serve as a roadmap to ensure equity is a priority in all that we do.

## Tower Foundation's diversity, equity, and inclusion goals

- We conduct our grantmaking with an equity perspective. Paying attention to systemic inequities that intersect with our four focus areas, makes us a more intentional and just funder.
- We advocate for equitable systems. We are explicit about advancing systemic equity for the populations we focus on, and we examine and experiment with ways to improve unjust systems.
- We closely resemble the communities that we fund. Our staff and board, and our culture of belonging, show that we value diverse voices.
- We meaningfully engage communities in our work. The Foundation engages and co-creates with the community in convenings, feedback, and decision making.
- 5. We prioritize learning about diversity, inclusion, and equity and apply what we learn. We are committed to learning and growing at the individual, interpersonal, organizational, and systemic levels to promote a culture of belonging, internally and externally.

### REFLECTIONS ON OUR DEI JOURNEY

"We know that significant disparities exist across our focus areas. Adopting DEI goals is important to our Foundation because it supports our decisionmaking as we work toward increasing equity in the communities we serve."

- Tracy Sawicki, executive director

"As part of our equity process, we understand that to have meaningful impact we need to make room at our table, including in our work with grant partners and the people we want to impact through our funding." – Cindy Doyle, trustee

"DEI work truly takes a great deal of time and effort, but is necessary, especially for mature organizations like ours. It is my wish that the learning and growing will continue to shape our approach for a long time to come."

– Jim Weiss, trustee

"We're on a course to correct some past inequities in our grantmaking. Now our work on understanding DEI is also making us think about the make-up of our board, the outreach of our staff, and the very nature of our grantmaking."

– Dave Welbourn, trustee

The Tower Foundation envisions equitable communities where all young people are included, accepted, and valued; and are confident in themselves.

## GRANTS AWARDED

As a grantmaker and partner, the Tower Foundation works to strengthen organizations who are working to systematically improve the lives of young people with learning disabilities, mental illness, substance use disorders, and intellectual disabilities.

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### STRENGTHENING PARTNER CAPACITY

#### MASSACHUSETTS

Barnstable, Dukes, Essex & Nantucket Counties Capacity Building Initiatives	\$69,862
<b>Beverly Children's Learning Center, Inc.</b> Upgrade HVAC System to provide cleaner air for students and staff	\$12,115
Brookline Community Mental Health Center, Inc. Building a Stronger Data System to Advance BRYT	\$20,000
Express Yourself, Inc. Relaunch website/communication to families	\$24,960
Institute for Nonprofit Practice INP — Western New York (WNY) expansion	\$700,000
Institute for Nonprofit Practice	\$500,000
Kennedy-Donovan Center, Inc. KDC's Cape Cod Family Support and Training Center	\$25,000
Northshore Education Consortium Mental Health Professional Development: Understanding the impact of stress & trauma on learning	\$18,675
The McLean Hospital Corporation Polishing Our Parenting Skills: Guidance Programming for Parents of Youth Therapeutic Classrooms	\$14,622
NEW YORK	
Aspire of Western New York, Inc. Aspire Time, Attendance, and Scheduling Transformation	\$30,000
<b>BestSelf Behavioral Health, Inc.</b> BestSelf Behavioral Health–Renaissance Addiction Services Merger	\$225,000
Bornhava, the Specialized Early Childhood Center of WNY, Inc.	\$30,000

Updating Systems to Increase Organizational Capacity

Cantalician Center For Learning Merger of Cantalician Center for Learning	\$100,000
and Learning Disabilities Association of WNY Compeer West, Inc.	\$18,285

Completion of Building Upgrades

Developmental Disabilities Alliance of Western New York DDAWNY Transportation Collaborative	\$22,950
<b>Empower</b> From Farmhouse to Service Center: Creating a New Home for Key Services and Supports	\$25,000
Erie and Niagara Counties Capacity Building Initiatives	\$79,750
Hillside Children's Center Family Check-Up and Everyday Parenting Training	\$22,680
Home of My Own of WNY, Inc. Home of My Own Wellness Program	\$9,384
Housing Options Made Easy, Inc. Respite Center — Youth Needs	\$7,768
National Alliance on Mental Illness Buffalo & Erie County Salesforce Enhancement (Two Phase)	\$36,000
<b>New View Alliance</b> Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (DEIJ) Strategic Initiatives	\$40,000
NY Funders Alliance Western New York NonProfit Support Group	\$77,000
Our Lady of Victory Homes of Charity OLV Neurodiversity Behavioral Clinic	\$50,000
<b>People Inc.</b> Pilot — Trauma Informed Care Learning Collaborative	\$16,500
Polish Community Center of Buffalo, Inc. Server, Third Floor Utilization, and Security Infrastructure Upgrade	\$30,000
Sensational Fun, Inc. iLs (Integrated Listening Systems) Equipment	\$4,261
Suburban Adult Services, Inc. Pathway to Independence	\$36,250
Suicide Prevention and Crisis Service, Inc. Crisis Services' Data-Driven Outcomes Dashboard	\$40,000
<b>The Prevention Council of Erie County, Inc.</b> Governance Training — Capacity Building	\$5,000
The Service Collaborative of WNY, Inc. Mental Health Consultant	\$25,000
Young Audiences of Western New York Fighting Systems of Inequity: Young Audiences	\$25,600

Teaching Artist Professional Development Opportunities

### PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

#### MASSACHUSETTS

Behavioral Health Innovators, Inc.	\$101,000
(Positive Alternative to School Suspension)	
Cape Cod Community College Educational Foundation Increasing Substance Abuse and Mental Health Awareness	\$32,725
Eliot Community Human Services Expanding The NAN Project's Partnership with Lawrence Public Schools	\$50,000
Fairwinds – Nantucket's Counseling Center, Inc. No-Gap Project	\$246,072
Massachusetts Audubon Society, Inc. Building Capacity for Increasing Access to Nature through Vocational Internships for Young People with Intellectual and Learning Disabilities	\$67,577
Massachusetts General Hospital The Welcoming Table	\$39,000
<b>Raw Art Works, Inc.</b> Raw Art Works and Lynn Community Health Center: Removing barriers to access to mental health support for underserved youth and their families	\$55,000
<b>The Island Autism Group, Inc.</b> Expansion of transition age programming at Island Autism	\$108,000
NEW YORK	
ACCESS OF WNY, Inc. High Fidelity Wraparound Program	\$70,500
Buffalo Media Resources, Inc. Digital Art & Technology Access	\$30,000
<b>Buffalo String Works</b> Prioritizing Mental Health Support through Community Health Workers	\$83,976
Erie County Medical Center Corporation Intensive Outpatient Program and Help Center Expansion	\$258,118
<b>Eye to Eye, Inc.</b> Mentoring and Professional Learning in Support of Students Who Learn Differently	\$75,000

Heritage Christian Services Transition Workshops for Youth with Disabilities and other Employment Barriers	\$18,000
Institute for Autism Research at Canisius College summerMAXyc in Niagara County	\$50,000
Learning Disabilities Association of Western New York LEAD716 Program Coordinator	\$55,440
Mental Health Advocates of WNY Youth Peer Advocates Program Director	\$80,000
Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center Recovery Express	\$43,000
<b>People Against Trafficking Humans, Inc.</b> Medical and Behavioral Health Clinic at the PATH Enrichment Center	\$80,000
Tapestry Charter SchoolDevelopment of Specialized Classroomto Meet the Needs of Exceptional Students	\$50,000

## COMMUNITY CHANGE

#### MASSACHUSETTS

Center for Public Representation The Rosie D. Preservation Project	\$459,540
<b>City of Gloucester Health Department</b> Cape Ann/North Shore Youth Lead Mental Health Wellness Initiative 2021-2022	\$150,000
Massachusetts Advocates for Children Lawrence Inclusion Initiative	\$300,000
Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Continuation Request: Behavioral Health Urgent Care for Children with ASD/IDD	\$150,000
0	

#### NEW YORK

Behavioral and Mental Health (BAMH) Consortium	\$199,980
Behavioral and Mental/Medical Health	
Consortium Continuation	
Partnership for the Public Good	\$200,000

Decriminalizing Behavioral Health: A WNY Coalition to Separate Mental Health and Substance Use Response from the Punitive Justice System

Px21 Px21 Expanded Environmental Prevention and System Support

## REGIONAL COVID RESPONSE FUNDS

MASSACHUSETTS

Essex County Community Foundation	\$150,000
The Cape Cod Foundation COVID-19 Regional Response	\$100,000
NEW YORK	
Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo WNY COVID-19 Community Response Fund	\$100,000

### TOWER COVID RESPONSE FUNDS

#### MASSACHUSETTS

\$194,000

Aspire Developmental Services Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000
Blueskies Wellness, Inc. – Methuen COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000
Brookline Community Mental Health Center, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$20,000
Building Audacity COVID-19 Response Grant	\$20,000
Calmer Choice COVID-19 Response Grant	\$7,500
Cape Cod Challenger Club COVID-19 Response Grant	\$5,000
Cape Cod Children's Place COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000
Cape Cod Toy Library, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000
Center for Public Representation COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000
Centerboard, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000
<b>Citizens Inn, Inc.</b> COVID-19 Response Grant	\$5,000
Eliot Community Human Services	\$10,000
Fairwinds — Nantucket's Counseling Center, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$20,000
Family & Children's Service of Greater Lynn COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000
Gosnold, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$20,000
Greater Lynn Senior Services COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000
Healing Abuse Working for Change COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000
Health Imperatives, Inc. — Hyannis COVID-19 Response Grant	\$20,000

Kennedy-Donovan Center, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000	Bridges From Borders, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$20,000
Latham Centers COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000	Buffalo Center for Arts and Technology COVID-19 Response Grant	\$5,000
Lynn Shelter Association COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000	Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000
Martha's Vineyard Community Services, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$20,000	Cantalician Center for Learning, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$5,000
Melmark New England COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000	Cazenovia Recovery Systems, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000
Merrimack Valley YMCA COVID-19 Response Grant	\$7,500	<b>City Year Buffalo</b> COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000
Moving Forward Incorporated COVID-19 Response Grant	\$7,500	Cradle Beach, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$20,000
North Shore Community Health, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000	Danceability, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$5,000
Northeast Arc, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000	Erie County Restorative Justice Coalition, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$7,500
Pathways For Children, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$5,000	Every Person Influences Children COVID-19 Response Grant	\$5,000
Professional Center for Child Development COVID-19 Response Grant	\$5,000	Gateway — Longview, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000
Roca, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$20,000	Gay & Lesbian Youth Services of Western New York, Inc.	\$15,000
Self Esteem Boston Educational Institute, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000	COVID-19 Response Grant Gerard Place Housing Development Fund Company	\$5,000
Straight Ahead Ministries COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000	COVID-19 Response Grant GiGi's Playhouse Buffalo	\$10,000
The Merrimack Valley Project, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000	COVID-19 Response Grant Heritage Christian Services	\$10,000
The Pettengill House, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$5,000	COVID-19 Response Grant Homespace Corp.	\$15,000
<b>UTEC, Inc.</b> COVID-19 Response Grant	\$30,000	COVID-19 Response Grant Mental Health Advocates of WNY	\$10,000
NEW YORK		COVID-19 Response Grant National Alliance on Mental Illness	\$10,000
Autism Services, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000	Buffalo & Erie County COVID-19 Response Grant	
Back To Basics Outreach Ministries, Inc.	\$20,000	Our Lady of Victory Homes of Charity COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000
COVID-19 Response Grant		Peace of the City, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$20,000

People Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000
Save The Michaels Of The World, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000
Sensational Fun, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000
SABAH (Spirited Athletes Bold at Heart) COVID-19 Response Grant	\$7,500
Suicide Prevention and Crisis Service, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000
The Osborne Association, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000
The Prevention Council of Erie County, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$15,000
Western New York Independent Living, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$10,000
OTHER	
Vista Life Innovations, Inc. Ventures Business Services: A Student-Member Vocational Training Program	\$10,000
Vista Life Innovations, Inc. COVID-19 Response Grant	\$7,500

**Trustee Discretionary Grants** 

### THE TOWER FOUNDATION

The Tower Foundation is guided by a dedicated team and supportive Board of Trustees. Our work is based in Western New York and Eastern Massachusetts, areas where the Tower family lived and raised their children.

STAFF

Tracy A. Sawicki

Executive Director

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John Byrnes

Mollie Byrnes

John Blair

Donald W. Matteson Chief Program Officer

Charles E. Colston, Jr. *Program Officer* 

Megan T. MacDavey Program Officer

\$510,000

Nicholas G. Randell Program Officer

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