Generous Grants Awarded to KDC

Since our last newsletter, we received a number of grants to further enhance our programs and services. The support of community foundations and businesses enables us to grow our existing programs and build new services that reach more people in need.

Longtime KDC supporter, Mansfield Bank Charitable Foundation provided a grant of $2,500 to purchase equipment for our Communication Project for adults with developmental disabilities. A $4,000 grant was received from Community Partners for Health (CHNA 6) to fund Family Connections, an evening support group for families of children with developmental disabilities and mental health issues. We received a $2,000 grant from South Shore Playhouse Associates to fund enrichment activities to build self-esteem for children in KDC’s Foster Care programs. United Way of Greater Attleboro/Taunton provided $6,000 to fund outreach activities for the under-served at our Attleboro Early Intervention Program. And we received $7,100 from the Roy T. Morgan Foundation to renovate the Early Intervention Child Group room at our New Bedford campus.

Capital grants received helped us reach our fundraising goal for the “Building A Brighter Future” Capital Campaign with a gift of $75,000 from the Leonard & Hilda Kaplan Charitable Foundation. Read more about this successful campaign, the ribbon-cutting and grand opening on page two.

Left to right: Vice President of Development and Public Relations Ann Buono; Trustee at the Roy T. Morgan Foundation Margaret Boles Fitzgerald; KDC President/CEO Aubrey Macfarlane; and Program Director of the New Bedford Early Intervention Program Laura Farley.

Left to right: Mansfield Bank employees, Assistant Vice President Jan Parker and Vice President Daniel Conrad; KDC President/CEO Aubrey Macfarlane; Former Clinical Director at KDC, Susan O’Shea; and Mansfield Bank Executive Assistant Kirsten Budwey.
County Street New Bedford Grand Opening and Funding Goal Attained

Over the past three years, we have been providing updates on renovations to the historic New Bedford property across the street from our Special Education School, Early Intervention, and the Day Habilitation programs. The new building was needed to accommodate the growth and development of KDC’s New Bedford programs. The 14,500 square foot space will provide meeting and training facilities, space for programs, administrative offices, plus additional room for the growth of existing and new programs. With a budget exceeding $2 million, KDC embarked on a $500,000 Capital Campaign to help fund project costs. We are pleased to announce that renovations are completed, and the $325,000 raised exceeded our campaign goal.

A Grand Opening Reception on June 8th was attended by over 100 supporters and included elected officials, a representative from the Mayor’s office, families, providers, staff members, as well as donors who have generously supported the project. Since 1974, KDC has provided programs in New Bedford and the surrounding towns. Our current center on the corner of County and Hawthorn streets has been in operation since 1991. Today we offer a continuum of services for the growth of existing and new programs.

Thank you to the following friends who have supported our Capital Campaign with a gift.

The Acuxnet Company
Anthony Karamas
Advance Air & Heat
André LaPierre
David Alves
Alfred and Gloria Lemieux
Frank Andrade
Arthur and Kathleen Lyons
Anonymous donor
Aubrey Macarlane
Chas. S. Ashley & Sons, Inc.
Macquarie Equipment Finance Inc.,
Ida Ballou Littlefield Memorial Fund
Mansfield Rotary Club
Arthur and Jean Bennett
Mass Bankers Association
Helen Ray Biggane Trust
Robert and Shelagh McGowan
Rick Bornstein
Milford National Bank Foundation
David and Kim Boucher
New England Food Foundation
Boucher & Heureux, Inc.
Bob Panasiti*
Alan and Janice Branco
Brad and Maeghan Pineault
Regine Stot Children’s Aide Foundation
Bristol County Savings Foundation
Robert Commercial Construction
Raymond and Ann Buono*
Kim Boucher & Heureux, Inc.
Euridice Caldas, In memory of Manuel Caldas
Regina Stot Children’s Aide Foundation
Donald and Marcy Carlstrom
City of New Bedford
Edwin Carr and Tanya Bodei
Regina Stot Children’s Aide Foundation
Rick Bornstein
Kristin Carvalho
Robert Commercial Construction
Rick Bornstein
Kristin Carvalho
Richard Harwood, Bay State Financial
City of New Bedford
Joseph Hubling, Providence College
Community Foundation of Southeastern MA
Anthony Karamas, Fiscality Investments
Henry Crago Foundation Fund
Barry Levine, Barry’s Fine Wine & Spirits
Dan and Kathy Court
Tinio Martingale, Nopper Marine, Inc.
Enid Pereira, KDC
Kelly Courtney, Pipeline Management
Peter Nopper, Nopper Marine, Inc.
Kelly DiPersio, Alumni Parent
Left to right:
Board member, Richard Harwood,
Vice President of Development and PR
Board member, Kelly DiPersio,
Board member and Chair of the Capital Campaign, Edmon Tied Carr

MISSION
Kennedy-Donovan Center supports people with developmental delays, disabilities or family challenges to pursue their personal potential and success in the community. We provide a wide range of effective supports to individuals and families through prevention, advocacy and intervention services that are person-centered, innovative, and compassionate.

Support KDC When You Shop Online
AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way to support your favorite charitable organization at no additional cost to you. When you use smile.amazon.com, you’ll get the same low prices, selection and convenience, but Amazon.com donates a portion of the purchase price to the organization of your choice. Make KDC your charity of choice at smile.amazon.com.
New Board Members

An Unsung Heroine

Robin Weber, Program Director at KDC’s South Central Early Intervention program, was recently honored by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women (MC3W) at their 2016 Unsung Heroine event. The MC3W is responsible for reviewing the status of women in Massachusetts, and providing recommendations regarding policy that would improve access to opportunities and equality. The commission describes Unsung Heroes as women who give their time, talent, and enthusiasm to enrich the lives of others and make a difference in their neighborhoods, cities, and towns. They are mentors, volunteers, and innovators who do what needs to be done without the expectation of recognition or gratitude.

Robin was one of 80 honorees recognized, and when asked how she felt about the nomination she said, “I was honored to receive the recognition, and it was inspiring to hear the stories and activities of the women honored that day.” A majority of nominations are made by legislators, and it was Representative Peter Durant who recognized Robin’s presence in the community and among women. He’s a strong advocate for KDC’s Early Intervention programs, and we are grateful for his commitment to helping families receive much-needed support. We congratulate Robin and thank Representative Durant for recognizing her as an Unsung Heroine.

Foxboro Administrative Building Update

Construction is continuing at our new administrative offices on Commercial Street in Foxboro. The 11,000 square foot building, which began construction in February, is set to be completed by the end of December. The facility will accommodate existing staff with room for future growth.

KDC experienced tremendous growth over the past ten years and simply outgrew the old building. We are excited about the new building’s design, its visibility and easy access to the highway. We plan to showcase the completed project in our winter newsletter.

Blackstone Valley Social Connections

Blackstone Valley Social Connections offers both social and recreational activities to individuals with special needs. The program was developed and nurtured by the parent advocacy group Special Community, which runs five days a week. Families are thrilled because KDC’s Family Support Center is the only five-day-a-week after-school program available for children with disabilities, and their families.

Special Community identified the need for afternoon programming and offers a variety of activities and opportunities to develop new friendships. The program is available to individuals 14 and older with special needs who are interested in meeting new people while engaging in fun activities. Some of the activities include cooking and culinary skill development, arts and crafts, yoga, social interaction, music and more.

Now in its third year, Blackstone Valley Social Connections continues its commitment to providing structured after-school activities that are fun, interesting and self-directed. For more information, contact Ann Marie Rivers, Family Resource Coordinator at 508-473-5700, or blackstonevalleyconnections@kdc.org.

Self Advocates Award

Congratulations to Anne Marie Rivers, KDC Family Support Coordinator, who was presented with the Blackstone Valley Self Advocates award for running the largest and most active group. She was nominated by the group and other self advocate group facilitators. The Self Advocates award was presented by the Massachusetts Advocates Standing Strong group.

Anne Marie wears many hats at KDC, but the most rewarding of all is being a facilitator for the self advocates group. Reflecting, she says, “I am proud of my group for learning to speak up and advocate for themselves.” To learn more about the selfadvocates group or how to join, please contact Anne Marie at 508-473-5700.

Self Advocates with Coordinator, Anne Marie Rivers, third from left

Jeff Kobs is Assistant Vice President and head of the Benefits Consulting Group at John Hancock Retirement Plan Services. With more than twenty years of experience in the financial services industry, he will be a great asset to the Board’s Finance Committee. Jeff is an alumnus parent who lives in Mansfield with his wife and three boys.

Ted Carr is a returning board member and the great nephew of Luella Hennessy Donovan, founder of KDC. Ted took a year off after serving two terms, but graciously served as Chairperson for the “Building A Brighter Future” Capital Campaign and also serves on the Fundraising Committee. He is a consultant on international trade & investment and lives in Cohasset with his wife and children.

We wish to thank outgoing board members Ronald Carlsrom and Debbie Felix for their many years of service. Debbie will continue to serve on the Human Resources Committee.

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Moving on: A Dream of Independence Realized

Mark T. has lived at KDC’s residential home in Sandwich for people with an Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) since it was opened two years ago. Despite his disability, Mark has worked extremely hard on maintaining his independence.

With staff assistance and encouragement, he has been able to gain the skills and confidence needed to move from supervised care into a less restrictive shared living facility. This has been a goal for Mark since he moved out of a nursing home into KDC’s ABI home. He has refused to accept any limitations toward rehabilitation, physical progress, or gaining more independence.

We’re pleased that Mark has accomplished his dream and will be moving into his own private studio apartment at Whaler’s Cove Assisted Living in New Bedford. While other residents and staff will miss Mark, we are all pleased that he has reached this important milestone. We couldn’t be more proud of Mark and his accomplishments and wish him continued growth and happiness.

Bonanca Golf Tournament

You can never get in enough golfing during the summer months. This year, Joe and Mary Bonanca hosted a golf tournament on August 27th at the Whaling City Golf Course in New Bedford. The inaugural event raised an impressive $9,000 which will benefit New Bedford’s Foster Care and Family Resources programs. Special thanks to Joe and Mary for giving their time, talent and support to KDC. We look forward to next year’s event!

Our New Bedford Special Education School is collecting them.

KDC School | Attention Stephanie
19 Hawthorn Street | New Bedford, MA 02740
508-992-4756

KAMP Cup Golf Tournament

This year’s event was held on July 22 at Souther Marsh Golf Club. The event surpassed last year’s total of $8,000 raised. Thanks to Paul and Kim Rodrigues, son and daughter, Michael and Ashley, Office Manager Kristal, the sponsors, golfers, volunteers and supporters for their commitment.

L-R: Paul Rodrigues and Brad Pineault.

Annual Dinner Dance

This year’s dance was held on June 7 at the Holiday Inn, Taunton. It was a fun evening with a Luau theme. Men dressed in their favorite Hawaiian shirts and the ladies in fun summertime dresses. The night hadn’t ended and they were already talking about next year’s dance! L-R: Aly B. and KDC staff Joan Swartz.

5K Family Fun Run

KDC’s South Central Early Intervention program hosted their annual event on August 27th at the Wequ-serif Dam Recreation area. Special thanks to our sponsors for a great event: Southbridge Savings Bank, Schott North America, United Lea, Southbridge Tool, Tram Hly Running Chairs, Hornek Landscaping, Rotary Club of Southbridge, and Webster Five Cents Savings Bank.

Photo: Start of the Fun Run with participants of all ages and abilities.

Kennedy-Donovan Center is committed to the continuum of care for people with developmental delays, disabilities or family challenges in our region. We strive to provide this either by offering services directly to individuals of all ages and their families or by collaborating closely with community partners. Our growth will target programs that:

• Fill service gaps in the continuum of care for our clients
• Focus on individualized one-on-one services
• Are needed in our current service area or adjacent regions
• Build on our current expertise
• Respond to a need for innovative and flexible programming

Please provide your box tops!

Our New Bedford Special Education School is collecting them.

KDC School | Attention Stephanie
19 Hawthorn Street | New Bedford, MA 02740
508-992-4756

ADULT FAMILY CARE
Finds homes for adults with medical needs with trained host families.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOL
For ages 3 to 22 with multiple disabilities.

DAY HABILITATION
Provides adults with high needs a comprehensive program of services.

EARLY INTERVENTION
Home services for children born to 36 mos. with, or at risk of, developmental delays.

FAMILY SUPPORT & RESPITE SERVICES
Supports individuals living with their families in receiving tailored services.

FOSTER CARE SERVICES
Works to prevent out-of-home placements; places children in qualified homes; and aids young adults transitioning to independence.

HEALTHY FAMILIES
Serves first-time parents age 21 or under until the child’s third birthday.

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT
Serves adults living on their own by providing drop-in support for daily living.

SHARED LIVING
Finds adults homes with host families trained to address their specific needs.

SUPPORTED LIVING
Provides on-going supports to adults with disabilities living in their own homes.

SUPERVISED LIVING
24/7 support for adults living in groups of two to four in neighborhood homes.

TRANSITIONAL JOB SUPPORT
Assists adults in finding and maintaining meaningful paid employment.

BRAIN INJURY SERVICES
24/7 support for those with acquired brain injuries in a staffed community residence.

APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS
Customized services for those with Autism Spectrum Disorder, and their families.
Holiday Appeal: Help Jump Start Giving

Please help jump start our annual Holiday Appeal by making your tax-deductible donation using form below, or online at kdc.org. This year, our goal is to raise $75,000. Every dollar goes directly to programs and services and encompass needs that aren’t provided through state contracts or insurances.

Yes, I want to help jump start the Holiday Appeal.

I wish to make a difference with a gift of:

- $250
- $200
- $100
- $50
- $25
- other $ ___________

I’d like my gift to be anonymous  Company matching gift program; form enclosed.

This gift is:  in memory of  in honor of ____________________________

Name ____________________________

Street ____________________________  City/Town ____________________________

City/Town ____________________________  State ____________________________  Zip ____________________________

Method of payment  Check enclosed  MasterCard  Visa

Cardholder name ____________________________

Credit Card Number ____________________________  Expiration Date __________

I would like to speak with someone about putting KDC in my will.

Please detach form and mail to: Kennedy-Donovan Center, One Commercial Street, Foxboro, MA 02035. **YOU MAY ALSO MAKE A SECURE DONATION AT KDC.ORG.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!