



# NONPROFIT EXCELLENCE AWARDS: Celebrating Idealism and Achievement

[#NonprofitExcellenceAwards](#)

*Tuesday, June 6, 2023*  
*Massachusetts State House*



*Presented by*  **Citizens™**

Dear Friends,


Welcome to the Nonprofit Excellence Awards: A Celebration of Idealism and Achievement. We're so pleased to welcome you to this one-of-a-kind celebration of our state's vibrant, robust nonprofit sector, returning in-person for the first time in three years.

Today is a celebration of the more than 38,000 nonprofits across our state that are changing our communities and countless lives – for the better. We are so grateful to each of them for the vital work they do every day. It is an honor to recognize their achievements and celebrate alongside them today at this great event.

The Nonprofit Excellence Awards highlight the best and brightest of the sector. The event acknowledges outstanding contributions to our communities made by nonprofits throughout the Commonwealth. Awards will be presented in six different categories to individuals and organizations that have demonstrated exceptional achievements in their respective fields. These categories are Advocacy, Innovation, Leadership, Resilience, Small Nonprofit, and Young Professional. This year's thirty finalists represent a wide range of subsectors and regions. We are so glad to have them with us here.

To the nonprofits being honored today, congratulations. Your work inspires us all, and we are thankful for your remarkable contributions. And to our guests - thank you for joining us. We're glad to be together to celebrate the incredible work done by nonprofits across Massachusetts.

With gratitude,



Jim Klocke  
CEO,  
Massachusetts Nonprofit Network



Lisa Murray,  
President,  
Citizens Massachusetts

## Schedule

- ★ Welcome Remarks
- ★ Presenting Sponsor Remarks from Citizens,  
Lisa Murray, President, Citizens, Massachusetts
- ★ Thank you to 2023 Judges
- ★ Presentation of Advocacy Award  
Harvard University
- ★ Presentation of Resilience Award  
Insource Services
- ★ Presentation of Young Professional Award  
Massachusetts Health Connector
- ★ Election of MNN Board Members
- ★ Presentation of Innovation Award  
Citizens
- ★ Presentation of Small Nonprofit Award  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
- ★ Presentation of Leadership Award  
Appleton Partners
- ★ Closing Remarks



## Additional Program Notes

As part of today's program, we are pleased to present a performance by students from the Boston Music Project. This nonprofit organization is committed to ensuring the long-term social-emotional and musical success of children and youth by nurturing creativity, celebrating cultures, and developing civic engagement through quality music education and performance. Currently, Boston Music Project provides music instruction to over 1000 students across Boston through before, after, and in-school programs.



## Betsy Badell

Betsy Badell is a Reporter for Noticiero Telemundo Nueva Inglaterra, which airs on WNEU/Telemundo Boston, WRDM/WDMR Telemundo Connecticut and WRIW/Telemundo Providence.

Betsy Badell is a bilingual consumer investigative reporter for Noticiero Telemundo Nueva Inglaterra, broadcast on WNEU/Telemundo Boston, WRDM/WDMR Telemundo Connecticut and WRIW/Telemundo Providence, as well as for its sister network, NBC 10 Boston.

Badell leads our team at Telemundo Nueva Inglaterra Responde, which responds to consumer complaints and advocates for its viewers. Their goal is to help consumers resolve disputes, no matter how big or small. Since the launch of Telemundo Nueva Inglaterra Responde in 2018, the team has recovered hundreds of thousands of dollars for consumers.

In 2016, she joined Noticiero Telemundo Nueva Inglaterra as a multimedia journalist, covering breaking news on crime, fire, politics and weather, chasing storms and stories in New England and beyond.

Prior to joining Noticiero Telemundo Nueva Inglaterra, Badell worked in Miami, Florida for Telemundo News Service, where she produced and reported national and international stories that aired from coast to coast.

Badell has been honored with several Regional Emmy Awards and even more nominations for her journalistic work. She graduated from Florida Atlantic University with two bachelor's degrees: multimedia journalism and political science.

Betsy was born and raised in Venezuela until her family moved to South Florida, a place she fell in love with for its colorful sunsets and beautiful beaches, thus becoming her second home. In the last 7 years, New England has been fighting for that second place in her heart, with its incomparable mountains and colorful autumns. When she's not working, Betsy likes to travel and spend time with her family, including her beloved dog, Rocco.

# Excellence in **ADVOCACY**

## Cape and Islands Veterans Outreach Center

Established in 1983, and now celebrating our 40th year of service to veterans and their families, last year we served 9,174 men and women through one of the four pillars of our mission. Our food pantry services now host 15 regional distributions across the Cape, Martha's Vineyard, and now, Wareham in Plymouth County. We also provide food for homebound veterans who without our deliveries to them would simply go without. Our transitional housing includes the 5 unit Dennis House for Veterans, and as of April 1, another 8 units of transitional housing at Pitchers Way in Hyannis. Our transportation efforts through the first 8 months we have operated have helped over 1,100 veterans travel to Boston or Providence to visit the VA Hospitals at no cost. And, our counseling and case management services are provided to help our vets assimilate back into the communities that they left.

## Disability Policy Consortium, Inc.

The Disability Policy Consortium (DPC) is Massachusetts' leading disability rights organization. DPC's credo is "About Us, By Us:" the belief that when decisions are made about people with disabilities (PwD), people PwD must play a leading role in making them. Its mission is to ensure the voice of PwD is heard on key issues, to support the health of the community through participatory research and expert policy analysis, and to empower grassroots disability leaders to transform their communities. DPC formed in 1996 when 240 individuals, representing diverse disability identity groups, convened to defeat legislation that would have radically reshaped disability-focused state agencies. Since then, DPC has successfully pursued structural change aimed at making Massachusetts more accessible and inclusive. Through grassroots community organizing, community-based research, policy analysis and development, and patient advocacy, DPC promotes inclusion, independence, and empowerment.

## The Learning Center for the Deaf

The Learning Center for the Deaf is a national model and leader in educational, therapeutic, and community services for, by, and with deaf and hard of hearing children and adults. Since 1970, we have been a true pioneer in Deaf Education, and an innovator in providing comprehensive services to deaf and hard of hearing children and adults. Over the past 50 years, TLC has grown from a small school in a rented room to a diverse multi-service agency with 17 buildings on a 14-acre campus and additional locations in Framingham and Springfield, MA. The mission of The Learning Center for the Deaf is to ensure that all deaf and hard of hearing children and adults thrive by having the knowledge, opportunity, and power to design the future of their choice.

## The Midas Collaborative

The Midas Collaborative helps to advance the financial security of low- and moderate-income residents across Massachusetts in collaboration with its member organizations and partners. Midas provides tools, services, and training to assist organizations and public officials to create more prosperous communities. Midas envisions a Massachusetts where individuals and families can thrive financially. In 1999, Midas organized the first matched savings pilot program in Massachusetts. In 2007, Midas incorporated as a 501(c)(3) entity, administering most of the state's matched savings grant programs, along with taking the lead or participating in over a dozen coalitions. We primarily serve unmarried mothers who identify as BIPOC and LMI and who live in Boston or a Gateway City.

## Treehouse Foundation

The Treehouse Foundation supports and inspires innovative child welfare practices to ensure that children who experience foster care find lifelong families in supportive communities, enabling them to lead fulfilling and productive lives. Community is at the heart of Treehouse. Our vision is: "Every child rooted in family and community." Our flagship intergenerational community in Easthampton, MA is home to 120 people, ages 9 months to 93 years, who live as neighbors, cultivating lifelong connections and investing in one another's wellbeing. At Treehouse, children who've experienced foster care live with their adoptive families and receive the support and services necessary to overcome the educational and social/emotional challenges often caused by early trauma. The older adults who live at Treehouse act as honorary grandparents, enriching the children's and their own lives, and embracing vital aging in a vibrant community.

# Excellence in RESILIENCE

## About Fresh

About Fresh is a Boston-based non-profit on a mission to strengthen communities by getting fresh food to the households that need it most. Since 2013, About Fresh has leveraged grocery retail, technology, and community-driven advocacy to empower people to afford and access the food they need to be at their best. We operate three renovated vehicles as mobile markets known as Fresh Truck and a produce prescription program called Fresh Connect. About Fresh serves low-income, food-insecure households at statistically highest risk for diet-related disease. The communities we serve have limited access to healthy, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food.

## Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston

Established in 1873, Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston (BGCB), the city's leading youth-serving organization, sets out to help young people, especially those from underprivileged backgrounds, build strong character and realize their full potential as Boston's next great generation of citizens and leaders. Serving over 8,000 people (including youth, families, and community members), the organization provides a safe haven filled with opportunity, caring staff, and life enhancing programs.

## Community Art Center

The mission of the Community Art Center (CAC), a \$1.6M/year non-profit with 18 employees and 10 Board members, is to cultivate an engaged community of youth whose powerful artistic voices transform their lives, neighborhoods, and worlds. CAC was founded in 1937 by a group of parents residing in Newtowne Court, a public housing development, as a comprehensive community center for local residents. It has grown tremendously throughout the years, but it maintains its grassroots identity; mutual aid model; and foundation in providing low-income and historically marginalized families in and around the Port neighborhood with access to the arts as a catalyst for holistic youth development and future success.

## Community Health Programs

CHP Berkshires spans Berkshire County with nine practice locations in Great Barrington, Lee, Pittsfield, and North Adams, providing medical, dental, and nutrition services. Our CHP Mobile Health team carries on our long and effective practice of taking health care on the road, to find people where they are and where they need care. Each year, we care for more than 30,000 Berkshire area residents, and we promise care to everyone who enters our practices, regardless of insurance status. The CHP Mobile Health team carries health care directly into communities where people live, work and play, from grocery store parking lots to street fairs and homeless shelters, especially to remote areas with no access to public transit.

## Hospitality Homes

Founded in 1983, the first of its kind in the nation, Hospitality Homes provides free and low-cost short-term lodging in volunteer host homes and donated accommodations for patients, families, and caregivers travelling to Boston for specialized medical care unable to afford the cost of Boston-area lodging during treatment. As the most broadly inclusive and welcoming organization of our kind in the region, we serve anyone regardless of income level, background, nationality, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ability, age, diagnosis, or facility of treatment. Throughout the pandemic, we have been the only organization in Boston to provide uninterrupted lodging even to complex cases and immunocompromised patients. Grounded by volunteers who open their homes to guests, our model reduces barriers to medical care and provides relief from the emotional and financial strains of treatment allowing patients access to lifesaving treatments and clinical trials that otherwise simply would not be an option.



# Excellence by a YOUNG PROFESSIONAL

## Eliana Al-Konsul, Rian Immigrant Center

Eliana serves as People & Operations Coordinator for the Rian Immigrant Center, which works to empower immigrants, refugees, and international exchange visitors on the path to opportunity, safety, and a better future. Eliana is responsible for coordinating all human resources and operations activities to support Rian's 36 social workers, attorneys, educators, and admin staff. They bring a strong understanding of the vicarious trauma and stress that our employees experience, and designed a wellness program focused on stress relief. While HR and Operations typically doesn't have direct interaction with clients, students, and guests, Eliana has taken every opportunity to engage in the community: volunteering to help with Legal Forms workshops; learning more about ESOL courses; and jumping in to translate when an Arabic-speaking client comes in to the Welcome Center.

## Kelly Barber, Barnstable Land Trust

As Barnstable Land Trust's (BLT) Director of Land Stewardship, Kelly Barber leads the day-to-day operations and management of a growing portfolio of 120+ BLT properties and 46+ conservation restrictions covering over 1,100 protected acres in Barnstable. At 33 years old, Kelly has developed into a natural leader since joining the organization in 2019 by expanding BLT's volunteer stewardship program, building relationships with a wide variety of community constituents, and launching community-based programs. In addition to her professional endeavors, Kelly volunteers with numerous organizations throughout Cape Cod, illustrating her passionate commitment to proactively address community needs through professional and public service. Barnstable Land Trust is a community supported nonprofit based on Cape Cod, serving the 7 villages within the town of Barnstable.

## Na'tisha Mills, Embrace Boston

As the Program Manager at Embrace Boston, Na'tisha has helped lead the organization's programming, community organizing work, and special projects. Embrace Boston works to dismantle structural racism through the intersection of arts and culture, research and public policy. Na'tisha has been critical in coordinating Embrace Boston's local Reparations efforts in Greater Boston, in partnership with key advocacy groups, recognizing that local efforts begin to prepare the infrastructure needed to implement a federal program and also maintain a political landscape favorable to Reparations. Co-founding the MA Black Reparations Collective alongside N'COBRA New England, BECMA's Black MA Coalition and other key partners, Mills hosts a series of MA Statewide Reparations Convenings each year, activating a community base of over 1,000+ individuals from across the Commonwealth.

## Isaiah Stephens, South Middlesex Opportunity Council

Isaiah was promoted in 2022 from Triage Manager to Managing Director of the Lowell Transitional Living Center, the largest shelter (90+ beds) for homeless men and women in Lowell. The Center is a South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC) program, a large community action program started in the 1960s with almost a statewide footprint. As Managing Director, Isaiah manages a complex matrix of programs and staffing of more than 20 people. He oversees not just the shelter, but the hotel, low threshold and permanent supportive housing programs. In addition, he has been integral in educating City leaders on the needs of the homeless and helping to find solutions to the housing crisis. Isaiah has been exemplary at helping guests ease themselves into the shelter, and treats both guests and staff with compassion.

## Jackie Walker, Lucy's Love Bus

Jackie Walker is the Executive Director of Lucy's Love Bus, a childhood cancer charity that delivers quality of life to children with cancer throughout New England by offering free integrative therapies and holistic support. She began with the organization nine years ago as a program manager, playing a critical role in the organization's program development, systems design, and fundraising efforts. Jackie was instrumental in convincing medical professionals that the organization had the systems in place to safely deliver therapy programs (such as massage, music therapy, and yoga) in a hospital setting to some of the most medically fragile children in the world. Once Lucy's Love Bus started running programs in the hospital, they were able to help six times as many children with the same amount of funding. In one year, impact numbers went from supporting 100 children per year to 600 children per year.

# Excellence in INNOVATION

## Ellie Fund

Ellie Fund's mission is to ease the stresses of everyday life for breast cancer patients, allowing their focus to be on family, recovery, and healing. We do this by providing essential support services, including nutritional assistance, transportation to medical appointments, and childcare, to patients undergoing treatment in Massachusetts (MA). Uniquely, Ellie Fund provides tailored services for up to six months to meet family needs, reduce patient stress, promote treatment access, and improve the likelihood of positive health outcomes. Ellie Fund does not require proof of need, residency, or citizenship, making services available to any patient experiencing physical, financial, or emotional distress during treatment.

## End Mass Overdose, Inc. (EMO Health)

EMO Health was established as a charitable organization in 2015 by U.S. Navy veteran and pharmacist, Dr. Allison Burns. Its mission is to provide innovative medication-related services that engage, educate, and empower underserved communities affected by the substance use disorder epidemic and retain patients in care and treatment. While the company began by expanding access to Narcan in the 'Mass and Cass' area of Boston, it has since grown into a team of 8 pharmacists and a Nurse Practitioner who provide technical assistance and education on medication management to state-funded facilities for patients with substance use disorder, as well as clinical care for the patients of those facilities. Data collected from these initiatives have demonstrated a reduction in medication errors, an increase in medication adherence, and sustainable, impactful change in the SUD treatment landscape. EMO Health continues to find innovative ways to assist this vulnerable, underserved, and often marginalized population.

## Leadership Brainery

Leadership Brainery is a 501(c)(3) organization addressing inequitable access to master's and doctoral degrees and workforce leadership opportunities for underrepresented talent, including people of color, individuals from a lower socioeconomic status, LGBTQ individuals, and other demographics who are systematically excluded from higher education. We work with prospective and current graduate students, academic institutions, employers, and committed community members to eliminate systemic barriers to education and create inclusive communities. Our core values are best illustrated by our belief that with greater resources and access to inclusive networks and advanced education, underrepresented communities can leverage impactful and higher-wage careers to establish financial stability and reinvest in their communities to create generational prosperity.





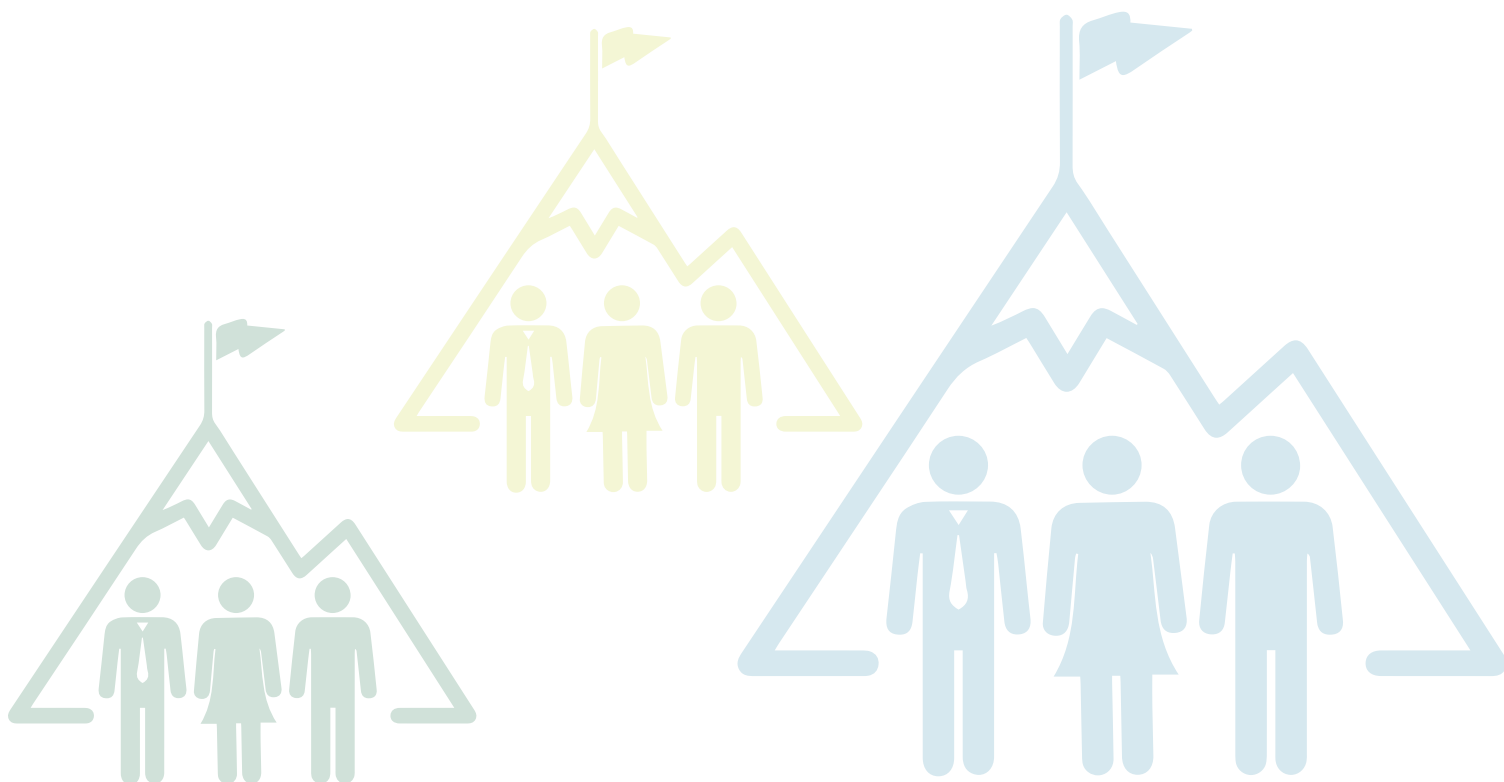
## Excellence in INNOVATION (cont.)

### Project Bread

Project Bread is the leading statewide anti-hunger organization in Massachusetts. With over 80 employees, Project Bread's mission is to connect people and communities in Massachusetts to reliable sources of food while advocating for policies that make food more accessible, so that no one goes hungry. Launched in 1969 with the inaugural Walk for Hunger, the first pledge walk in the country, the nonprofit continues this legacy to raise awareness and funds to combat food insecurity through the following programs: the FoodSource Hotline, connecting residents to trained counselors who can pre-screen for SNAP; Health Care Partnerships, connecting patients experiencing food insecurity to food and transportation assistance, nutrition counseling and more; Community Partnerships, a grant program to support local anti-hunger organizations; Child Nutrition Outreach Program, working to support schools and summer meal providers to feed children; the Policy team, advocating for state and federal legislation, and a large-scale SNAP awareness campaign.

### The Guild for Human Services

Founded in 1952, The Guild for Human Services' mission is to educate, encourage, and empower individuals with intellectual disabilities so they may achieve their full potential to lead high quality lives and participate meaningfully in society. The Guild operates a special education school in Concord for 90 youth (ages 10-21) and 9 group homes in neighboring communities. Through positive educational and living experiences, The Guild promotes the development of independent living, social skills, vocational abilities, and academics. The Guild also operates an adult program at 12 residential homes for 60 adults to meet the growing need to support individuals beyond their 22nd birthday. We focus on developing self-care and social skills, integrating residents into the community, and increasing quality of life.



## Excellence by a **SMALL NONPROFIT**

### Connor's Kindness Project

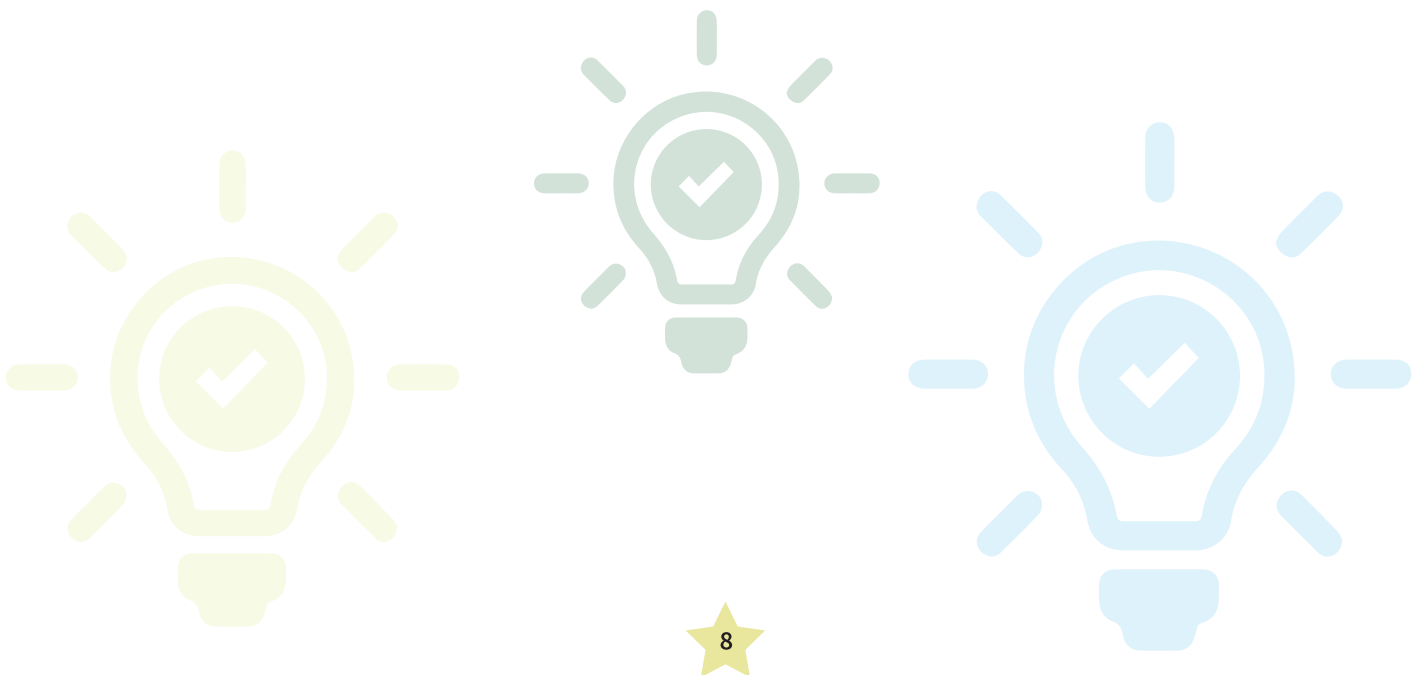
CKP's signature project is delivering Kindness Kits to children in challenging situations, mostly in hospitals and shelters. Founded in 2021 in the middle of the pandemic by (then) 12-year-old Connor as a way to help children in his community cope with isolation and lack of social interactions. Connor's Kindness Project was started to remind us that there is good in the world even at times when we are faced with conflicts and challenges. Our ongoing goal is to help others while also spreading positivity, one act of kindness at a time.

### Mosaic: Interfaith Youth Action

For over a decade, Mosaic: Interfaith Youth Action has brought young people from diverse religious communities together across differences to contribute to the common good. We use an interfaith lens as both a call to action and basis for our mission: To bridge society's divides, creating more just, peaceful, and equitable communities through interfaith connection and action. Mosaic works with diverse youth living in Boston and its surrounding areas. We create communities of learning and action that cross lines of religion, culture, race, class, gender, sexual orientation, neighborhood, levels of privilege, disability and ability. Youth come together year-round to build community, participating in experiential education where they "learn by doing". Through this experiential learning, youth become aware how their beliefs, values, and practices can contribute to a more just and civil society. Mosaic operates out-of-school time programs that are designed to prepare young people to become life-long agents of change.

### People Making a Difference (PMD)

Founded in 1992, People Making a Difference (PMD) seeks to create a world in which people and businesses are socially aware and engaged in their communities such that they approach volunteerism by learning about problems and needs, becoming familiar with charities that are working to address them, volunteering reliably, and providing needed resources to make a difference. PMD organizes one-time, hands-on and virtual volunteer projects for individuals, partners with businesses to promote effective community involvement, and trains and assists nonprofit leaders in quality volunteer management. PMD has one paid staffer, 1-2 part-time work-study students, and 500-900 episodic volunteers/year from Greater Boston+. PMD has relied on 154 partner charities to identify where organized groups of motivated volunteers can help, with nearly 90% partners lacking their own volunteer programs. PMD volunteers host/run science bowls, assemble STEM sets for students, improve greenspaces, assemble print-Braille children's books, pack homeless street outreach bags, etc.



## Excellence by a **SMALL NONPROFIT** (cont.)

### STEAM Ahead

STEAM Ahead is a team of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (S.T.E.A.M.) professionals and enthusiasts who are unified under the mission of closing the education gap for underrepresented and underserved groups of youth. Founded in 2018, we develop S.T.E.A.M programs and initiatives that create impactful learning for youth everywhere. We serve youth all throughout Massachusetts by providing free and low-cost services to underserved communities. Our programs include: Summer Learning Academies, held in partnership with Boston Public Schools, that provide free enrichment programming to elementary and middle school youth; STEAM Academy, that provides virtual courses that develop technical and interpersonal skill-sets; STEAM Workshops, that provide engaging activities to introduce youth to a variety of STEAM topics. In addition, we also partner with a number of organizations and universities to develop programming and initiatives, some partners include: MIT, 3Point Foundation, Ron Burton Training Village.

### The WellStorm, Inc.

The WellStorm, Inc. is an organization which aims to bridge the gap of poverty disparity and engage the community in building connections and support for individuals experiencing homelessness, mental health struggles, and food insecurity. Through advocacy and outreach activities, our team works tirelessly each day to contribute their part to the greater good. The Wellstrom Inc is a small volunteer run non-profit established in February 2021. Our current program is The Bridge Fridge. Our community fridge is located within an external food pantry hutch which houses a stand-up freezer, refrigerator and pantry for non-perishables. Our community fridge provides access to fresh food 24/7.



# Excellence in LEADERSHIP

## Bonnie Bertolaet, Science Club for Girls

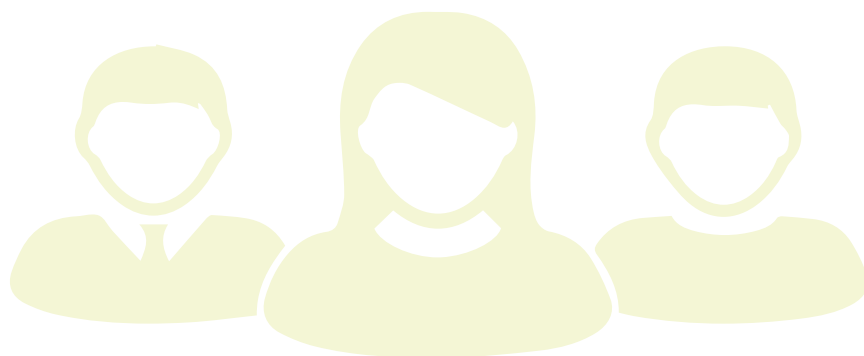
Bonnie Bertolaet, PhD is the Executive Director of Science Club for Girls (SCFG). Dr. Bertolaet has been the Executive Director of Science Club for Girls since 2019, after previously serving as the Board Chair in 2018, and has ushered in a new era of growth at SCFG, while maintaining a steadfast commitment to increasing the accessibility of quality STEM programming and mentorship to girls and gender-expansive youth from underrepresented communities. Science Club for Girls fosters excitement, confidence and literacy in science, technology, engineering and mathematics for girls and gender-expansive youth (K-12), particularly those from underrepresented communities. Dr. Bertolaet has reinvigorated the organization by introducing board term limits, advocating for financial transparency, expanding program offerings, and hiring new staff. Under Dr. Bertolaet's leadership, SCFG developed highly effective virtual programming in response to the pandemic. While many other organizations saw declines in enrollment and engagement, SCFG has continuously increased enrollment over the past three years, seamlessly maintaining participants' engagement without gaps in services or outcomes.

## Richard Dubois, National Consumer Law Center

Richard Dubois is the Executive Director of the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC), a role in which he has served for seven years. The Center's mission is to use consumer law and energy policy expertise to protect and advance the economic interests of low-income people and families: those who have been abused, deceived, systematically discriminated against, or left behind in our economy. In his role as Executive Director, Rich leads a staff of highly experienced attorneys, advocates, and researchers specializing in issues of consumer law and policy in NCLC's Boston and Washington, D.C. offices. NCLC has prospered during Rich's tenure as Executive Director, with the organization's staff and annual budget increasing by 50% in the last seven years, and reserves growing by 38% in that period. Rich led a process in 2018-19 to identify areas in which NCLC needed to enhance its ability to advocate for consumers and strengthen the national consumer law community, and built a Campaign for the Future to raise the funds needed to realize that vision. Over \$11 million in commitments have been received for the Campaign to date.

## Neil Gordon, Discovery Museum

Neil Gordon serves as CEO of the Discovery Museum. Founded in 1982 as a play space for local children, the Museum is now nationally known and the first children's museum in the country to generate 100% of its electricity onsite. Neil holds a deep conviction that the Museum be accessible to all families. Discovery Museum was among the first children's museums to create learning experiences tailored to the unique needs of children on the autism spectrum. The Especially for Me program has since reached thousands of families and remains entirely free for all participants. During his tenure, operating income tripled, total assets grew from \$1.7M to \$11.7M, and the Museum will have served more than 2.5M kids and families between 2009 and the end of 2023, more than half the total number served in its 41-year history. He will retire on December 31, 2023, after nearly three decades in the children's museum field and 14 years as CEO of Discovery Museum.



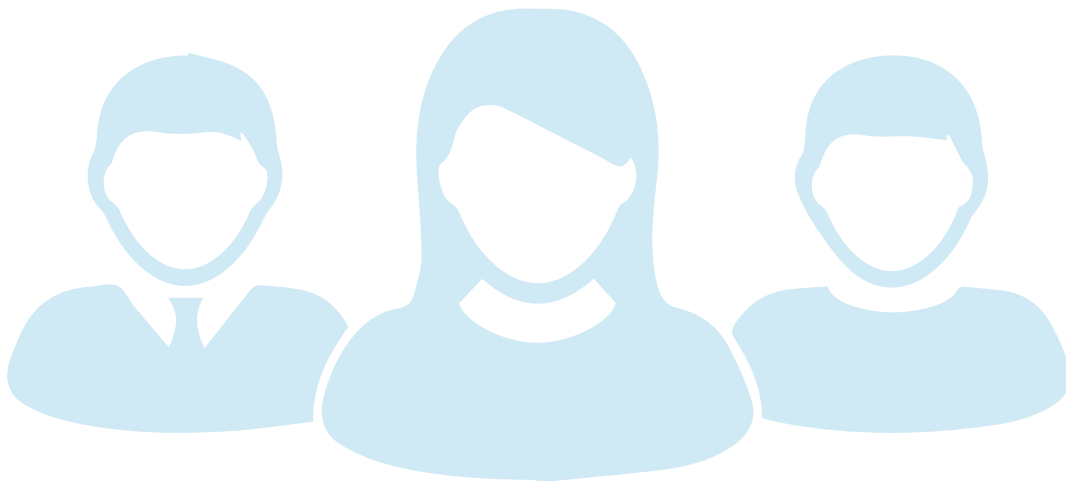
## Excellence in LEADERSHIP (cont.)

### Olu Ibrahim, Kids in Tech

Olu Ibrahim is the Founding President and CEO of Kids in Tech (KIT). KIT makes it possible for children ages 8-14 in low-income households to acquire skills and confidence in technology through interactive after school programs. Olu has taken a nonprofit from startup to a growth phase. This included successfully incorporating the organization, securing staff and the board of directors, and landing 7+ school partnerships in Lowell and Boston. To date, KIT has provided effective STEM curricula in after school settings to 350 students from low income, BIPOC, and immigrant backgrounds. KIT's after school program has a nearly 80% retention rate. By 2025, Kids in Tech aims to reach 300 kids between Lowell and Boston and expand into one more city in Massachusetts before setting sights on national expansion. Olu believes it is important for every kid to be STEM literate and confident before they reach the 9th grade. In addition to running KIT, Olu tutors kids and serves on Lowell Cultural Council, the President's Council of the Boston Children's Museum, and the Corporation at the Worcester Art Museum.

### Eset Rose, Kripalu Center for Yoga & Health

Eset Rose is the Director of Creative Strategy and Programming at Kripalu Center for Yoga & Health where she oversees the development and delivery of 500+ transformational health and wellness programs that serve 40,000 students each year. As an educational nonprofit organization and the largest yoga retreat center in North America, Kripalu Center for Yoga & Health serves students at an 125-acre campus in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, and online around the world. Eset is a teacher of transformation and healing, and she draws together an expanding community of staff, Faculty, luminaries, and elders working together to support people on their journey to become physically, mentally, and emotionally well. She leads Kripalu's Access & Equity efforts that remove barriers to participation and their community-building efforts, with an expanding network of local and national nonprofit and for-profit partners. She stewards Kripalu's partnership with race equity consultants Race & Resilience, serves as a founding member of Kripalu's Equity Team, and sits on the Board of Trustees DEI Committee which brings an equity lens to strategic decision-making. To date, the number of program participants who identify as members of the Global Majority has grown from 10% to 13%, and those who identify as LGBTQIA+ have increased from 11% to 13%.







# MASSACHUSETTS NONPROFITS ARE READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND SO ARE WE

Citizens recognizes that strong nonprofits build strong communities. The over 38,000 nonprofits across the Commonwealth serve as a vital economic stimulator, providing more than half a million jobs and employing more than 17 percent of our workforce.

We are proud to once again be the presenting sponsor of the Massachusetts Nonprofit Excellence Awards. Congratulations to all the deserving finalists and this year's winners.

## MNN Board of Directors

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## Thank You to our Excellence Award Judges

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Highland Street Foundation

Serenity Belo  
NeighborWorks Housing Solutions

Celina Miranda  
Hyde Square Task Force

Darcy Brownell  
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Gladys Vega  
La Colaborativa

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Trinity Boston Connects

Marvin Vilma  
Let's Get Ready

Tiana Lawrence  
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# Benefits of Membership with the Massachusetts Nonprofit Network

The Massachusetts Nonprofit Network (MNN) is a statewide organization dedicated to strengthening the Massachusetts nonprofit sector through advocacy, public awareness, and capacity-building. By joining MNN, nonprofits strengthen the network's voice on critical issues facing the sector. Members have exclusive access to benefits that help strengthen their important work and meet their missions.

## Build Capacity and Save Money

- Save on a yearly subscription to GrantStation.com: only \$95 a year for MNN members.
- Access to a curated listing of grants and awards opportunities updated weekly.
- Access to monthly office hours for targeted technical assistance in the areas of public policy/advocacy and marketing/communications.
- Save money on HR, IT, financial services, insurance, office supplies, car rentals, and select business and nonprofit publications, as well as MNN and partner conferences, trainings, and services.
- Online access to Commonwealth Stats, a powerful data tool providing specific demographic data for every region of Massachusetts, and a curated listing of grants.
- Post job openings on the popular MNN Career Center, and events on the Community Trainings and Events Calendar.
- Receive notice of all nonprofit sector news, exclusive public policy events, networking events, and new capacity-building resources through the MNN member newsletter MemberNews.

## Strengthen the Voice of the Nonprofit Sector

- Have an experienced advocate working on behalf of members at the state and national levels.
- Gain an immediate network of hundreds of nonprofit and business leaders.
- Engage in important public policy advocacy activities that support the nonprofit community.

## Increase Public Awareness

- Reach thousands of nonprofit leaders through MNN's robust mailing list, extensive social media following, and highly-trafficked website.
- Author thought pieces and post ads in our monthly newsletter.
- Increase awareness of your nonprofit's mission and visibility through MNN's extensive media outreach.

Membership is extremely affordable and works on a sliding scale to accommodate your organization's budget. Visit [www.massnonprofitnet.org/join](http://www.massnonprofitnet.org/join) to learn more about the benefits of MNN membership. If you're not currently a member, we encourage you to join!

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