

JOHN PATRICK FLANAGAN FOUNDATION GRANTS MORE THAN \$37,000 IN 2016

Grants reach across nine local organizations that directly help disadvantaged children

FAIRFIELD, CT – February 21, 2017 – The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation (<u>JPFF</u>), a charitable foundation established to help vulnerable children and families of Connecticut, today announced that it has awarded \$37,950 in grants in 2016 to several local organizations.

The grants were awarded to nine Connecticut-based charities including Neighborhood Studios of Fairfield County; Connecticut Audubon Society; High School Scholarship Foundation of Fairfield; Council of Churches of Bridgeport; United in Hope Joint scholarship with Chad A. Jacobs Memorial Foundation; Bridgeport Hospital's Park Avenue Medical Center; Lawyers for Children America; New Beginnings Family Academy; and Wakeman Boys & Girls Club Smilow-Burroughs Clubhouse.

"We are very grateful to these wonderful local organizations that are working so hard to improve the lives of disadvantaged children in our area, and are humbled to be able to contribute to their work in a small way," said Amanda Flanagan, Chairperson of the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation. "We believe each of these organizations reflect the values of our Foundation and allow us to celebrate John Flanagan's memory by focusing on what mattered most to him: children and family."

The 2016 grant allocations are as follows:

CT Audubon Society Trailblazers program (\$11,450) – To fund the cost for the "JPFF Trailblazers Program," which enters its eighth year of existence, providing Bridgeport public school students with transportation to the Nature Center for field trips. Since its inception, more than 3,000 students have participated in the Trailblazers program.

Neighborhood Studios of Fairfield County (\$2,500) - Offering music, arts and dance programming to underserved youth from Bridgeport who might otherwise have little or no exposure to the arts.

High School Scholarship Foundation of Fairfield (John Patrick Flanagan Memorial Scholarship) (\$1,000) - To help fund an annual scholarship to a college-bound, high-achieving student with an economic need at Fairfield Warde High School.

Council of Churches of Bridgeport (\$6,000) - To fund a six-week STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, mathematics) summer camp at P.T. Barnum housing development in Bridgeport.

United in Hope Scholarship (\$2,500) – Provided college tuition assistance to two recent high school graduates who lost a parent to cancer. This grant is jointly supported by the Chad A. Jacobs Memorial Foundation, which granted an equal amount.

Bridgeport Hospital, Park Ave. Campus Children's Corner (\$4,000) - Provided to build a children's lounge at the outpatient surgery center at the new Park Ave. campus.

Lawyers for Children America (\$3,000) – To help ensure that foster children aging out of the system continue to receive necessary legal services.

New Beginnings Family Academy (\$2,500) — To fund a new teaching initiative that addresses the needs of kids who come to school bearing increased life stressors.

Wakeman Boys & Girls Club Smilow-Burroughs Clubhouse (\$5,000) – To support after school programming at the Smilow-Burroughs Clubhouse in Bridgeport.

To learn more about the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation or to make a donation, please visit www.jpff.org or click the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation. We also encourage friends to follow us on Facebook.

About John Patrick Flanagan Foundation

The John Patrick Flanagan Foundation was established in loving memory of John Patrick Flanagan who passed away from a rare and aggressive neuroendocrine cancer on December 24, 2008 at the age of 44. John's family, friends and colleagues have established the Foundation to serve as a charitable legacy to support what he cherished above all else: children and family. The Mission of the John Patrick Flanagan Foundation is to help vulnerable children and families by supporting charities that provide the direction, education and healthy environment that vulnerable children and families need to have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

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