

A Path in The Woods Foundation, Inc.

124 Washington St. Wellesley, MA 02481

Helping Kids Find Their Own Path in Life

2020 ANNUAL REPORT TO DONORS

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

This year we hosted our 12th Annual Wellesley High Alumni & Friends Golf Outing and fundraiser on July 24th at Sandy Burr Country Club in Wayland. Driven by our concerns for the health and wellbeing of our friends and supporters due to the Covid-19 virus, we initially decided not to hold the golf tournament. After discussing our concerns with the folks at Sandy Burr, we decided to hold the tournament without the dinner & auction and with several precautions, including face coverings, physical distancing protocols, single carts, and lunch on the course. We were overwhelmed with the turnout and support. We had a record number of golfers, 88, and 18 teebox sign sponsors. We again included a sleeve of Titleist Path Foundation golf balls as player gifts and several prize awards for low team scores, including low mixed-foursome, and high team

score. We had a record low team score of 55 by Jeff Kline's team, a second place at 58 and thirteen teams shooting in the 60's. Next year's tournament promises to be a lot of fun, win, lose, or draw. It will be held on Friday July 23, 2021 at Sandy Burr Country Club. We appreciate the continued support for this fundraising event, and we are grateful for the love and friendship it provides.



FINANCES

ı Photo from 2019 Tournament

In 2020 Wellesley Bank merged with Cambridge

Trust,

where we continue to maintain our checking account. Our balance at 12/31/2020 was \$16,611. All of our bills are paid, and we have no accounts receivable. A Path in the Woods Fund, our donor-advised field of interest fund at The Foundation for MetroWest (FMW) had a balance at 9/30/2020 of \$65,834.

GRANTS & OTHER DISTRIBUTIONS

Our financial support for the Work-study Internship Program at Wellesley High School was suspended in 2020 due to the limitations of school-work programs caused by the coronavirus. We hope to continue our efforts in 2021 to provide students who are interested in working and want an opportunity to gain hands-on work experience in a supporting environment during after-school hours. Since our first grant in 2010 we have dispersed over \$60,500 to the Wellesley Youth Commission to manage the work-study internship program. All of the grant money goes to the

student interns based on a minimum hourly wage. In total, students have work for approximately 6,000 hours. The work assignments are at various Town Departments and coordinated by the Town's Youth Director. We have funded approximately 60 students at an average of 100 hours per student, typically within a semester. The program also exposes students to the work of local government and the potential for career choices. Once the program can be restarted, we expect to see an increase in the hourly wages provided to the student interns based on state and town guidelines.

Our financial support for the Work-study Internship Program is directed through our donor advised, field of interest fund, A Path in the Woods Fund, at the Foundation for MetroWest, a community foundation. We are very appreciative of Foundation's support and guidance in managing our fund. We also want to thank the Foundation's Executive Director, Judy Salerno, who stepped down at the end of the year, for her support and counsel these last ten years. Distributions from our Fund are made at our direction but are approved by the Foundation's board of directors as well. Donations to A Path in the Woods Fund can also be made directly to the Foundation for MetroWest. https://www.foundationformetrowest.org/

NEW PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Wellesley Media Corporation Internship

We have a new internship partner with the Wellesley Media Corporation, a private non-profit organization that operates out of a studio and offices in rented space above Green's Hardware on Washington Street in Wellesley Hills. Wellesley Media is formerly known as Wellesley Community Access Cable Television. They broadcast Wellesley High School sporting events and Wellesley town government meetings on local cable TV. They produce other programs of public interest as well as public service announcements (PSA's). They are funded in part by the license fee that local cable TV providers pay the Town of Wellesley. Their funding may be reduced in the future based on changes in the FCC regulations controlling local CATV licensing agreements. We have worked previously with Wellesley Media when we filmed a PSA for a program, we called Thrive Wellesley a few years ago. Wellesley Media has also hosted several of our Wellesley High School work-study interns in the past on an intermittent basis. Under our new internship Wellesley Media's Executive Director, James Joyce, has designed a schedule that works for him and the intern over a longer period. I have a great deal of confidence in James' ability to make the internship opportunity fruitful for his organization and the student we support through our grant. In 2020 we provided a grant of \$5,000 to Wellesley Media to fund an internship for a high school or college age Wellesley student interested in a potential career in media communications to gain hands-on experience. Wellesley Public Media is a non-profit, digital mass-media access center serving the town of Wellesley, Massachusetts. Their mission is to support the education and informing of Wellesley citizens with regards to Town civic, educational, cultural, and community matters, and to enable them to use the latest tools and technologies for producing, managing, and distributing video and digital media. http://www.wellesleymedia.org/

In 2019, Wellesley Media produced three videos for us as a community public service. The first one helps us tell our story and talk about our mission. The second video is an interview with the people that oversee the Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University and the NITEO Program that we support (see below for more information). The third video is filmed at our 2019 annual golf tournament and barbeque lunch following the tournament. The video links are in the Thrive Talk page of our Web-site at: <u>https://apathinthewoods.org/thrive-talk</u>

Providing a Scholarship to the NITEO Program at Boston University

We also have a new partnership with the NITEO Program at the Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University's Sargent College. Their relatively small facility is located at 940 Commonwealth Ave. West on the Brookline/Boston line.

NITEO is an intensive; one-semester program supporting young adults who live with a mental health condition develop wellness tools, academic skills, resilience, and work-readiness. NITEO was established in 2014, and over 125 students have graduated from the program and moved on to valued roles in their communities.

The NITEO curriculum provides students with opportunities to:

- Practice and develop resiliency skills to help them live well at school and work,
- Examine their educational, vocational, and social strengths and values, and,
- Develop an individualized path to choose, get and keep the valued roles of their choice.

All classes are held at the Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University; Sargent College, or on-line during parts of 2020, and enrolled students have access to various other University resources including the Fitness and Recreation Center. See their website for more information. <u>https://cpr.bu.edu/about/</u>

Each fall (September-December) and spring (January-May) semester, 15-19 students are invited to participate in NITEO. The semester-long program is a simulation of the college experience where students have opportunities to:

- 1. attend wellness and academic classes to build skills for work, and personal success;
- 2. build lasting relationships with same-age peers and support staff;
- 3. work one-on-one with an assigned College Coach for individualized support around a host of academic, vocational, social, and wellness areas.

The fee for the fall or spring semester of NITEO – classes and coaching – is \$8,500. Students need not be from BU. NITEO operates under the umbrella of the Trustees of Boston University as a 501(c)(3) so we can provide a scholarship/grant directly to the Center under IRS rules. In 2020 we provided a grant to Center for Psychiatric Rehabilitation at Boston University of \$5,000

to sponsor a student scholarship for the NITEO program. Due to the coronavirus classes were held mostly remotely, but the need for the NITEO experience was greater than ever.

In 2019, we were very excited to announce that we are going to co-sponsor, with the Center, the showing of Andrew Gibson's film *Gutterbug* <u>https://www.gutterbugmovie.com/</u> at BU's Tsai Performance Center <u>https://www.bu.edu/tsai/</u> The showing was originally scheduled to be April 16, 2020 and was to include a Q&A with Andrew and a few of his fellow filmmakers. Due to the coronavirus, we were not able to hold the event. Our intention was to make the event free to all and welcome donations through our Website. Andrew Gibson is a talented young filmmaker and supporter of the Path Foundation. The film, which was shot in Allston, has already won several film-festival awards from Woods Hole to Los Angeles to Alaska. The Gibson family have been life-long friends from Wellesley and we are pleased to be able to support Andrew. We had planned to have proceeds from the film's showing be donated to the Center in the form of a student scholarship to the NITEO program. We will work with BU when the time comes to hopefully hold the event in late 2021.

OUR MISSION AND OUR HISTORY

A Path in The Woods Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit, charitable organization was created in 2009 in memory of Daniel McCabe of Wellesley, MA. The foundation is dedicated to opening new doors of opportunity and exploration for the young men and women in our community and beyond who are searching for their path in life and need assistance, financial or otherwise in beginning their journey. The foundation raises funds through community-based events and through direct contributions. The funds are used to provide grants for young adults for training and education related to developing job skills and building self-confidence.

The foundation is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. Each year A Path in The Woods Foundation continues to advance its mission through programs such as providing work-study internship grants for Wellesley High School students through a grant to the Wellesley Youth Commission dispersed by A Path in the Woods Fund, a fund of the Foundation for MetroWest, a community foundation.

Thanks for all your support these last 12 years.

In early 2021 will be launching a new website.

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to talk about our internship grant program.

Gary J. McCabe, President

Email: <u>thepathfoundation@comcast.net</u> Website: <u>http://apathinthewoods.org/</u>



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