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Adolescent Consultation Services awarded \$250,000 Cummings grant *Middlesex County nonprofit receives 10 years of funding from Cummings Foundation*

CAMBRIDGE, June 2, 2021 – Adolescent Consultation Services (ACS) is one of 140 local nonprofits to receive grants of \$100,000 to \$500,000 each through Cummings Foundation’s \$25 Million Grant Program. The Middlesex County organization was chosen from a total of 590 applicants during a competitive review process. It will receive \$250,000 over 10 years.

Adolescent Consultation Services (ACS) provides accessible mental health prevention and intervention services to support and empower children and families who are court-involved.

“We are extraordinarily grateful to receive a grant from Cummings Foundation! The timing of this support could not be better. Access to specialized mental health care is more critical now than ever. The support and partnership from Cummings Foundation enables us to continue to provide some of the most vulnerable children in our community with accessible, no cost mental health care, advocacy, and guidance navigating the juvenile justice and child welfare systems,” said ACS Executive Director, Dr. Leah M. Kelly.

The Cummings \$25 Million Grant Program supports Massachusetts nonprofits that are based in and primarily serve Middlesex, Essex, and Suffolk counties.

Through this place-based initiative, Cummings Foundation aims to give back in the area where it owns commercial buildings, all of which are managed, at no cost to the Foundation, by its affiliate, Cummings Properties. This Woburn-based commercial real estate leases and manages 10 million square feet of debt-free space, the majority of which exclusively benefits the Foundation.

“We aim to help meet the needs of people in all segments of our local community,” said Cummings Foundation Executive Director Joel Swets. “It is the incredible organizations we fund, however, that do the actual daily work to empower our neighbors, educate our children, fight for equity, and so much more.”

With the help of about 80 volunteers, the Foundation first identified 140 organizations to receive grants of at least \$100,000 each. Among the winners were first-time recipients as well as nonprofits that had previously received Cummings Foundation grants. Forty of this latter group of repeat recipients were then selected to have their grants elevated to 10-year awards ranging from \$100,000 to \$500,000 each.

“We have adopted a democratic approach to philanthropy, which empowers an impressive roster of dedicated volunteers to decide more than half of all our grant winners each year,” said Swets. “We benefit from their diverse backgrounds and perspectives; they benefit from a meaningful and fulfilling experience; and the nonprofits often benefit from increased exposure and new advocates.”

This year’s grant recipients represent a wide variety of causes, including social justice, homelessness prevention, affordable housing, education, violence prevention, and food insecurity. The nonprofits are spread across 43 different cities and towns.

The complete list of 140 grant winners, plus more than 800 previous recipients, is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org.

Cummings Foundation has now awarded more than \$300 million to greater Boston nonprofits.

About Adolescent Consultation Services:

Founded in 1973, Adolescent Consultation Services (ACS) serves the specialized needs of children involved in the juvenile justice system. ACS provides comprehensive diagnostic evaluations, treatment services, and advocacy for high-risk children and their families. The staff, composed of clinical social workers, mental health counselors, and psychologists, provide these services at no-cost to families. The critical and timely mental health services ACS provides are necessary to help children and families envision and work toward a better future. Additional information is found at www.acskids.org.

About Cummings Foundation:

Woburn-based Cummings Foundation, Inc. was established in 1986 by Joyce and Bill Cummings and has grown to be one of the three largest private foundations in New England. The Foundation directly operates its own charitable subsidiaries, including New Horizons retirement communities in Marlborough and Woburn, and Veterinary School at Tufts, LLC in North Grafton. Additional information is found at www.CummingsFoundation.org.