Foundation for MetroWest grants $110K for hunger relief

Daily News Staff Reports

NATICK — This summer, the Foundation for MetroWest launched a $55,000 Summer Hunger Challenge to support its MetroWest Hunger Relief Fund. Thanks to the generosity of donors and fundholders, the foundation has achieved its goal of distributing $110,000 to 51 hunger relief agencies in 30 cities and towns in the region.

“The MetroWest Hunger Relief Fund is an initiative of the foundation that we are particularly proud of,” said Mary Crowley, director of Operations & Programs. “As a community foundation, we have a unique opportunity to take a regional approach to supporting hunger relief in order to maximize impact. Our research shows individuals utilizing food pantries, community suppers, and other services often require more than what their hometown has the capacity to offer. By supporting organizations in 30 different cities and towns, our hope is that no matter where a MetroWest family looks for food support, they find what they need.”

To honor and celebrate the important work of the grantees, the public is invited to a panel talk from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7, in the Executive Dining Room at Bentley University, on “Hunger in MetroWest.” The talk will be followed by a celebration of the MetroWest Hunger Relief Fund grantees. This event is co-sponsored by the Bentley Service-Learning Center and the panel will be moderated by the center’s director, Dr. Jonathan White.

Panelists will include: Joanne Barry, A Place to Turn; Jessica Caouette, Share Our Strength; Ashley Stanley, Lovin’ Spoonfuls; Jonathan Tetrault, The Greater Boston Food Bank; and Matthew Tobia, Mt. Calvary Community Supper.

To register: www.eventbrite.com/e/panel-talk-hunger-in-metrowest-tickets-18231870014

The Hunger Relief Fund grantees include: Acton Community Supper & Food Pantry, Acton; Mt. Calvary Community Supper, Acton; Ashland Emergency Food Pantry; Minuteman Senior Services, Bedford; Gaining Ground, Inc., Concord; Open Table, Inc., Concord; Dedham Food Pantry; St. Bridget’s Food Pantry, Framingham; The Salvation Army, Framingham; HOPE Worldwide New England, Inc., Framingham; Jewish Family Services, Framingham; Lucy & Joe’s Food Pantry for Frail Elders, Framingham; Jewish Family Service of Metrowest, Framingham; United Way of Tri-County, Framingham; Holliston Pantry Shelf; Project Just Because, Inc., Hopkinton; Hudson Community Food Pantry; and Cooperative Elder Services, Inc., Lexington.

Also: Lexington Interfaith Outreach Food Pantry, Inc.; Marlborough Community Cupboard; Maynard Food Pantry; Medfield Food Cupboard; Medway Food Pantry/Medway Housing Authority; Medway Village Food Pantry; Daily Bread Food Pantry, Milford; The Salvation Army, Milford; Millis Ecumenical Food Pantry; A Place to Turn, Natick; Natick Service Council, Inc.; Needham Community Council; Needham Community Farm, Inc.; Friend of PIT, Northborough; United Parishes of Southborough Food Pantry; Stow Food Pantry; Sudbury Community Food Pantry; and Walpole Community Food Pantry.

In addition, grantees in Waltham included Grandma’s Pantry, Jewish Family and Children’s Service, Middlesex Human Service Agency, Inc., Sacred Heart Food Pantry, Springwell, Inc., The Salvation Army, and Waltham Fields Community Farm.

Other grantees are: Celebration International Church Food Pantry, Wayland; Parmenter VNA & Community Care, Inc., Wayland; Pierce’s Pantry, Wayland; Wellesley Food Pantry; Westborough Food Pantry; Land’s Sake, Weston; St. Vincent de Paul Society, Weston/Lincoln; and Westwood Council on Aging Food Pantry.