The Tech-cellerate program was launched with a gift of laptop computers from Google to Cambridge Community Foundation. The Foundation worked with local organizations to get the laptops into the hands of Cambridge students who put them to immediate use. Cover photos by Romana Vysatova.
Dear Friends,

The past year was a time for deepening connections and building relationships for all of us at the Cambridge Community Foundation. As we gathered together to mark 100 years of service to Cambridge, we were reminded of the power of community and of the “creative gene” that gives life here a unique flavor.

The celebration at MIT’s Media Lab in March emphasized the rich diversity of our city, highlighting long-held Cambridge values and reinforcing for all of us the importance of sustaining qualities we love about our city. We continue to look for ways to lift up our city’s unique strengths and create stronger links across boundaries in our community.

The Foundation is here to strengthen Cambridge and to extend opportunity and a culture of common purpose, collaboration and philanthropy through our extraordinary nonprofit partners, supported by the ongoing generosity of donors. Here’s an example of impact drawing on all those elements.

Early in the year, the Foundation received a phone call from Google’s Cambridge headquarters. They had 200 slightly used laptops. Could we use them? The upshot of that was a partnership including the City of Cambridge, Cambridge Youth Centers and half a dozen nonprofit organizations that work with young people.

Together we designed a program enabling students to earn a laptop by writing essays and designing projects that spoke to their aspirations and passions, acknowledging the challenges caused by a lack of access in a world driven by technology. The culminating event was a gathering at Google’s dazzling headquarters that transported more than a hundred young people to a place where new ideas are conceived and imaginations are let loose. (The cover of this report documents that evening.) Connections established there helped seed a vision of a future where Cambridge residents are full participants in the city’s economic future.

Driving the vision and work of the Foundation is a dedicated Board of Directors. In June, we said thank you to a number who completed ten years of service, including directors Linda Chin, Martha McKenna, Paul Parravano, Mary Power, Mina Reddy and Nan Stone, and trustees Michael Duca and Dora Lewin. And we welcomed a new team to lead us on, into a new year.

We offer this report as a record of a very full year.

Sincerely,

Geeta Pradhan
President and CEO

Richard Harriman
Board Chairman
The Foundation enters its second century with a community gathering

More than 300 civic leaders gathered at the MIT Media Lab on March 28, 2017, to celebrate the Cambridge Community Foundation’s centennial. Friends and partners came from every corner, reflecting all who contribute to the city’s global reputation.

“Cambridge Community Foundation plays such a critical role in strengthening our city,” said Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren, as she welcomed guests to the event in a videotaped message. “Thanks to your advocacy work and your partnerships with nonprofits, this organization makes our community a better place to live.”

The evening’s theme, Our City Our Future, honored the Foundation’s past and captured a sense of common purpose. It highlighted accomplishments achieved through the support of the Foundation’s generous donors and the remarkable dedication of the creative and committed nonprofit organizations it works with every day.

Two of those organizations captivated the audience with their artistic talents. The Longy School of Music’s regional youth orchestra Sistema Side By Side played a mini-concert to welcome all, and the Dance Complex’s troupe Bodies in Motion whisked between tables and onto the stage to join the evening’s host, Robin Young, of WBUR.

The performances celebrated Cambridge as a city with the “artistic gene,” a heritage centuries old that is as contemporary as the technology companies that make Cambridge the epicenter of global innovation today.

A video told the story of an immigrant family supported by Cambridge nonprofit Just-A-Start highlighted the opportunities offered to newcomers as they make their way into the American mainstream.

The centennial capped a year in which the Foundation’s mission was delivered in fresh ways. New efforts included civic convenings with stakeholders and community leaders; new funds to create ways to give back to the community; new grantmaking strategies to strengthen families, promote early childhood development and create opportunities in the innovation economy. And ways to foster the arts in Cambridge—a city of ideas.

The evening began with a video from U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren. She reached out from Washington D.C., with a welcome to all, honoring the long history and many accomplishments of the Foundation.

Photos by Kayana Szymczak
Guests arrived at the MIT Media Lab to the sounds of El Sistema Side by Side, courtesy of Longy School of Music. The student orchestra performed Brahms Hungarian Dance and the piece Pajarillo. (top)

Evening host Robin Youn of WBUR’s Here & Now drew on deep personal experience as a Cantabrigian to make everyone feel connected. She honored the qualities that define the city: compassion for those in need, a welcome for new arrivals, a commitment to innovation, and a shared appreciation for the city’s long and storied history. (inset)

Gail Roberts provided the creative energy to make the event happen—and stepped up to welcome the community to the celebration. (bottom)
New Fund Seeds Opportunity

**Falcon Pride Scholarships tackle inequality**

When Cambridge Rindge and Latin School parents Andus Baker, Rowan Murphy and Elizabeth Keating met with Foundation President Geeta Pradhan in the fall of 2016, they spoke about extending opportunity to children who had a passion for higher education but not the means. Their idea quickly materialized as the Falcon Pride Scholarship Fund, which supports both entry and persistence in college.

In response to their generosity, the Foundation committed $50,000 of its own resources to provide eight scholarship grants annually for five years, permitting the Fund to grow and become a sustainable source of support for our city’s children. Selected CRLS seniors receive two-year scholarships—for their freshman year in college and for persistence in their sophomore year.

For our young people, knowing they have the financial resources to go to college is a demonstration of Cambridge’s confidence in them and their next steps.

Andus, Rowan and Elizabeth are actively encouraging friends, neighbors and committed individuals to expand the fund so it will help CRLS students for years to come, and develop in-college support. They represent the passion for creating opportunity in Cambridge that is an enduring value of the city. And, as members of the board of the Foundation, Andus and Elizabeth bring their leadership skills and deep commitment to equity to our future.

**COLLEGE IMPACT**

% who say that considering what they and their family paid for undergraduate education, it ...

![Circle graph showing percentages](chart)

**COLLEGE GRADUATES:**

- Volunteer 2.3 times more than non-grads
- Give 3 times more to charity
- Are more likely to vote
- Join community and service organizations
- Report higher rates of happiness.

Note: Based on those with at least a bachelor’s degree. Pew Research Center

Taking that Falcon Spirit to a New Place

In May 2017, four graduates from Cambridge Rindge and Latin School were selected to receive the first Falcon Pride Scholarships.

One deferred, and three are in college now. Natalie McPherson-Siegrist is at the University of Tennessee; Narinka Guichette enrolled at Emmanuel College; and Roodeline Guichette is at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Roodeline spoke about her college experience.

She loves biology. And enjoyed the chance to explore teaching last semester. She always liked teaching her siblings. So, does she plan to be a science teacher?

Maybe.

A first-year student at UMass Boston, she is keeping her eyes—and her options—open to possibilities.

Roodeline is in the first group of Cambridge Rindge and Latin School graduates to receive financial assistance from the Falcon Pride Scholarship program, established this year. Her twin sister Narinka also received a Falcon Pride Scholarship.

Roodeline says UMass Boston is tough, but exciting. Some fellow students are familiar from Cambridge, but college is a new world. An honor student in high school, she is focused on nailing her grades, exploring a new landscape, meeting people and figuring out exactly what is the best fit for her interests and talents.
The Fund for Urgent Needs

Preparing for an uncertain future
An anonymous donor family that has steadfastly supported the Cambridge Community Foundation established the Urgent Needs Fund to help the community’s nonprofits cope with anticipated changes in federal funding for social programs. It has been pointed out that even a comparatively small cut to a major program such as Medicaid could cause a ripple effect across nonprofits as the Commonwealth cuts its support of local programs for those in need and for immigrants in order to fill a Medicaid needs gap.

The Urgent Needs Fund will meet emergency and unanticipated need and support organizational restructuring required to deal with changes in public funding that will affect the delivery of essential services.

Understanding that restructuring an organization and redirecting its energies takes time and money, our donors wanted to help the community’s nonprofits maintain the integrity of their missions under changing circumstances.

Their foresight reflects a grasp of community needs and nonprofit finance that marks the Cambridge donor, whose concern for the community is both compassionate and subtle, and with whom we are proud to work.

The Power of Personal Legacy
Additional support for those in urgent need came from a friend of the Foundation.

When long-time Cambridge resident Maurice Anderson died last year, he left two important legacies. The U.S. veteran and former teacher was a writer and editor. He co-founded the Writers of Color Workshop at the Cambridge Senior Center, where his memory is cherished.

He also made two bequests to benefit the community he loved.

The gift was sparked by Maurice’s distress at signs of poverty in Central Square—more hands held out for help. So, when he heard about the Foundation, he followed up. “I looked up the Cambridge Community Foundation and knocked on their door,” said Maurice.

Maurice established an outright bequest and a beneficiary designation working with the Foundation and entrusted it with his concerns.

Following his wish, this bequest will strengthen the Foundation’s Urgent Needs Fund. Initial grants from this fund will be made in the upcoming year.

Many Hands On Deck
Another way to help those in need is ManyHelpingHands365, a network established by CCF board member Lori Lander that supports volunteering in the city. It has developed the Martin Luther King Day of Service into one of the largest events of its kind in New England, bringing together volunteers of all ages to provide warm clothing for homeless residents, Valentine’s cards for local seniors, and help to stock food pantries.

The network has also joined other organizations to support a gun buyback program.

For this organization, Cambridge Community Foundation has served as fiscal sponsor, providing a range of financial duties for a new organization that doesn’t yet have the scale to cover these responsibilities. It is a way the Foundation can support important work or values the Foundation wants to advance.

The organization can be reached online at manyhelpinghands365.org

Residents gather at beginning of Martin Luther King Day. Photo courtesy of ManyHelpingHands365.
Following is a list of new named funds created in the past fiscal year. Some were announced at the gathering celebrating the Foundation’s 100th anniversary in March, including the Falcon Pride Scholarship Fund and the Urgent Needs Fund. Others rose through the spontaneous generosity of local donors in the face of need. The Rebuilding Fund addressed the effects of a catastrophic fire in Cambridge’s Wellington Harrington neighborhood which left scores of families homeless.

**FUNDS CREATED THIS YEAR**

- **Cosulich Family Charitable Fund**
  For tree planting in the Agassiz Neighborhood.

- **Falcon Pride Scholarship Fund**
  To support the work of the Foundation.

- **Johnson Family Fund**
  An agency endowment fund.

- **Beth and Marty Milkovits Fund**
  A scholarship for CRLS seniors, and to honor teaching.

- **Mina Reddy Fund**
  To support the Foundation.

- **The Rebuilding Fund**
  To support Cambridge Homes, Mt. Auburn Hospital and Paine Senior Services.

- **Tech-cellerate Fund**
  For human service agencies.

- **Urgent Needs Fund**
  A scholarship for Watertown High School seniors.

- **The Diane Busher Memorial Scholarship at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School and The Diane Busher Memorial Teacher Recognition Grant**
  A scholarship for CRLS seniors, and to honor teaching.

- **Cambridge/Agassiz/Harvard Community, Culture, and Recreation Fund**
  A fund for the Agassiz Baldwin community and Cambridge in general.

- **Cambridge Art Association Fund**
  An agency endowment fund.

- **Cambridge Community Foundation Leadership Fund**
  To support the Foundation’s Civic Leadership work.

- **Cambridge Trust Company Customers’ Fund**
  To strengthen community well-being.

- **The Chamberlain Fund**
  To support Cambridge Homes, Mt. Auburn Hospital and Paine Senior Services.

- **The Eleanor Balkind Friedman Fund**
  For environmental, educational and human service programs.

- **The Sheila Gamble Fund**
  To support education, environmental protection, health, and women’s issues.

The Cambridge Community Foundation began with a gift and an idea. The gift was made by a successful cattle dealer from Wayland named Jonathan Parmenter to establish scholarships for Harvard College students. The idea came from a Cambridge banker named Walter Earle who had heard of a new way to channel local philanthropy—the Community Foundation. Over 100 years later, the Cambridge Community Foundation continues to grow through gifts from generous donors.
“What I want, to borrow a phrase, is for Cambridge to ‘stay weird,’” says Rosemarie Torres Johnson. She laughs—but she means it. She loves the complexity in this city—and she wants to help sustain it.

A Southern California transplant who has called Cambridge home for more than 20 years, Rosemarie leads the Foundation’s Governance Committee. She brings to it a keen understanding of the mission, an eye for organizational excellence and a gift for seeing the big picture. Her work at the Foundation extends to the Development Committee, and she brings her creativity and warmth to every aspect of the organization’s work.

Rosemarie draws on deep experience in public relations, media and investor networks in her efforts to enlarge the Foundation’s means and impact. She is a founding partner in Persephone Venture Partners, a network of investors with a portfolio ranging from health care to high-tech to a Broadway musical.

A former WGBH overseer, she has held leadership roles at Concord Academy, Shady Hill School and Beacon Academy: access to education and opportunity looms large for this mother of three.

At the Foundation, Rosemarie brings many talents to the board and to the work of the Foundation. A highly engaged board member, she and her husband have established the Johnson Family Fund—a donor advised fund at the Foundation.

“We can accomplish so much more if people chip in, in every sense of the word, and we all work together,” she says.

A pragmatic optimist, she sees a clear path to meeting local challenges by mobilizing people and resources to make positive change.

“If we can’t find the answers with the minds and resources here in Cambridge, then where will they be found?”

Rosemarie Torres Johnson in a candid moment at a forum focused on the state of Cambridge as the city faces the impact of an historic economic boom. Photo by Romana Vysatova.
Nan Haar Fund
To assist local agencies.

Henry Hall Fund
To support the work of the Foundation.

Anne H. and Dwight E. Harken Fund
To honor lives of service and dedication to Cambridge.

Rick Harriman and Kristen Wainwright Civic Leadership Fund
To support the Foundation’s Civic Leadership agenda.

Head Of The Charles Regatta® Fund
For the Foundation as one of the official charities of the Regatta.

Val Hinderlie Fund
To help those who change careers to work in childcare.

Hurlbut Legacy Fund for Cambridge
To support the Foundation’s Civic Leadership.

Jackson Family Fund
For music education.

J. Jonas Fund
For children from infancy through adolescence.

The Karnovsky Fund
For education in and out of school.

Theoedora Keith Fund
For general support.

The Geoconda and Joseph H. King Fund
To encourage collaboration among human service providers.

Paul and Martha Lawrence Fund
To support the work of the Foundation.

Stanley Lawton Fund
For general support.

Ruth and Edith Lindblom Fund
For the betterment of Cambridge.

The Arthur L. and Geneva T. Malenfant Fund
For children in need.

Mary Mohrer Peer Counselors Fund
Supports training CRLS students to serve as mentors.

John R. Moot Fund
To support social service agencies.

Ruth W. Motherwell Fund
To honor Joseph Motherwell.

The Sarah Hope Moulton Fund
To help families with disabled children.

Ronald Novendstern Fund
For unmet healthcare needs.

Oaktree Appellant’s Group: Alewife Fund
To preserve the Alewife Reservation.

Oaktree Appellant’s Group: Affordable Housing Fund
For affordable housing.

Open Software Foundation Fund
For community service.

The Parmenter Fund
Scholarships to enable students to attend Harvard.

Patricia and Herbert W. Pratt Fund
For art and music education.

Charlotte and Irving W. Rabb Fund
For Cambridge youth.

RBS04 Fund
Child mental health and music education.

Dr. Robert C. Reid Fund
General Foundation support.

J. Preston Rice Memorial Fund
For immigrant students.

Rindge School of Technical Arts Fund
To prepare students for careers.

Manuel Rogers Sr. Center Fund
For the Center for Portuguese Culture.

The Bob Shea Memorial Fund
To help homeless people.

Social Justice Works!
The Aaronson Fund
For CRLS graduates promoting social justice.

Special Fund
For compelling needs.

The Patricia Weiland Stavely Memorial Book Fund
To honor a love of books.

Alan Steinert Fund
To support the Foundation’s work.

Alice Morris Sturges Fund
For families with disabled children.

Walter Knight Sturges Fund
To honor students and teachers in the arts.

James Jerome Sullivan Fund
To support Foundation grantmaking.

Syneectics, Inc. Fund
To support the Foundation’s Civic Leadership agenda.

Teaching Philanthropy Fund
To encourage philanthropy.

Anne Longfellow Thorp Fund
For Cambridge social services.

Timothy and Joseph Traversy Fund
To encourage philanthropy.

Tufts Health Plan Fund
To improve community health.

The Detlev and Dorothy Vagts Fund
To enhance equity and fair play.

Eleanor Roberta Walker Scholarship Fund
A scholarship for Belmont High School seniors who want to teach.

Cornelia Balch Wheeler Fund
Unrestricted Foundation support.

Albert O. Wilson Fund
For the City of Cambridge.

George E. Wilson Campers Fund
For children to attend summer camp.

The Alice Wolf Early Education and Care Fund
For Cambridge children and their families.
Cambridge has earned a reputation as well-managed and compassionate. But hidden in this vibrant community is a sobering reality: too many residents living with food insecurity. Filling this gap since 1981 is Food For Free. The Cambridge-based nonprofit is a longtime partner of Cambridge Community Foundation in addressing urgent need.

Here are some numbers attesting to that need—and to Food For Free’s impact.

- They deliver 2 million pounds of food (that’s 1.7 million meals) to 30,000 people in 11 communities in Greater Boston through the year;
- An innovative program sends backpacks of groceries home with almost 500 Cambridge students who would otherwise go hungry; and
- Home Delivery brings meals to low-income seniors and people with disabilities living in Cambridge.

Along the way, Food For Free has built a network of allies, from the Greater Boston Food Bank to local schools, service organizations and companies. Google has been one generous source among many corporate donors, says Sasha Purpura, the organization’s executive director. And Harvard has led with donations of prepared foods repackaged for those who struggle to make their own meals.

The ultimate impact of Food For Free emerges in testimony from their partners. Organizations serving needy residents (for example East End House, Vinfen, On The Rise) express gratitude as it makes nutritious food a reality. In the words of AIDS Action Committee, “There are times when the food we receive from Food For Free is the only food our clients will eat that day. The importance of that cannot be overstated.”

*Need in the middle of plenty describes the challenge for many Cambridge families. Those who struggle to put food on the table find help with Food For Free. Photo courtesy of Food For Free.*
Charting Change in Cambridge’s Future

What the numbers indicate about our city

Cambridge is changing at a dizzying pace, as new construction reflects a dynamic local economy.

The new Cambridge will look different. Will it lose a distinctiveness built on racial, ethnic and cultural richness? Will our city keep its historic commitment to social justice? At Cambridge’s community foundation, committed to the well-being of the entire community, a study published this year explored those key questions.

Called *Boomtown/Hometown: What the numbers say about income, housing and education in Cambridge today*, the publication focuses on trends shaping our city’s future: *increasing income inequality, rapidly rising housing costs and persistent educational disparities.*

The Foundation introduced the publication at the Charles Hotel on March 1, before an overflowing crowd. A panel, facilitated by State Rep. Marjorie Decker, included as discussion leaders Economist Randy Albelda of UMass-Boston; Moacir Barbosa of Health Resources in Action (now a board member of Cambridge Community Foundation); Economist and former Northeastern University Professor of political economy Barry Bluestone; and Ronald Ferguson, of the Wiener Center for Social Policy at Harvard.

The panelists stressed the impact of income inequality. To underscore his point about the trend, Professor Bluestone noted that the number of millionaires in Cambridge had doubled between 2004 and 2014. Commenting on Rep. Decker’s personal story of growing up in public housing and becoming a state representative, Moacir Barbosa noted that sense of open-ended possibility now seems fleeting.

“The engine of opportunity that the city once was is going—or gone,” he said.

Publications like Boomtown/Hometown and gatherings such as the one at the Charles reflect the Foundation’s commitment to civic leadership: partnering with City Hall and the city’s many nonprofit organizations to respond to present needs, while independently studying the community, defining key trends drawing on Cambridge’s intellectual capital, convening community leaders, and setting the agenda for the community’s future.
Needs Assessment

*Foundation co-funds study to align city with community benefits funding*

The City of Cambridge and the Foundation partnered with the Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition to release the Community Needs Assessment study in January 2017. The goal of the study was to guide the use of mitigation funds pledged through zoning amendments and agreements with developers and intended to help the city mitigate the effects of development.

These funds are intended to be used by the nonprofit community to expand services to benefit Cambridge residents and address community needs. With broad goals established by the City Council, an appointed Community Benefits Advisory Committee, which includes the Foundation, city leaders, nonprofit representatives and city residents, is working to develop recommendations for allocating funds to non-profit organizations, in alignment with the most critical needs facing our city.

As indicated by the study and confirmed by a survey of residents, the top tier of needs include: Economic security, housing and mental health support.

The Boomtown/Hometown report packed the room and generated a thoughtful and engaged conversation. Shown here are educator Angela Allen, head of school at Prospect Hill Academy Charter School; and Dita Obler, a genetic counselor and steering committee member at Community Conversations, a women’s health initiative focused on black women and their families.
Almost 2,000 Cambridge children live in poverty.

INCOME

$54,416 was the urban median household income in the country in 2015.

$79,416 was the median household income in Cambridge in 2015—that’s more than $25,000 GREATER than the median for all urban households in the country.

INEQUALITY

10%+
of all Cambridge families with children live in poverty.

32.8%of families headed by single women live in poverty, up 8 points since 2010.

$1.2 million
Average price for a single-family home in 2014.

$2,950/mo.
A two-bedroom apartment.

$3,400/mo.
A three-bedroom apartment.

SOURCE: City of Cambridge
Bikes have established themselves as a key source of transportation for those who work in Cambridge. Here commuters pour down Cambridge Street on the way to Kendall Square. More traditional routes have become overwhelmed by the pace of development. Photo by Richard Howard.

### Poverty by Race 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>26.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>26.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Education

Racial achievement gaps in math and science—critical for success in a technology-based economy—are evident as early as third grade.

### College Completion

- Cambridge students are less likely to complete college than Framingham students.
  - 38% Framingham students
  - 31% Cambridge students earn a degree within 6 years of high school graduation
Serving those who have nowhere to go

Alexis’s commute to work is a short hop to the margins along the train tracks where homeless people huddle, wrapped against the rain. She’s an outreach worker from CASPAR, a rare shelter welcoming clients who are actively drinking or using drugs. Alexis appears in the white van with a sandwich, a blanket, or a ride back to the center on Albany Street. Two men climb in. One stays in the small encampment—temporarily barred for bad behavior. And we roll on.

“I love my job,” says Alexis with a grin. A published poet who has been working with homeless people for two years, she fills the 4-to-midnight shift most days. It is clear in every interaction that her empathy and energy make a powerful connection she can leverage to help people who need all the help they can get.

She is one public face of an organization fully engaged since 1970 in saving lives and promoting healthier lifestyles for as many as 1,500 men, women, adolescents and babies each year. Serving residents of Cambridge and Somerville, as well as anyone who comes to them in need, CASPAR today offers day and residential programs, including services for pregnant women and infants, and residences for men and women.

A long-time recipient of grants from Cambridge Community Foundation, CASPAR stands as an essential resource for those with urgent needs, beginning with a warm place to get out of the rain, a meal, and on this day, a friendly and deeply committed ally in the daily battle to get sober, get healthy, get a fresh start in life.

Alexis checks out a gathering place set up by homeless people near the MIT campus in Cambridge. Because of the nature of her work, she prefers to use only her first name. Photo by David Trueblood.
For the years ended June 30, 2017

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<th>ASSETS</th>
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<th>LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</th>
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<th>FY16</th>
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<td>Split Interest Agreements</td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</strong></td>
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<td>$35,419,146</td>
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<th>REVENUES</th>
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<td>Civic Leadership</td>
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<td>Operating Expenses</td>
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<td><strong>Total Grants &amp; Expenses</strong></td>
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<td>$35,008,025</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net Assets, End of Year</td>
<td>$36,083,761</td>
<td>$33,953,574</td>
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“It has been rewarding to see the growth of the Foundation in recent years. A program of extending civic leadership, building partnerships, enlarging Cambridge’s endowment comes together to create new and greater opportunities to serve local residents.”

Elizabeth Reid, Chair, Finance Committee, Cambridge Community Foundation
There is good news one year after a devastating fire tore through a tight-knit community in the heart of Cambridge’s Wellington-Harrington neighborhood: the work of reconstruction is well underway. New plans are complete for housing to replace much of what was lost in one early December afternoon.

The more personal losses—summer clothes, school books, sports equipment—have been largely replaced through a fund created at Cambridge Community Foundation, driven by the generosity of local donors, and announced immediately after the fire. Designated as a Rebuilding Find, the idea was to augment the money the City of Cambridge raised for the structural rebuilding, with a focus on the very individual losses that have an immediate and direct impact on people’s lives, and which can be hard to replace for those with limited resources.

Funds collected by the Foundation were distributed by Just-A-Start Corporation, which is also overseeing the new construction of affordable housing. Just-A-Start has been a funding partner with the Foundation since the nonprofit was first established in 1968 as a community revitalization and youth training program.

“Our first concern was to encourage giving to the City Fund,” said Geeta Pradhan, Foundation president. “Our next concern was to help with the long slow work of reconstructing a neighborhood and contributing to those affected by the fire. We put out an invitation...
to help, and donors from across the city and beyond responded immediately.”

Need was real, immediate and diverse, said Gerry Zipser, director of Housing for Just-A-Start, who oversaw the distribution of money from the Rebuilding Fund. “Copies of immigrant documents, equipment to treat sleep apnea,” she said. “One resident’s son was in every sport, and lost all his equipment.”

The impact was significant beyond replacement of property lost, said Gerry. She quoted from notes received in response to the grants.

“I feel like a person again,” one said; “I had no idea my neighbors cared so much,” said another.

—

Grantmaking is true partnership. It depends on a network of people who love this city and whose knowledge, compassion and generosity bring the idea of shared prosperity within reach.

Lorraine Thornhill and Lori Lander, co-chairs, Foundation Distribution Committee
The Cambridge Community Foundation is widely known as a grantmaker. For over 100 years, it has received and managed gifts from local donors to build an endowment for Cambridge, drawing funds to support the work of nonprofit organizations serving local needs.

But the Foundation also pursues grants to strengthen the good work of others. Last year, that effort bore fruit in the form of funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, which was augmented by funding from the Foundation’s resources, to support community-based arts programs.

On the receiving end were five very different organizations that enliven the arts scene in the neighborhoods close to Central Square, a creative hub for the city.

These included Cambridge Community Center’s program The Hip Hop Transformation; Gallery 263; Community Art Center; Central Square Theater; and CCTV, the city’s cable news source. Projects ranged from community-based painting (online and in gathering places); a performance and spoken word project to give teenagers a platform to make art from their lives; theater and dance with a focus on community connection; and an ongoing project called Home Port that uses visual and performance arts to celebrate the extraordinary history of The Port neighborhood.

And CCTV was enlisted as the documenting partner for the organizations.

The big goal of the grant was to honor and raise visibility for arts organizations in Cambridge’s historic Central Square district, that in turn raise up a deeply rooted tradition of cultural expression as part of what makes Cambridge Cambridge.

**GRANTEE STORY**

**Funding arts programs in Central Square**

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Cambridge Community Foundation expresses deep gratitude to the donors who supported our work in Cambridge in 2017. We also wish to thank donors who established named funds, contributed to existing funds and gave pledges reflecting their commitment for the future of Cambridge.

### Donor List FY17

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In a city famous for a commitment to the arts, here’s a program that stands out. Created by kids, nurtured in The Port, its very name signals a distinctive spirit: The Do It Your Damn Self!! National Youth Film Festival is a sassy, entrepreneurial celebration of young people and their commitment to social justice.

It is the product of the Teen Media Program at the Community Art Center, a grantee of the Foundation for its community-building through art and education. The brainchild of six Cambridge teens, the festival last year drew more than 800 participants from across the country. The only thing not youthful about DIYDS!! is its age, now over 20 years and counting.

“It is the group that makes impact,” said Jensun Yonjan, Teen Media Program Coordinator. “One film about social justice won’t change a lot of people. But the combination of all this work? That’s a very powerful thing.”

Along the way it has drawn impressive partners: last year MIT, the Cambridge Community Center (itself the home of The Hip-Hop Project, a platform for young performers) and the Institute of Contemporary Art. This year’s festival is scheduled for March with the public invited to attend Saturday, March 31st, 7 pm. Tickets will be available at the door of MIT’s Media Lab or online at www.DIYDS.org.

The real power in DIYDS!! lies in the hands of young people combining their concerns and their curiosity—their voices—with a compelling medium. Photo courtesy of Community Arts Center.
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Anne McClintock
Laura W. McConaghy
Hilary McGhee
Michael and Hei Meltsner
Stephen Minicucci and Nina Tisch
Ruby F. and Allen Mintz
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Neil Olken
Martha and David Osler
Caroline Owens
Elizabeth Pierce
Anne Whitney Pierce
Elizabeth Platt
Drew Polinsky
Joan Roberts Polinsky
Mitch Polinsky
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Chuck Zymaris

Michael Dawson has developed programs to introduce local students to the power of STEAM—Science Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. He brought one of his students to the Tech-cellerate gathering at Google headquarters to connect with other like-minded students and workers. With him is Sharlene Yang, STEAM Coordinator for the City of Cambridge (Photo by Romana Vysatova)

Donor List FY17

We are deeply grateful to all donors who are giving to build the Cambridge Endowment. Whether for specific issues or to meet urgent need, those who have given are ensuring the Cambridge Community Foundation’s civic leadership and grantmaking activity. A special salute to donors who make planned gifts and bequests, ensuring the Foundation’s work for generations to come.

Lauren Cosulich, Chair, Cambridge Community Foundation Development Committee; and Advisor, Summit Trail Advisors

PLANNED GIVING AND BEQUESTS

The following donors to Cambridge Community Foundation include planned gifts to the Foundation as part of their estate planning. This enables them to establish a legacy and support their charitable concerns into the future.

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C. Lansing Fair and Julia M. Fair
Natalie Z. Haar*
Estate of Ellen Moot
Arthur F. Musgrave
Patricia Pratt
Robert C. Reid
Barbara Rimbach*

*Deceased

This report is accurate to the best of our knowledge. We apologize for any oversight or error.
Leadership

The following donors made the Foundation's centennial celebration possible through their generosity:

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**Premier Sponsor**
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- The Wagner Foundation

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- Gail Roberts

**Community Builder**
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- Paul and Katie Buttenwieser
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- Jeff Mayersohn and Linda Seamonson
- Mount Auburn Hospital
- Robert Neer and Ann Eldridge
- Bill and Lia Poorvu
- Mary and Bradford Power
- Patricia Pratt
- Jan and Joe Roller

We are also deeply grateful to the following: WBUR’s Robin Young and Amy MacDonald, Shanti Fry, Nicholas Negroponte and Deborah Porter and the staff at MIT’s Media Lab, Louisa McCall of Fewer Guns & More Roses, Carol Maglitta of One Visual Mind, and Nicole Guilmartin.

Giving Can Be a Creative Exercise

Gifts can be as individual as the donors who make the work of Cambridge Community Foundation possible. In the past year, gifts included artwork by iconic photographer Ansel Adams—and antique American currency.

The art work came as a bequest from noted Harvard Business School Professor Paul Lawrence who had a long-time relationship with the Foundation. The photo was sold at auction by Skinner Auctioneers and the proceeds bolstered the Foundation’s grants program.

The currency collection represented a relationship of over 50 years with Cambridge Trust Company, one of two trustee banks represented on the Foundation’s board, which manage the foundation’s endowment.

The sale of the currency made it possible to expand the Foundation’s civic leadership work across the city.

To discuss gifts to the Foundation, contact Usha Pasi at Cambridge Community Foundation at 617-576-9966.

Detail of photo by American Master Ansel Adams, a gift to the Foundation.
CCF Directors FY17

Cambridge Community Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors. Our trustees represent the Bank of America and Cambridge Trust Company which are responsible for the investment of the Foundation’s principal.
The Professional Advisors Council is a critical resource for the Foundation. Established in 2017, the Council is building a network that strengthens our work in the community by engaging a new level of expertise in philanthropy and by broadening our outreach.

Beth Milkovits, Co-Chair, Professional Advisors Council, Relationship Manager, Brown Brothers Harriman
All Together Now  This is what a dynamic innovation economy looks like. Community leaders, students, foundation donors and friends all came together in 2017 in creative space made available by Google. An evening organized by Cambridge Community Foundation delivered a celebration of opportunity, building connections and putting local students at the center of a global hotspot.