

## Meeting community need

*City-Foundation partnership addresses economic inequality*

The City of Cambridge released the Cambridge Needs Assessment study in January 2017, funded by the City of Cambridge and Cambridge Community Foundation, which identify Cambridge's most pressing needs and service gaps. An Advisory Committee helped refine the research and plan a strategy. Needs were prioritized based on the number of people affected; impact on vulnerable populations; and urgency of need. Needs were grouped in three tiers. CCF's Boomtown/Hometown report closely aligns with the city's highest needs, including:

### **Affordable housing and homelessness**

Housing is the most pressing issue facing residents, displacing education as the single most important issue in Cambridge today, selected by 30% of surveyed citizens in 2016, up from 18% in 2014 and 8% in 2012 (Cambridge Needs Assessment, 2017). Additionally, according to CCF's Boomtown/Hometown report (Housing Cost Burden): 50% of low income Cambridge households pay over 50% of their income for housing costs.



### **Financial security**

More than 45,000 residents were financially insecure in 2014, about 43% of the population (Cambridge Needs Assessment, 2017). The Foundation's Boomtown/Hometown report points to Cambridge's growing income inequality: Close to a thousand working households make more than \$500,000 a year, while nearly 5,000 working households bring in less than \$40,000 a year. Cost of living affordability threshold was \$92,000 in 2014.

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"There are enormous threats on the horizon—cutting Medicaid alone would have a dramatic effect on Massachusetts across the board."

NOAH BERGER, PRESIDENT,  
MASSACHUSETTS BUDGET AND  
POLICY CENTER

Noah Berger, on concerns about federal cuts shrinking local resources for critical needs such as housing, early childhood and social programs. He noted Medicaid spending in the Commonwealth in 2016 totaled \$17.1 billion and the federal government contributed 54.1 percent of that. For more on this, see [Cambridgeccf.org/news](http://Cambridgeccf.org/news)



*Food insecurity is a constant invisible reality in Cambridge. Some fear federal cuts could make this worse.*

## Building on the power of Cambridge values



**When need or strife strikes, the spirit of generosity that is rooted deeply in the culture of Cambridge emerges in full force.**

The local instinct is to pitch in, to help out, to contribute. This was evident recently because of an awareness of serious need among residents of the city and the potential impact of federal funding cuts, as well as a series of hurricanes that caused damage in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico—far away but connected to Cambridge through family ties.

It is in such times that Cambridge Community Foundation carries the city's values forward, building networks, gathering

resources, and applying them to those in need. To offer one example, a grant to organizations such as KIND help children find haven from violence and disorder. In this way we can honor a long and inclusive history in this city of immigrants, where 27 percent of residents are foreign born.

And we are encouraged by contributions to our Urgent Needs Fund to help nonprofits in the face of possible cuts in funding.

We are also happy to report in this issue on the Professional Advisors Council, part of an expanding network of partnerships that strengthens the Foundation. And we introduce new members of our board

of directors to underscore our commitment to Cambridge values. Leaders from many sectors of the community come together to help this organization grow. We invite you to find out more and to consider making a gift to support the work of the Foundation through the Giving Page on our website, which you can find at [www.cambridgeccf.org/giving](http://www.cambridgeccf.org/giving).



Geeta Pradhan, President  
Cambridge Community Foundation

# Foundation grant helps children stranded in immigration courts



**T**he stories KIND has to tell are deeply disturbing. Imagine a 9-year-old child fleeing violence, making his or her way alone to the American border seeking haven. Once here, she must thread her way through the American legal process.

Helping children navigate this harsh legal terrain is KIND—Kids In Need of Defense—a network of lawyers and service providers. They represent children, guide them through the legal system, and address the trauma they suffer.

To support this work, KIND received a substantial grant from the **Cambridge Community Foundation**.

“The need is dire,” said **Marissa Howe**, who oversees the KIND office serving Cambridge and the region, more than 620 children in one recent year.

Marissa has two messages about the current state of play for KIND. The good news is that Cambridge is, in her words, “Unique because of the sheer diversity

among its immigrants, making it a very welcoming community.” The bad news? Children still need help.

But the issue resonates in Cambridge, a city where more than 27 percent of residents are foreign born.

Children arriving from areas roiled by violence need nurturing. And generous contributions of time by pro bono lawyers are just one part of the solution. Marissa said KIND also needs staff lawyers, and there is the need for non-legal help, too. Psychological help for terrified children, and experienced professionals fluent in Spanish.

All this calls for significant resources and support from organizations like the Foundation, which is well positioned to see how a network of local services can be delivered in the most effective way to children arriving in fear and confusion.

“For immigrant children, relief is a long-term prospect,” said Marissa. ■

## A STRONG NETWORK THAT BUILDS UNDERSTANDING AND CONNECTION



**T**he Professional Advisors Council is a new and important resource for the Foundation. A gathering of seasoned experts in investment management, tax and estate planning, the Council works with donors and potential donors to help them understand the role and work of a community foundation and the significance of local philanthropy.

“It is a mutually rewarding relationship,” said Lauren Cosulich, council co-chair with Beth Milkovits. “The advisors keep the Foundation informed and current, especially about technical issues relevant to donors, and the Foundation raises an understanding of community issues, the work

of nonprofits and the culture of philanthropy in general.”

Lauren and Beth are Cambridge residents and members of the Cambridge Community Foundation’s board of directors.

“This provides the Foundation with a team of professionals who can speak from strength and expertise to those interested in philanthropy and in this community,” Beth said. “And at the same time, they can raise understanding within the Foundation about the concerns and interests of donors and prospective donors.”

The cumulative goal? To help those interested in the work of the Foundation grow more familiar with the idea of high-impact local philanthropy.



**Lauren Cosulich** is a partner and an advisor at Summit Trail Advisors. She is a co-founder of the Professional Advisors Council. Lauren serves on the Development Committee. She is a Cambridge resident.



**Beth Milkovits** is a relationship manager in Private Banking at Brown Brothers Harriman in Boston. Her work with clients is focused on comprehensive wealth management and she is an ambassador for the BBH Center on Women and Wealth. Beth is a member of the Boston Estate Planning Council and Financial Planning Association of Massachusetts.

She is co-founder of the Professional Advisors Council.



**Yasmin Causer** is a principal in the private client services group at KLR, the accounting, tax and business advisory firm with offices in Boston, Newport, Providence, Waltham as well as Shanghai, China.



**Kelwin Conroy** is a director at Pathstone Federal Street, a national wealth advisory firm offering multigenerational stewardship for both high net-worth families and institutional clients.

## The power of a personal legacy



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. An honored mentor, he co-founded the Writers of Color Workshop at the Cambridge Senior Center, where his memory is cherished.

And he made two bequests to the **Cambridge Community Foundation** to benefit the community he lived in and loved.

The gift was sparked by Maurice's distress at signs of poverty in Central Square—he was seeing 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 concern about the city. His bequest will strengthen the Foundation's Urgent Needs Fund—responding to our community. Initial grants from this fund will be made in December 2017. ■

*Above: Maurice Anderson is shown at the Cambridge Senior Center where he worked as a writer and a mentor.*

## Meeting community need

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### Mental health: behavioral health and substance abuse

Roughly 21% of middle and high school students report being depressed; 8% of high school students and 13% of middle school students have seriously considered suicide. The number of opioid overdoses successfully treated has risen from 79 cases in 2012 to 114 in 2015 (Cambridge Needs Assessment, 2017).

Mitigation funds for community benefits were pledged to the City through zoning amendments and agreements with developers between 2010-2013. These funds formed the impetus for the *Cambridge Needs Assessment* study which will guide their distribution.

Currently, \$14.5 million has been committed to the Fund from developers building in the City. The City will use these funds to partner with the nonprofit community to expand services for Cambridge residents to better meet residents' unmet need. These funds are the first step towards finding scaled solutions to our city's most pressing needs and we look forward to leveraging them with CCF grant dollars and donor co-investments to make Cambridge a city where all have the possibility of meeting their full potential. ■

## Beneficiary Designations, Bequests, and Giving from IRAs

Giving by bequest or legacy is a widely used and effective way to support nonprofit organizations. Bequests enable a donor to plan charitable gifts, which can be directed to one or more organizations.

Creating a beneficiary designation means naming a specific person or organization to receive an asset that is part of a donor's estate. One advantage: assets designated to transfer to a specific beneficiary upon death avoid probate.

Giving from an Individual Retirement Account, is another effective philanthropic strategy, because distributions up to \$100,000 per person per year that go directly to charity are not taxed for donors over the age of 70½.

**Please call Usha Pasi at 617.576.9966 for more information about giving to CCF. We encourage you to contact your advisors for tax and legal counsel.**



**Andrew Piltzer Cowan** is co-founder and partner at Piltzer

Cowan Law. A former public defender, he is focused on estate planning, probate and criminal defense law.



**Judith Cranna** is vice president at Eaton Vance Investment

Counsel. She is responsible for investment management and client services for individuals, families and foundations, integrating investment and estate planning.



**Kristin Dzialo** An attorney with Eckert Byrne LLC in Cambridge,

Kristin advises clients with unique backgrounds, often involving complex financial and family dynamics. She started her career in development working with organizations in the region.



**Carrie Endries** is senior portfolio manager and director of

Impact Investments at Reynders, McVeigh Capital Management, LLC, a Boston-based boutique investment firm that provides financial planning as well as estate and trust services.



**Arlene Holtzman** is an attorney with deep professional experience

in philanthropic advising. She has worked with many leading nonprofit organizations, including Oxfam America, Children's Hospital Boston and Simmons College.



**Barbara Targum** is managing partner of Dwight Rudd Insurance, a

privately held boutique insurance brokerage that specializes in risk management and the needs of affluent individuals and families.



**Wendy Weiss** is a financial planner, serving as principal and

CEO for Cambridge-based Weiss Financial Advisors, LLC, serving the needs of individual clients. She developed the website *Hot Flash Financials*, focused on 'Boomer' women. ■

To find out more about the Council, please contact **Usha Pasi** at 617.576.9966.





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## Planning for the future

**Members of the Cambridge Nonprofit Coalition steering committee shown gathering for its 5th Summit.**

The goal of the convening was to strengthen the network of participating organizations and develop a shared agenda shaped by the needs of Cambridge organizations and residents. The coalition is funded in part by Cambridge Community Foundation to support the local nonprofit sector. (Photo by Romana Vysatova)

## Foundation announces six new directors and one trustee

The Foundation has announced six new directors—and a new trustee—bringing board membership to 23. The board manages the organization and includes directors, drawn from the community, and trustees, who represent the banks that are responsible for the Foundation's endowment. New members include:



**Andus Baker** recently retired after 20-plus years at Fidelity Investments

where his roles included management of Fidelity Charitable. He has been widely engaged in the community, with leadership roles in Christ Church, youth sports organizations and currently is president of the Cambridge Skating Club.



**Sarah Gallop**, is co-director of the MIT Office of Government

and Community Relations and president of the Kendall Square Association. She serves as MIT's liaison to Cambridge government and the community, focused on transportation, zoning, land use and other "Town-Gown" topics.



**Lisa Ijiri** is vice provost for Academic Affairs at Lesley University. She led

initiatives including the creation of the Global Education Center. Earlier, she directed the Program for Advancement of Learning, a renowned comprehensive program for college students with learning disabilities, at Curry College.



**Elizabeth Keating** is finance manager at Campus Child Care Inc., at Harvard

University. A long-time teacher of finance and accounting at local universities, she also consults with nonprofit organizations. Elizabeth co-authored *Passion and Purpose* with Geeta Pradhan, the first comprehensive overview of the Massachusetts nonprofit sector.



**Mike Shires** is head of corporate services at Shire, the global biotech

leader in rare disease therapies based in this country in Lexington and Cambridge. He led the integration of Shire with Baxalta. He started his career in the aerospace industry with the US Government and Lockheed-Martin.



**Jonathan L. Walton** is a social ethicist and scholar of

American religions. He is on the faculty at Harvard Divinity School and President Drew Faust appointed him Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister. He is the author of *Watch This! The Ethics and Aesthetics of Black Televangelism*.



**Jennifer Pline** has been named a trustee for the Foundation,

representing Cambridge Trust Company, where she is executive vice president and head of Wealth Management. She came to Cambridge Trust from Harvard Management Company where she served as managing director, chief trusts and gifts officer. Trustees on the board represent Cambridge Trust Company and Bank of America, successors to the banks that formed the Foundation. They are responsible for investment and oversight of the Foundation's endowment.