

The following pages contain a summary of community nonprofit agencies paid by the Worcester Public Schools using grant funding. Grant awards vary year to year in amount and allowable uses of funds. This applies to both annual competitive and federally allocated “entitlement” funds. Federal funds have faced considerable pressure in recent years, with declining allocations and increasing fixed costs such as salaries and employee benefits that the district lacks the resources to fund from local sources. Ongoing funding has not kept up with increasing need, and while new funds are continuously being pursued, they cannot always offset loss of support or change of priorities at the federal level.

### **Teacher Diversification Pilot Program**

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MA DESE) competitive Teacher Diversification Pilot Program grant is designed to support local school district efforts to strengthen and diversify existing teacher recruitment and retention programs. Through the use of state funds, participating pilot school districts will engage in thoughtful approaches intended to increase the number of effective and diverse teachers in their schools.

#### **FY 20**

The district recently applied for continuation funding (Year 2 of 3) for the Teacher Diversification Pilot Program. The purpose of these funds is to further develop our partnership with Worcester State University (WSU) to diversify and support the teacher workforce as well as provide guidance and support for employees in the enrollment into an approved educator

preparation program at WSU as well at MTEL preparation support. We anticipate funding will impact up to 80 current employees drawn from our existing pool of 20 paraprofessionals with a bachelor's degree as well as a new cohort of 20 paraprofessionals with a bachelor's degree. We anticipate recruiting two new cohorts of 20 District graduates or other college graduates and 20 provisionally licensed teachers.

In addition, we anticipate our project will impact up to 37 current employees drawn from our existing pool of 17 paraprofessionals with an associate's degree or no degree as well as a new cohort of 20 paraprofessionals with an associate's degree or no degree. The purpose of these funds is to further develop our partnership with JET and Worcester State University to diversify and support the teacher workforce as well as provide MTEL preparation support. This application is still pending, with award and contract amounts yet to be determined.

#### **FY 19**

The district was awarded its initial Teacher Diversification Pilot Program grant to support "*The Paraprofessional Educator Pipeline*" which paired Worcester State University (WSU) and Worcester Public Schools (WPS) to support 20 paraprofessionals with bachelor's degrees currently employed in the district to engage in classroom and fieldwork approaches through WSU to become licensed teachers. In addition, the grant funds the "*Paraprofessional Pathways*" program or "*P3*", which pairs WSU, WPS and JET (Journey into Education and Teaching). *P3* will support 20 paraprofessionals with associate's degrees or no degree currently employed by the WPS seeking initial licensure and an undergraduate degree.

**Worcester State University (\$165,960):** Worcester State University will provide 20 paraprofessionals with bachelor degrees seeking licensure and/or a post-secondary degree as well as 20 paraprofessionals seeking a bachelor degree and licensure coursework during the 2019 Summer I, Summer II and Fall semesters.

#### **21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC)**

The purpose of the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC grant program funded by the MA DESE is to support the implementation of out-of-school time (OST) programming during after school hours and the summer. Activities for students help to close proficiency and opportunity gaps, increase student engagement, support a well-rounded education, social and emotional learning, as well as promote civic engagement as well as college and career readiness and success. Each year the MA DESE puts out a request for proposals (RFP) for 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC New Sites (pending availability of funds). Sites that are awarded must re-apply each year for continuation of funding. Continuation of funds is not guaranteed and is based upon completion of grant requirements.

## FY 20

**New Sites:** The Worcester Public Schools was one of only 12 sites in the state awarded a new 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Out-of-School Time (OST) program. The district was awarded \$175,000 to provide an OST program at Vernon Hill School. The school year program for students in Grades 3-5 is offered over 30 weeks beginning October 1, 2019 Tuesday-Friday, 2:00-5:00 PM at the school site. In addition, a summer program for incoming Kindergarten students and rising 4<sup>th</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> grade students will be provided.

The following community partners are scheduled to provide activities during the school year/summer:

School Year community partners:

**Worcester Art Museum (\$6,600)**-The Worcester Art Museum is providing activities once a week over the 30 weeks, with a different activity offered over each of the three 10-week sessions. Activities will include “Drawing through the Ages,” “Graphic Novel 101” and “Architecture for Kids.”

**FitClub (\$4,568)**- FitClub, a fitness and nutrition program is offering activities once a week over the 30 weeks, with a different activity offered over each of the three 10-week sessions. Activities will include “Diverse Fitness Styles.”

**Becker College/Mass DiGi (\$4,300)**-Becker College’s Mass DiGi program, will offer a coding program to students over one 10 week session, one day per week. As a result of participation in the program, students will develop a video game to showcase to their families.

Summer activities:

**Science from Scientists (\$8,070)**- Science professionals from the field will provide STEM hands-on learning experiences for students throughout the summer program.

## FY 20

**Current Site (exemplary grant):** The Worcester Public Schools was awarded \$116,250 for one exemplary promising 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC middle school site in the district including Burncoat Middle School serving Grades 7-8.

The following community agencies will provide activities:

School Year:

**FitClub (\$1,650)**-FitClub will provide fitness and nutrition activities through “Learn to Lacrosse” once a week over one 10-week session.

**Broad Meadow Brook (\$1,500)**-Broad Meadow Brook will provide hands-on science activities once a week, over one 10-week session.

At this time, funding is not available during the summer for community partners to provide activities at Burncoat Middle School's 21<sup>st</sup> Century program.

## **FY 20**

**Current Site (continuation grant):** The Worcester Public Schools was awarded \$150,000 for one continuation 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC middle school site in the district including Claremont Academy. Our new program model includes serving students in Grades 7-9 attending Claremont Academy as well as their siblings that attend Grades 1-6 at Woodland Academy.

The following community agencies are scheduled to provide activities:

School Year:

**Worcester Art Museum (\$2,200)-**The Worcester Art Museum will provide "Creating Large Scale" activities one a week during one 10-week session.

**FitClub (\$3,046)-** FitClub will provide fitness and nutrition activities through "FitGames" which will be offered once a week over two 10-week sessions.

**Main IDEA (\$4,000)-** Main IDEA will provide dance, theater, writing and creative activities once a week over two 10-week sessions.

**You Inc. (\$1,500)-**You Inc., will provide an "Adventure Challenge Experience" once a week over one 10-week session.

At this time, community partners have still to be scheduled to provide activities at Claremont Academy's 21<sup>st</sup> Century program.

## **FY 19**

**Current Sites (continuation grant):** The Worcester Public Schools had three 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC middle school sites in the district including Burncoat Middle School, Sullivan Middle School and Claremont Academy.

The following community agencies provided activities as indicated.

School Year 2018/2019

**United Way Youth Connect program (\$28,362):** The Youth Connect program includes community agencies such as Boys & Girls Club of Worcester, Friendly House, Girls Inc. of Worcester, YMCA of Central MA, Y.O.U. Inc., YWCA of Central MA, and Worcester Youth Center. These agencies provided a variety of weekly after school and summer enrichment activities such as swimming lessons, Hip Hop Dance, and Passport to Manhood across our current three middle school 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC sites.

**Ecotarium (\$8,504):** The Ecotarium provided science-based after school programming focused upon the theme of "Ecosystems" at Burncoat Middle School and Sullivan Middle School. In

addition to weekly after school activities, students were provided with a field trip to the Ecotarium.

**Worcester Art Museum (\$1,883):** The Worcester Art Museum provided Illustration and Book Arts activities at Burncoat Middle School focusing upon creating their own characters, stories and a book filled with their own illustrations.

**The FITCLUB Foundation (\$5,460):** The FITCLUB Foundation provided fitness, nutritional and health opportunities to the youth of the community by linking industry professionals with schools in efforts to target students that may not have access, opportunity or ability to participate in traditional athletic programs. Students at Sullivan Middle will participate in ZUMBA; an aerobic fitness program featuring movements inspired by various styles of Latin American dance; Burncoat Middle students participated in Learn to Lacrosse; and Claremont Academy students participated in FitGames and Conditioning activities.

**MA Audubon Broad Meadow Brook (\$3,254):** Broad Meadow Brook provided a series of activities at Burncoat Middle School and Sullivan Middle School focused on the local watershed and the human impact. After school and summer activities included a field trip to the Broad Meadow Brook site.

#### Summer 2019

In anticipation of Summer 2019 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC activities, the WPS Grants Office reached out to the following community agencies: *African Community Education, South East Asian Coalition, Main IDEA, Creative Hub, Girls on the Run, Technocopia, Cultural Exchange through Soccer, Premier Sport Taekwondo, Worcester Fitness, Worcester State University, Quinsigamond Community College, Clark University, Becker College, Assumption College, Hanover Theater, Worcester Center for Crafts.*

The following agencies provided activities during the summer:

**Worcester Polytechnic Institute (FREE):** WPI provided a free coding program for students at Claremont Academy during the Summer 2019. This pilot program will gauge the interest of students in the field of coding in anticipation of WPI's coding program offerings at the school in the fall.

**UMass Extension Nutrition Education Program (FREE):** Provided a free research-based nutrition education program during the summer at Claremont Academy, Sullivan Middle and Burncoat Middle School. Activities include small group sessions led by an Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program educator to learn about nutrition, food shopping, and food safety while engaging in group discussions, cooking demonstrations, food tasting, fun physical activities and other hands-on learning activities.

**United Way Youth Connect: You Inc.-Adventure Challenge Experience (\$6,637):** The Adventure Challenge Experience (ACE) took place at Claremont Academy, Sullivan Middle and Burncoat Middle School. ACE facilitators create an inviting, hands-on, safe environment designed to challenge group norms through experiential education. With each level of challenge, the group begins to see improvement in the areas of communication, conflict resolution, problem

solving and trust building. Most importantly, time is taken for reflecting after an activity on how the experiences students encountered are relevant to both their personal and professional lives.

**FitClub (\$4,087):** The FITCLUB Foundation provides fitness, nutritional and health opportunities to the youth of the community by linking industry professionals with schools in efforts to target students that may not have access, opportunity or ability to participate in traditional athletic programs. Students at Sullivan Middle will participate in ZUMBA; an aerobic fitness program featuring movements inspired by various styles of Latin American dance; Burncoat Middle students will participate in Learn to Lacrosse; and Claremont Academy students will participate in FitGames and Conditioning activities.

**MA Audubon Broad Meadow Brook (\$1,421):** Broad Meadow Brook provided a series of activities at Burncoat Middle School focused on plants and animals of Worcester. Summer activities included a field trip to the Broad Meadow Brook site.

**Main IDEA (\$3,080):** Main IDEA is a 501c3 nonprofit youth and arts organization in Worcester whose mission is to empower youth by providing quality, accessible arts programming to under-resourced communities. Main IDEA provided activities at Claremont Academy including visual arts, music, dance, drama and creative writing with an emphasis on education, empowerment, leadership development and facilitating and cultivating an appreciation for the arts.

## FY 19

**New Sites:** The Worcester Public Schools applied for two new 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC sites at Lincoln Street School and Clark Street School. Neither site was funded, but the following agencies were identified as potentially providing activities: *United Way Youth Connect, Anna Maria College, Science from Scientists.*

## FY 18

**Funded Sites (continuation grant):** The Worcester Public Schools had two middle school 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC sites including Burncoat Middle School and Sullivan Middle School. The following community agencies provided activities at these sites:

**Burncoat Middle School:** EMPOWER (\$4,000), UMASS Medical School Nutrition Department (*program provided by community partner at no charge*), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) JVINVENT Team (\$4,000)

**Sullivan Middle School:** EMPOWER (\$4,000), UMASS Medical School Nutrition Department (*program provided by community partner at no charge*)

**New Site:** The Worcester Public Schools applied for two new middle school 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC sites at Claremont Academy and Worcester East Middle School. The MA DESE only funded the Claremont Academy site. The following community agencies provided activities at Claremont:



**Latino Education Institute (LEI) (\$14,710):** Encouraging Latinos to Achieve Excellence (ENLACE) serving 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade boys in an educational after school program focusing on personal development, mentoring, life skills, cultural enrichment, early college awareness, career exploration and sports clinics.

Teen Circle serving 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade girls in collaboration with Worcester Youth Center, Plumley Village and LEI. This educational after school program focuses on personal development, life skills, early college awareness and career exploration.

#### **FY 17**

**Funded Sites (continuation grant):** The Worcester Public Schools had one 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC site at Sullivan Middle School. The following community agencies provided activities at Sullivan:

**EMPOWER (\$2,595):** The EMPOWER Sports Leadership Center provides social emotional lessons infused in sports and group activities.

**New Sites:** The Worcester Public Schools applied for two new middle school 21<sup>st</sup> Century sites including Burncoat Middle School and Worcester East Middle School. The MA DESE only funded Burncoat Middle School. The following community agency provided activities at Burncoat Middle:

**EMPOWER (\$2,595):** The EMPOWER Sports Leadership Center provides social emotional lessons infused in sports and group activities.

#### **FY16**

**Funded Sites (continuation grant):** The Worcester Public Schools had one 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC site at Sullivan Middle School. The following community agencies provided activities at Sullivan:

**Center for Non Violent Solutions (\$6,500):** Provided supports and services related to social justice and social skill development.

**Miguel Almestica (\$6,500):** Provided supports and services related to the performing arts.

**New Sites:** The Worcester Public Schools applied for two new 21<sup>st</sup> Century sites including Rice Square Elementary School and Worcester East Middle School. The MA DESE funded neither site. The following community agencies were identified in the grant as potentially providing activities:

**Rice Square School:** MA Audubon Broad Meadow Brook, Worcester Academy, YWCA.

**Worcester East Middle School:** Khan Academy, Worcester Academy, GEAR UP

### **Development and Expansion of High Quality Summer Learning**

The purpose of this MA DESE competitive grant is to support the development and expansion of high quality, comprehensive summer learning opportunities for students in high concentrations of economically disadvantaged students.

## SUMMER 2019

The Worcester Public Schools applied for two summer programs beginning in June 2019 including one program at North High School and one program at Worcester East Middle School. The MA DESE funded one school through this grant, Worcester East Middle School. The district funded the North High program through Title I grant funds. The following community agencies provided the activities indicated.

### **North High School:**

**Premier Sport Taekwondo (\$250):** Taekwondo activities for students including a culminating celebration for families to attend.

**Ecotarium (\$2,829):** Science-based activities including Engineering Lift, Survival Skills, Weathering the Storm, Invisible Forces, and Super Structures; also a field trip to the Ecotarium's planetarium program.

**You Inc. (\$1,500):** Adventure Challenge Experience (ACE) programming centered upon team building activities.

**Regatta Sailing (\$1,500):** Sailing lessons on Lake Quinsigamond.

**Worcester Art Museum (\$300):** Manga/Kawaii printing workshops and a data/design project.

**Worcester Bravehearts (\$1,500):** Housed at the Hanover Insurance Park at Fitton Field, the Worcester Bravehearts hold week-long baseball camps during the summer for boys and girls ages 6-12.

### **Worcester East Middle School:**

**Cultural Exchange through Soccer (\$1,267):** Soccer games and activities for different abilities and levels of interest.

**MA Audubon Broad Meadow Brook (\$2,041):** Nature based exploration and hands-on inquiry into science and nature activities; included a field trip to Broad Meadow Brook.

**Premier Sport Taekwondo (\$200):** Taekwondo activities for students including a culminating celebration for families to attend.

**Ecotarium (\$2,829):** Science-based activities including Engineering Lift, Survival Skills, Weathering the Storm, Invisible Forces, and Super Structures; included a field trip to the Ecotarium's planetarium program.

**You Inc. (\$2,000):** Adventure Challenge Experience (ACE) programming centered upon team building activities.

## **FY 18**

The Worcester Public Schools applied for two summer programs beginning in June 2018 including one program at Elm Park Community School and one program at Forest Grove Middle



School. The MA DESE funded both programs. The following community agency provided activities at Forest Grove Middle School.

**You Inc. (\$800)** Provided Adventure Challenge Experience (ACE) programming centered upon team building activities.

### **Adult Basic Education**

The purpose of the MA DESE adult education grant is to provide adult education services designed to (1) assist eligible individuals to become literate and obtain the knowledge and skills necessary for employment and economic self-sufficiency; (2) assist eligible individuals who are parents or family members to obtain the education and skills that- (a) are necessary to become full partners in the educational development of their children, and (b) result in sustainable improvements in the economic opportunities for their family; (3) assist eligible individuals in attaining a secondary school credential and in the transition to postsecondary education and training, including through career pathways; and (4) assist immigrants and other individuals who are English language learners to- (a) improve their i. reading, writing, speaking and comprehension skills in English; and ii mathematical skills and (b) acquire an understanding of the American system of government, individual freedom and responsible citizenship.

#### **FY 19**

**Catholic Charities (\$38,000):** For the provision of ESOL and Citizenship classes as part of WPS' comprehensive Adult Basic Education grant. No funding for FY 18 & 17: in prior fiscal years, the organization received funding directly from the state.

### **Perkins Secondary Allocation**

The purpose of this federal grant administered by MA DESE is to assist school districts in improving secondary-level programs that meet the definition of career and technical education as contained in the Carl D. Perkins Career & Technical Education Improvement Act.

#### **FY 19**

**Mass EdCo (\$35,000):** Talent Search supplied an advisor to work with all Worcester Technical High School students. The work of the Talent Search advisor is supplemental to the work of our guidance counselors. They focus on college/career readiness, including coordinating college fairs, college visits, and financial aid applications. These are activities that our guidance counselors are challenged to find time for due to their broader responsibilities in areas such as providing social emotional supports and required mediations.

#### **FY 18**

**Mass EdCo (\$38,500):** Talent Search program – please see explanation above.

### **Gateway Cities Dual Language**

Gateway City's Education- Bilingual Education Program - All levels

To provide for the planning of a bilingual education program. This new alternative program will meet students' needs using data to support the new alternative program and in view of the Language Opportunity for Our Kids (LOOK) Act that creates a new opportunity for districts to consider the programmatic needs of English Learners (ELs).

#### **FY 19**

WPS partnered with community organizations LEI (Latino Education Institute), ACE (African Community Education), and SEAC (Southeast Asian Coalition) to help promote bilingualism in our community. Here is a brief outline of the activities.

**African Community Education (ACE) (\$15,509):** The African Community Education celebrated the bilingual and multi-lingual abilities of ACE youth and parents at the 13th Annual ACE Festival by engaging them in a story-telling project that showcases their multiple language heritage while honoring their path to the U.S. as refugees or immigrants who have resettled in Worcester. The Festival was held on the grounds of the Elm Park Community School.

**South East Asian Coalition (SEAC) (\$14,517):** The Southeast Asian Coalition developed a *Bilingualism and Biliteracy Promotion Poster Competition* with five categories: Elementary, Middle School, High School, Families and Elders. Elders and families working together on the posters, voting for the posters and viewing the posters at the Asian Festival. The organization also ran a "Reading to Your Child in Your Home Languages 20 Minutes a Day," programs in which families practiced reading in their language to their children.

**Latino Education Institute (LEI) – Worcester State University (\$15,000):** The Latino Education Institute launched the Live Bilingual / ¡Vive Bilingüe! Campaign. Poster boards featuring the Seal of Biliteracy graduates were printed to showcase and celebrate the students, their voices and aspirations as bilingual and bicultural young adults. A public service announcement was developed to maximize reach to broader audiences in addition to increasing awareness about the impact that embracing diversity of cultures and languages have in supporting a culturally literate and competent community.

### **McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Grant**

The purpose of these competitive federal funds is to provide funding for programs that ensure homeless students enroll in school, attend school, and have the opportunity to succeed in school through the following grant program purposes:

- A. **Support Services:** to address the basic and ongoing needs of homeless students;

- B. **School-Housing Partnership:** to stabilize and re-house homeless families with school age children or unaccompanied homeless youth by partnering with a homeless/housing services provider; and/or
- C. **Regional Homeless Education Liaisons:** to form a network of experienced homeless liaisons that provides technical assistance, training and mentoring to other districts in collaboration with the state coordinator of homeless education and other Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) staff.

#### FY 19

**Worcester Housing Authority (\$3,500):** for programming in support of housing partnership activities with Worcester Public Schools families.

### **Title III – English Language Acquisition and Academic Achievement**

Title III of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) provides supplemental resources to local school districts to help ensure that English learners (ELs) and immigrant children and youth attain English proficiency and develop high levels of academic achievement in English, assist teachers and administrators to enhance their capacity to provide effective instructional programs designed to prepare ELs and immigrant children and youth to enter all-English instructional settings, and promote parental, family, and community participation in language instruction programs.

#### SUMMER 2019

**African Community Education Program (\$9,500):** Provided programs throughout the summer which included: one-on-one tutoring, hands-on literacy activities, dance, computer, sports; and, mentoring.

**Family Services of Central Massachusetts (\$9,500):** Operated summer literacy initiatives during the month of August which were sited at the YMCA in the Lakeside Apartments and at the YMCA Alden Branch. The programs were designed to prevent summer learning loss in reading, writing and oral communication for immigrant students entering Grades 1 through 4.

**Worcester State University Latino Education Institute (\$9,500):** LEI held a two week summer academy, and engaged immigrant youth in “My Voice My Community”. This academic and community enrichment program is designed to boost literacy skills, prevent summer learning loss, and promote the academic mastery of English.

**Cultural Exchange through Soccer (\$9,500):** Summer programming helps immigrant students to integrate into the Worcester and broader community, gain English skills, work with an immigrant mentor, learn about college, and engage in recreation in a safe and supportive environment while continuing their cultural practice of soccer. CETS Youth Leaders organized

and executed the Worcester World Cup. This event promotes and shines light on Worcester's Immigrant Community.

#### **FY 19**

**African Community Education (ACE) Saturday Program (\$14,040):** Saturday programming for Adolescents and Teens in the ACE tutoring program. Funds were used to support a site administrator and custodial support for this program for five hours at Claremont Academy for 27 weeks. ACE provided program staff and activities. These activities and programming support language development and schooling while developing community support for participants.

**VSA Cool Schools (\$15,000):** The Art of Variability to support English Learners through the Very Special Arts program. This professional development is provided to elementary and secondary visual arts teachers and music teachers. This teacher training features techniques to reach all EL students, engagement tools, and multiple means of expression. Participants develop, implement and share lessons/units utilizing Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and the visual arts.

**Latino Education Institute (LEI) at Worcester State University (\$9,366):** To provide technical assistance and direct services to assist Worcester Public Schools in the implementation of the Worcester Institute for Parent Leadership in Education (WIPLE) program in connection with the Worcester Healthy Environments and Resilience in Schools (HEARS) initiative.

#### **FY 18**

**African Community Education (ACE) Saturday Program (\$14,040):** Saturday programming for Adolescents and Teens in the ACE tutoring program. Funds were used to support a site administrator and custodial support for this program for five hours at Claremont Academy over 27 weeks. ACE provided program staff and activities. These activities and programming supported language development and schooling while developing community support for participants.

**VSA Cool Schools (\$15,000):** The Art of Variability to support English Learners through the Very Special Arts program. This professional development was provided to elementary and secondary visual arts teachers and music teachers. This teacher training features techniques to reach all EL students, engagement tools, and multiple means of expression. Participants developed, implement and share lessons/units utilizing Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and the visual arts.

#### **FY 17**

**African Community Education (ACE) \$70,000:** ACE provided assistance to African refugee and immigrant youth and families in achieving educational and social stability through access to academic support, leadership development, cultural expression and community outreach. Other

services included translation services for informational meetings at NCC and other schools when possible, assistance in setting up parent meetings to share the culture with other parents; family-teacher nights; drumming and arts festivals; sessions to help African students improve their skills in English and mathematics.

**WSU Latino Education Institute (LEI) \$60,000:** Gateway Summer Program for middle school EL students (predominately Latino) to compliment funding from Title III 180 for a target amount of 180 to 200 students in Grades 7 and 8. Program coordinator, program facilitators and academic assistants were included. Short-term goals for this summer program will be to increase literacy skills through an integrated arts approach using Reader's Theatre and Photo Voice, with a long-term goal of maximizing students' potential for high school graduation and their preparedness for college and career pathways.

**Pleasant Street Neighborhood Association (\$20,000):** For the design and coordination of youth development programs for recently arrived immigrant refugee students in the WPS - Cultural Exchange Through Soccer (CETS). The coordination of such activities supported the implementation of an integral academic/health program for ELs at Elm Park and a youth leadership/mentoring program for secondary EL students. Through this program, students improved their language proficiency and academic achievement while also improving their overall social-emotional and behavioral functions. CETS also supports family and community engagement for EL families through activities that strengthen family ties and school-family connections.

**Worcester Refugee Assistance Program (WRAP) (\$20,000):** For the provision of child and youth development programs for newly-arrived students from Asian countries. WRAP has assisted the Worcester Public Schools in supporting student success by providing parents/guardians with information about the school system, providing students with homework support and relevant enrichment opportunities. The organization has delivered ESL and Citizenship Classes for newly arrived families; services with appropriate cultural and linguistic support to maximize transition and adjustment of families to US customs and procedures; this includes transportation for students and families to programming and field trips. Also facilitated communications between school and families via cultural and linguistically competent translators and interpreters.

**South East Asian Coalition (SEAC) (\$30,000):** Programming from December 2016 through July 2017. For the "Youth Effect" program and afterschool youth development program for students from Vietnam, Lao, Cambodia, Burma, Iran and Iraq. Provision of ESL, small business development techniques, sewing and knitting programs for two low income and at-risk young adults; early education care and literacy programs to parents and grandparents as caregivers via ESL classes. Parent ESL literacy training for economic self-sufficiency and age-appropriate



education to prepare children for success in school and life experiences; reading and academic tutoring for students, transportation for students and parents.

**VSA Massachusetts (\$9,900):** The Art of Variability to support English Learners through the Very Special Arts program. This professional development is provided to elementary and secondary visual arts teachers and music teachers. This teacher training features techniques to reach all EL students, engagement tools, and multiple means of expression. Participants develop, implement and share lessons/units utilizing Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and the visual arts.

**Heifer Project International (\$7,200):** The Heifer Project provided programming for our SLIFE students. Students spent one week participating in the Heifer International Site in Rutland, Ma. Heifer is a global nonprofit working to eradicate poverty and hunger through sustainable community development.

**English Language Acquisition and Academic Achievement Program for English Learners and Immigrant Children and Youth**

This funding opportunity (also known as the Title III Immigrant Subgrant) provided supplemental resources to local school districts to help ensure that English learners and immigrant children develop high levels of academic achievement and English language proficiency. The term “immigrant children and youth” is defined as a student who is aged 3 -21; who was not born in any state of the United States and who is either in his/her/their first three years of schools in the United States. In making this determination, Puerto Rico is considered part of the United States therefore students born in Puerto Rico are not immigrant children. Priorities are: increase the English Language proficiency of ELs by providing effective language instruction educational programs that meet the needs of ELs and increase English language proficiency and student academic success; provide effective professional development and provide and implement other effective activities and strategies that enhance or supplement language instruction educational programs for ELs which shall include parent, family, and community engagement activities.

Activities below refer to FY18 (summer 2018). In FY 19 and FY 17 MA DESE determined that our district was not eligible for funding.

**MA Audubon, Broad Meadow Brook for Immigrant Students at WPS Middle School (\$3,000):** The district identified 316 middle school students in Grades 7 and 8. They were offered the opportunity to participate in the after-school Let’s Go program. The Let’s GO! Program — which stands for **Learning by Encouraging Today’s Students to Go Outdoors** - in partnership with the Mass Audubon Society’s Broad Meadow Brook Conservation Center &



Wildlife Sanctuary. **Impact:** Offer students a chance to expand their physical fitness level and well-being, their environmental and community awareness and their science education.

**Worcester Art Museum (\$6,400):** Through work with the Worcester Art Museum, our school district identified a number of Art Classes being held at the Worcester Art Museum during school Vacation Week that were beneficial to our immigrant students. The students were supported by WPS staff working alongside the staff at the Worcester Art Museum during these art classes. **Impact:** Offer students a chance to experience a preeminent cultural institution in our City (student engagement and community awareness) through an enrichment experience to supplement the instruction received in their classrooms.

**YMCA (\$8,185):** The local YMCA offered programming tailored to provide a group of our immigrant students with swim lessons. In Y Swim Lessons “participants learn and practice new swimming skills and feel a sense of achievement from mastering something new that they can enjoy the rest of their lives. While participating in fun water sports and games, children also increase their physical activity levels. Participants in Y Swim Lesson are connected to others in the class, make new friends and recognize new role models. The participants are more comfortable and secure around water, as they learn water safety and improve their swim skills. Children have a stronger bond with their parents and family members from the take home activities of family huddles and sharing boating safety tips.” **Impact:** Offers students and their families the opportunity to engage with a community institution. We have found that many immigrant students and their families are unfamiliar with water safety and many have never had swim lessons.

**African Community Education Program (\$20,000):** Provided programs throughout the summer which included: one-on-one tutoring, hands-on literacy activities, dance, computer, sports; and, mentoring. The Summer Reading Program served 31 youth, who read at least three books and completed a related project to meet their WPS summer reading requirement. The ACE Summer Workforce Development Program engaged students in a special project during the month of August.

**Family Services of Central Massachusetts (\$9,500):** Operated summer literacy initiatives during the month of August which were sited at the YMCA in the Lakeside Apartments and at the YMCA Alden Branch. The programs were designed to prevent summer learning loss in reading, writing and oral communication for immigrant students entering Grades 1 through 4.

**Southeast Asian Coalition of Central Massachusetts (\$9,000):** SEAC implemented a culturally and linguistically responsive program for immigrant youth to strengthen academic skills (tutoring), prevent summer reading loss (reading and writing), develop healthy interests and civic/community engagement and volunteerism.

**Worcester State University Latino Education Institute (\$20,000):** LEI held a two week summer academy, and engaged immigrant youth in “My Voice My Community”. This academic

and community enrichment program is designed to boost literacy skills, prevent summer learning loss, and promote the academic mastery of English.

**Cultural Exchange through Soccer (\$9,500):** Summer programming helps immigrant students to integrate into the Worcester and broader community, gain English skills, work with an immigrant mentor, learn about college, and engage in recreation in a safe and supportive environment while continuing their cultural practice of soccer. CETS Youth Leaders organized and executed the Worcester World Cup. This event promotes and shines light on Worcester's Immigrant Community.

### **Worcester Healthy Environments and Resilience in Schools - HEARS**

Worcester HEARS brings together advances in brain science, child development, and best practices to address childhood adversity in our complex society. We are creating school environments that support children's health, social and emotional development, and academic success. Worcester HEARS schools are: Worcester East Middle, Grafton Street, Rice Square, Roosevelt, and City View

#### **Calendar Year 2019**

**Worcester Education Collaborative (WEC) HEARS (\$36,000)** In support of the HEARS initiative, specifically in the area of grant leadership, public outreach and target professional development offerings.

#### **2018**

**Family Health Center (\$44,625):** To provide access to primary and behavioral health care for young people.

**WEC (\$27,585):** In support of the HEARS initiative, specifically in the area of grant leadership, public outreach and target professional development offerings.

#### **2017**

**Family Health Center (\$41,650):** To provide access to primary and behavioral health care for young people.

**WEC (\$38,300):** In support of the HEARS initiative, specifically in the area of grant leadership, public outreach and target professional development offerings.