

For Immediate Release
Contact: Tara Pettinato
508-839-7910
Taraneh.Pettinato@tufts.edu

Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University Announces 2016 Service Fund Recipients
Seven local nonprofits receive grants

NORTH GRAFTON, MASS., June 9, 2016– Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts today announced the local nonprofit organizations that will receive Service Fund grants for the sixth year of Cummings School's program. These organizations will address a variety of needs, from enriching the community through the arts to providing resources for local first responders to address animal emergencies. The seven grant recipients this year are:

- Community Harvest Project Fund, Inc. in North Grafton for a pilot program that will bring together local youth and Grafton Senior Center members to learn to grow food and prepare healthy meals;
- Benjamin Franklin DeMolay in North Grafton to enable young men—ages 12 to 21—from Grafton and five surrounding towns to attend leadership camp at Lion's Pride in New Hampshire;
- Grafton Fire Department for equipment that will allow first responders to effectively treat companion animals within the Central Massachusetts emergency response area;
- The Claflin Hill Music Performance Foundation, Inc. in Milford to host an outdoor summer concert in Grafton, in partnership with Grafton's Apple Tree Arts;
- St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in North Grafton to offer free programs and activities for local families, in partnership with Nelson Library in Grafton;
- Westborough Public Library for its Community Jigsaw Puzzles project that will bring together adults and families in the area for puzzle-making events;
- The Westborough Education Foundation Annual 5K Turkey Trot to benefit technology initiatives in the Westborough Public Schools.

"We are pleased that an outstanding group of local organizations has been selected for this year's Cummings Service Fund grants," said Deborah T. Kochevar, D.V.M, Ph.D., dean of Cummings School. "Their programs will enrich our host communities, and we are happy to be able to support them."

Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University established the fund to support organizations in its host communities of Grafton and Westborough, Mass. Applications are reviewed annually by the School and given priority based on their ability to address community-identified needs. Grants typically range from \$300 to \$500.

Organizations and activities supported in previous years include an adult English language program, the Lion's Club July 4 celebration, Westborough High School's FIRST Robotics Team, and enrichment programs at Grafton High School and Grafton Middle School.

###

About Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University

Founded in 1978 in North Grafton, Mass., Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University is internationally esteemed for academic programs that impact society and the practice of veterinary medicine; seven teaching hospitals and clinics that combined log more than 80,000 animal cases each year; and groundbreaking research that benefits animal, human, and environmental health.