4/10/17 - Long Island’s Community Foundation Awards $252,500 to Nonprofits

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(Melville, April 10, 2017)–The Long Island Community Foundation’s board of advisors recently approved $252,500 in grants to help 14 nonprofits encourage the arts and make it accessible for special needs youth, help vulnerable Long Islanders with food stamp benefits, restore our Island’s natural habitats, and create innovative college-prep programs. Funded projects also will help advocate for transit-oriented development in Hicksville and Baldwin; provide free legal services for veterans; and provide care for young victims of sexual abuse.

This is the Foundation’s first round of grants for 2017, following its total giving of nearly $1.5 million total to 100 nonprofits last year from its competitive grants program. (Overall, LICF and its generous donors granted nearly $8.2 million in 2016). These grants would not be made possible without donor funds like the Henry Phillip Kraft Fund which exists to fund environmental projects, like clean water and restoration; or the DeWitt Wallace Fund for Youth – helping young people reach their full potential; and the Henry Shepard Fund – which supports hunger programs.

“At a time when the future of health care, social safety net programs, and environmental protections are in question, the Long Island Community Foundation reinforces its commitment to preserve the well-being of our region and all Long Islanders,” says Sol Marie Alfonso Jones, the Foundation’s senior program officer.

(For each of the following grants, LICF offers the media more background information that detail the problems we’re addressing and our approach to solving them.) Please contact Marie Smith at msmith@licf.org or (631) 991-8800 x223 for more details on these and any of our grants.

ART & CULTURE

USDAN SUMMER CAMP FOR THE ARTS - $10,000 for a music education summer camp program for needy and worthy student musicians in the Brentwood School District.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT

PECONIC GREEN GROWTH - $20,000 to develop a water conservation plan for the town of Southold.

SEATUCK ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION - $20,000 to restore migratory fish habitat in Long Island’s tributaries.

SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH, BRENTWOOD - $20,000 for habitat restoration projects on the Sisters of St. Joseph Brentwood campus.
VISION LONG ISLAND - $15,000 for advocacy and coalition-building to support transit-oriented development in Hicksville and Baldwin.

EDUCATION & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

BELLPORT AREA COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE - $20,000 to support STEM-related programs for at-risk boys from North Bellport and surrounding communities.

GREENVILLE BAKER BOYS & GIRLS CLUB - $15,000 to provide a comprehensive college prep program targeting teens from low-income families in the Locust Valley School District.

PARRISH ART MUSEUM - $15,000 to create programs and an environment at museums that are accessible and welcoming to youth with developmental disabilities and their families.

PROJECT MORRY - $20,000 for a leadership development and college preparation program targeting students from North Amityville and Copiague school districts.

THE SAFE CENTER LI - $20,000 to provide trauma-informed mental health services to young victims of sexual abuse.

HUNGER & MENTAL HEALTH

MERCY HAVEN, INC. - $20,000 to increase food stamp benefits for low-income households.

NEW YORK LEGAL ASSISTANCE - $20,000 to provide free legal services at the Northport VA for veterans with mental health issues.

IMPROVING NONPROFITS CAPACITY

CATCHAFIRE - $17,500 to provide its professional services to 75 LICF nonprofit organizations.

PRO BONO PARTNERSHIP - $20,000 to provide pro bono legal services to Long Island nonprofits.

Through the generosity of our donors, the Long Island Community Foundation invests in groups that create positive change and improve the quality of life on Long Island. To learn more about these grants and the Long Island Community Foundation, visit our website at www.licf.org. Like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter @LiCommunityFndt, connect with us on LinkedIn and find us on Instagram.

Since 1978, the Long Island Community Foundation has been the home of charitable Long Islanders who share a passion and commitment to improve their communities. LICF supports an array of effective nonprofits that help make Long Island a vital and secure place to live, learn, work, and play, while building permanent resources for the future. The Foundation has made nearly $170 million in grants from hundreds of funds established by individuals, families, and businesses. LICF is a division of The New York Community Trust, one of the country’s oldest and largest community foundations.

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