



# THANKSGIVING

2016 *Thanking our clients, giving  
to our communities.*

Norris  
McLaughlin  
& Marcus, P.A.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Our firm and our attorneys have historically been committed to the communities where our clients live and do business – to make them better places to live, work and play. We decided to start a personal charitable initiative and give each attorney the opportunity to donate \$100 to a charity or cause of their choice and then report back on it.

This booklet contains their stories and photographs that we are proud to share with you.

*“We can’t help everyone, but everyone can help someone.”*

- Dr. Loretta Scott

# THANKSGIVING \$100 Charity Donation



## **Elizabeth Candido Petite** **DMF Youth, Inc.**

DMF Youth is an after-school program and summer camp for underserved kids in NYC. The goals are to provide free fitness, motivation, and life skills to underserved children. Most of them do not have physical education in school or adult role models at home. The program is part dance/fitness and part life skills, which include goal setting, teamwork, healthy eating, and the like.

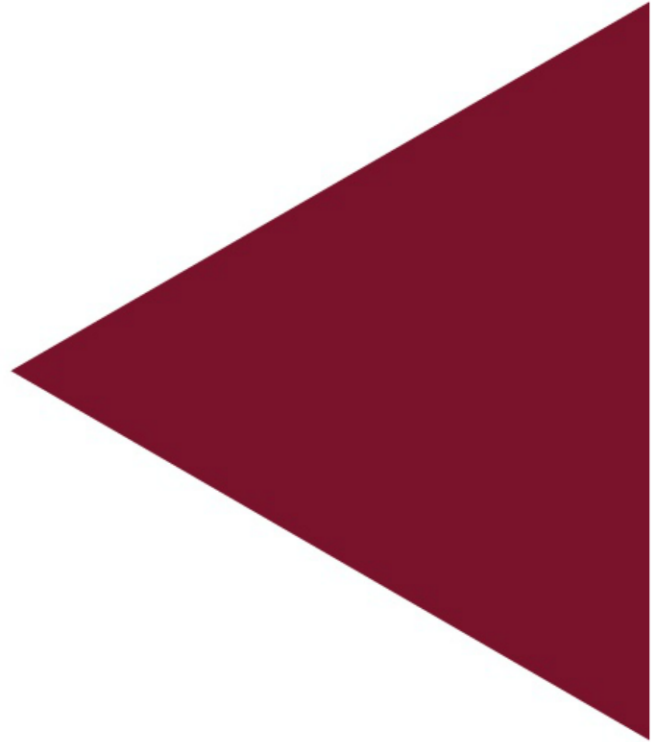
Elizabeth helped DMF Youth incorporate as a non-profit corporation and obtain 501(c)(3) tax exempt status with the IRS, and has been involved in the organization ever since, serving on its board for the last two years.

Elizabeth donated her \$100 towards DMF Youth, Inc.'s summer camp in NYC. This money covered the cost of the week-long camp for two children and Elizabeth visited the camp one day. She talked to the children about setting goals and how she achieved her goal of becoming a lawyer, and then helped them create vision boards of pictures and quotes about their goals and how they want to achieve them. Most of the kids had never danced before arriving at camp, but Elizabeth says they are now confident and enthusiastic about dancing, and having fun doing it!

## **Stephen M. Offen** **Jewish Family Service of Somerset, Hunterdon & Warren Counties**

The agency is a non-profit, non-sectarian social service agency providing mental health counseling, career counseling, volunteer services, special needs programs, home visits to seniors, and other services to those in need.

Steve is a former President of the Board of Trustees and his wife is currently on the Board of Trustees. Steve donated his \$100 to the 2016 Fitness Challenge to raise critical funds to support the programs and services of the agency.



## **Julie Macomb** **Animals in Distress**

Animals in Distress is a non-kill shelter that takes in animals that are least likely to be adopted because of illness, health needs, behavioral issues, etc. It provides the necessary health care and training and gives the animals time to heal before adopting them out.

Julie donated her money to the charity and helps out often. She has several friends who have adopted dogs from the shelter. The shelter also accepts household goods for their thrift store, where all proceeds go to the charity.





## Nick Dimakos, Nick Duston, Candice Rienzo Safe + Sound Somerset

The mission of this organization is to end domestic abuse and empower victims by providing protection, education, and resources to victims and their families, growing and adapting services to meet the changing needs of its clients. It has provided advocacy and services for more than 30 years. Empowerment and self-determination constitute the core of the agency's values, which permeate every aspect of the services offered to victims of abuse and their children. Other values include confidentiality and privacy, integrity and consistency, and respect for individuals' diversity and beliefs. The agency provides not only emergency shelter, but also legal advocacy, outreach counseling, community education, volunteer Domestic Violence Response Teams working with local police departments, and transitional housing.

Nick Dimakos is on the Board and Nick Duston and Candice often attend their charity functions.



## Jeralyn Lawrence & John Vanarthos CASA-SHaW (Somerset, Hunterdon, and Warren)

The mission of the non-profit CASA of New Jersey is to support a statewide network of local, community-based CASA programs through which trained volunteers advocate for the best interests of children who have been removed from their families because of abuse or neglect. Its vision is that any such child in New Jersey will have access to a Court Appointed Special Advocate. CASA provides support primarily through funding, training, public education, and technical assistance.

Both Jeralyn and John donated their money to this great organization, which they have been involved with for many years.





## Robert Mahoney F.I.S.H.



Bob's wife, LuAnne, volunteers at F.I.S.H., which, among other things, operates a clothing bank for children's clothes. Volunteers collect clothing donations, sort them, and then, when they receive a request from a social services agency in Somerset County, put together and deliver age- and size-appropriate clothing for the family's children. Recently, F.I.S.H. decided that it would be a good idea to deliver some children's books with each clothing delivery. As her Girl Scout Silver Star project, Bob's niece, Carly Buckelew, conducted a book drive and constructed bookshelves that F.I.S.H. can use at their facilities to store the books. Bob used the \$100 to purchase the wood for the shelves.



**Annmarie Simeone,  
Jeff Casaletto, Margaret Raymond-Flood,  
Nick Pellitta, Ellie Lipsky  
One Simple Wish**

One Simple Wish works with donors and community partners to grant simple wishes to children in foster care in New Jersey and throughout the country. The wishes are of all varieties, including personal care items, clothes, computers, car seats, bicycles, skateboards, a trip to an amusement park, or technology.

One Simple Wish organized a Back-to-School Drive for more than 500 foster children and families in need, seeking new backpacks, pens, pencils, folders, notebooks, crayons, and markers, to distribute to the children they help in New Jersey. Annmarie, Jeff, Margaret, Nick, and Ellie combined their resources and purchased the requested supplies. Ultimately, they were able to gather backpacks and supplies to support about 25 children.



**Richard Norris**

**Jewish Federation of Somerset, Hunterdon  
& Warren – Baton Rouge Flood Relief Fund**



This federation is one of 151 Jewish federations across North America that help change lives at home, in Israel, and in more than 70 countries around the world.

This August, relentless flooding devastated southern Louisiana, killing at least seven, destroying countless homes and forcing tens of thousands to flee for their lives. Jewish federations across North America are raising funds to support the Jewish Federation of Greater Baton Rouge as they meet urgent needs. Dick is a frequent supporter of this charity.



## **Kurt Briscoe** **John P. Salamone Memorial** **Foundation**

This foundation was formed in honor and remembrance of John P. Salamone, who lost his life in the 9/11 attacks. Donations received in John's memory enable the foundation to offer gifts and grants to local schools and scholarships to deserving West Essex High School graduates.

Kurt and his wife, Ann, know John's father, Bud. Kurt is honored to be able to make a difference and help remember, honor, and perpetuate John's legacy through the community.



## **Scott Allinson** **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society**

LLS is the largest voluntary health organization dedicated to funding research, finding cures, and ensuring access to treatments for blood cancer patients. Because Scott lost a close friend to blood cancer and has another close friend in remission, this charity is close to his heart. He was Chair of the LLS Lehigh Valley walk last year and participated again this year. He says it is remarkable to see over 2,000 friends, family, and survivors supporting such an important cause.



## **Jim Costello** **Lupus Foundation of America**

This foundation is devoted to solving the mystery of lupus while giving caring support to those who suffer from its brutal impact. In October, Jim, his wife, Lisa, and daughter Rose raised money for the Lupus Foundation by participating in a walk in Cranford, New Jersey. They contributed the \$100 toward their goal. Jim's mother, Rosemary Costello, suffered from lupus and passed away in 1981.



## David Cassidy Give A Kid A Dream/Gleason's Gym

For four days, children from low-income families or at risk children, and adults take part in boxing training sessions that include sparring and an exhibition show. World Champions are highlighted as the camp's trainers. The children are from Gleason's Boxing Gym's charity program, "Give A Kid A Dream." Gleason's Gym provides free training to help steer them in the right direction to become productive in society. They believe boxing is a positive outlet for them. David is an avid boxer and was thrilled to donate his money to the cause.

## John Buckley Second Harvest Food Bank of Lehigh Valley and Northeast Pennsylvania, a program of the Community Action Committee of Lehigh Valley (CACLV)

John has served on the Advisory Board of the Second Harvest Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley and Northeast Pennsylvania since 2014. He believes very strongly in the organization's missions of obtaining and distributing food to people in need, providing resources for education, and advocating to end hunger in the Lehigh Valley and beyond. John specifically donated to the new Fill a Glass with Hope initiative, which now allows Second Harvest to help provide fresh milk to tens of thousands of families in the area each month. He looks forward to continuing to work with Second Harvest to meet the needs of our community.





**Jill Lebowitz**  
**VNA of Somerset Hills**  
**(Visiting Nurse Association of Somerset Hills)**

Along with her \$100, Jill donated 40+ hours to working at the charity's famous rummage sale. Held every fall and spring at the Fairgrounds in Far Hills, it is New Jersey's largest rummage sale. Proceeds provide home health and hospice care to families in need, along with other wellness services not covered by any insurance. Once Jill heard about this charity and sale, she knew she would be passionate about helping this cause.



## Michael Locke The Backpack Crew

Mike is a member of the Jersey Shore Running Club and ran in their “Boardwalk Race Against Hunger,” one of the many charitable races they organize each year. This year’s race benefits The Backpack Crew, whose mission is to provide children with food on the weekends when they do not have their school lunch to rely on. The program is completely private; the families’ identities are confidential. Each backpack has a number that is assigned to a family. This way, the family gets the same backpack every week. Members of the Backpack Crew know how many people are in each family and pack accordingly. Every week, they pack backpacks and deliver them on Friday to a school nurse who hands out the backpacks, and the children bring them home to their families. Each backpack has two options for breakfast, lunch, and dinner plus snacks. On Monday the kids return their empty backpacks to the nurse. Crew members pick them up and repeat the process!

## Dan Guadalupe The Selective Corporate Internship Program (SCIP)

SCIP was founded by a top American Express executive, Monica McClure, and her husband Miguel Mancebo, a corporate executive recruiter. The organization places urban at-risk youth of all ethnic, racial and socio-economic backgrounds with large corporations during a summer, totally transforming their lives. The New York Times, the United Federation of Teachers, Microsoft, Thompson Reuters, former Fed Chairman Paul Volcker, and one of the nephews of Alfred Nobel, founder of the Nobel Prize, have been involved as sponsors.

Having worked for several years with SCIP, Dan bought golf accessories to donate to the organization. Every year, he leads and hosts a surprise mock trial during the summer program, where the students get to play the role of plaintiffs’ and defendants’ counsel with experts and a jury. The students don’t know about it in advance and do an amazingly good job “on their feet.” The students love it, and Dan finds it rewarding to see them discover a new, professional world they saw or learned about only on TV. Twice, at Dan’s request, federal judge Esther Salas has welcomed them into her courtroom and allowed them to watch a live hearing, and then gave them a tour of the courthouse and chambers after sharing her life story with them. Dan is honored to help provide unforgettable experiences for these young people.





## **Naya Pearlman Arthritis National Research Foundation (ANRF) for Juvenile Arthritis Research**

Naya chose this charity in honor of her 4-year-old niece, Mia, who is living with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis (JRA). Mia was diagnosed with JRA last year at the age of 3, after being hospitalized with persistent fever and pains. After many tests and weeks of hospitalization, the doctors suspected that she had an autoimmune disease, but did not why or how it developed. Today, Mia's condition is under control with doctor visits, blood tests, and shots, but there is much uncertainty in this area and more can be done to make new treatments available to children with JRA. ANRF funds juvenile arthritis research for children like Mia, and is devoted to learning more about juvenile arthritis and making a difference in children's lives.

## **Bill Beneduce** ▲ **The St. Baldrick's Foundation**

Bill chose this charity because he feels nothing is more important than helping children live full healthy lives. By means of head-shaving events, St. Baldrick's raises funds to help find cures for children with cancer. These events have grown from one event in 2000 to over 1,293 in 2015, raising critical funds for childhood cancer research. Events take place in pubs, restaurants, schools, churches, parks, malls, military bases, firehouses, and any other place you can imagine. Bill's 10-year-old twin nephews, Justin and Jadon DeRosa, are committed to St. Baldrick's as they participate in a head-shaving event through their elementary school in Roxbury Township every year. Bill says, "kids helping kids - what a great cause and charity to support!"



## **Steve Karg** **East Coast Greenway**

Steve donated to a client who is riding in two bike tours from the Canadian border in Calais to Portland, Maine and Raleigh, North Carolina, to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, on the East Coast Greenway! These tours are a fundraising ride for the East Coast Greenway (ECG), a 3,000-mile trail route that goes from the Canadian border in Maine to Key West, Florida. The ECG goes through 25 major cities on the East Coast. The route will eventually be entirely on greenway separated from car traffic. Since its founding in 1991, 890 miles of greenway (over 30%) have been completed, and the route is accessible to 50 million people.

The ECG is designed to be safe and accessible for people of all ages and all abilities. By creating a safe route for everyone to bicycle, jog, and walk, the ECG is providing accessible recreation and sustainable transportation options, for both local use and long-distance bicycle travel. As more people are able to walk or bike instead of relying on cars for transportation, the ECG helps improve air quality in the region.

## **Victor Elgort** **West Point Army “A” Club**

Both of Victor's sons graduated from West Point and Victor is directly involved in the activities of the Admissions Office, dealing with almost 100 applicants each year from Central Jersey. He is a member of the team of volunteers who conduct interviews of any candidate seeking a Congressional nomination to any of the five US military academies from either of the two New Jersey senators or from Congressman Lance, who is the US Congressman for the Congressional District in which our New Jersey office is located.

The Army A Club is dedicated to supporting the US Military Academy's overall mission and the mission of Army Athletics by generating financial support to provide an extraordinary Division I athletic experience that develops leaders committed to the values of Duty, Honor, and Country. It is the responsibility of the Army A club staff to strive every day to ensure that more than 1,000 cadet-athletes have the opportunities and means necessary to accomplish all that they set out to accomplish as scholars, athletes and leaders.

During the eight years that Victor spent as a parent of two sons attending West Point, he came to respect and support the efforts of the “A” Club as well as several other non-profit organizations that also support the cadets and the mission of the US Military Academy. These include the West Point Directorate of Cadet Activities, the West Point Association of Graduates, the West Point Parents Club of New Jersey (which he co-founded), and the West Point Society.



## **Bob Gabrielski Bryder Cup**

This charity was organized by two Bridgewater Raritan student athletes for other BR student athletes to have fun with their fellow athletes and their dads by participating in a two-day golf tournament and dinner party. The entry fees and money raised goes to Bridgewater Raritan High School athletic scholarships and other community causes. This year, the money raised will go to the Susan B. Komen Foundation. Having been involved for a few years, Bob donated his money towards the Bryder Cup Scholarship Fund.



## Jeff Stewart Nativity Lutheran Church

Jeff is president of the church's council and participated in a day of service in Allentown to help those in need. There were many service projects, and Jeff chose to help clean up a local elementary school. Having a daughter in a very well-maintained elementary school, he wanted to help provide a similar environment to the Allentown elementary school kids. Jeff donated his money towards the purchase of brushes, rollers, and supplies for painting parts of the school.



## Oren Chaplin Edison Animal Shelter

Oren and his family chose this charity in order to support local efforts to care for and place homeless animals. His family has adopted animals from various regional animal shelters, and they have made great pets and have grown to be part of the family. They feel that pets provide people with comfort, support, and companionship, and local animal shelters are fantastic resources for adopting pets. They used the \$100 to purchase food for the shelter, which they then delivered. Afterwards, they visited some of the animals that were under the shelter's care. With this donation, they were able to restock much of the shelter's cupboard!



## David Harmon American Jewish World Service

American Jewish World Service is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing nonsectarian humanitarian assistance and emergency relief to disadvantaged people worldwide. David donated to the disaster relief worldwide to help those who are confronted with rebuilding their lives following disasters.





## **Sandra Jarva Weiss Children's Law Center**

Celebrating its 20th year, this charity has helped more than 5,000 children and their families tackle seemingly insurmountable problems each year – including 1 of every 9 of the poorest children in DC's poorest neighborhoods. They partner with hundreds of pro bono lawyers, pediatricians and city leaders. As a result of their advocacy both in and out of the courtroom, more children are on the path to a better education, good health, and a stable, loving family. Sandra donated her \$100 to the charity's annual benefit event, "Helping Children Soar."



## **Mo Bauer Teams for Kids Foundation, Inc.**

This Foundation was founded by Mo's daughter Abby, who noticed that there were many children from homeless and low-income families within the State of New Jersey who could not play team sports because of economic constraints. Teams for Kids raises funds through grants, corporate and individual solicitation, and fundraising, to support various organizations and programs to enable children of New Jersey's working poor to participate in sports programs. The \$100 will be allocated to qualifying families to enable their children to step off the sidelines and into the game!





## **Dan Burton sMiles for Katie**

This charity raises awareness for pulmonary hypertension. Back in April 2013, Katie McCarthy, sister of one of Dan's best friends, passed away due to this disease. Their family created this organization and has been raising funds and awareness ever since. Dan wears a remembrance band on his wrist every day as a tribute to Katie. Every year, the organization takes part in a fundraising walk in downtown Manhattan, near South Street Seaport. Dan participated and donated his money towards the walk.

## Nichole Cipriani School of St. Elizabeth

Nichole selected the School of St. Elizabeth as a charitable recipient because it is celebrating its 100th year in 2016. Her three children attend the school, and she is grateful to the school for providing a wonderful education and safe place to study while she is at work.

The school name honors St. Elizabeth of Hungary. While visiting family in Europe this summer, Nichole's family traveled to St. Elizabeth's birthplace in Sárospatak, Hungary. Born in 1207, St. Elizabeth was the daughter of the King Andrew II.

The \$100 will benefit the school's "Cross and Crown Fund" in honor of its 100th year.



## David Blatteis Children's Hope Initiative



This charity was formed to address the unmet needs of abused and neglected children, primarily in Somerset County. This incredible non-profit run by amazing folks who dedicate their time to helping kids in need (1) has reduced the mental health counseling waiting period by 60%; (2) provides in-home tutoring services to 12 children who were removed from their parents' homes because of abuse or neglect; (3) provides a mentoring program for over 20 children; and (4) runs an after school program for 25 youths and their families. David's wife, Carin, is an original board member of Children's Hope Initiative.



## Barbara Hollenbach Cops 'n' Kids



The Cops 'n' Kids Children's Literacy Program is a national initiative that ensures every child has access in his or her home to books and the knowledge, inspiration and hope that such access can provide. The charity encourages positive relationships between children and police and inspires creative learning for children and families by providing meaningful literacy-based experiences.

In addition to police officers, the charity has now expanded to include the involvement of businesses and organizations, municipal leaders, the educational community, and other caring individuals. Community service activities include collecting new and gently used books at locations throughout the Lehigh Valley, maintaining a stock of children's books on bookshelves in police substations, distributing books to young people, and supplementing the libraries in schools and other organizations. Barbara has been involved with this charity for many years.



**George Hlavac, Graham Simmons, Steve Hoffman, Ed Easterly**  
**Valley Youth House**

Valley Youth House not only provides a home for vulnerable, abused and homeless youth, it partners with thousands of individuals to build a solid foundation for young people and their families.

George, Graham, Steve, and Ed used their funds to purchase enough paint to paint bedrooms on the second and third floors of the shelter in Bethlehem, as well as create a chalkboard wall along the long hallways for the kids to write on.



**Bruce Wisotsky**  
**Gift of Life**

This organization is responsible for facilitating the bone marrow transplant that saved Bruce's life in 2008. The organization, celebrating its 25th anniversary, recruits donors and has helped thousands of patients find their life-saving matches. Gift of Life believes every person battling blood cancer deserves a second chance at life and they are determined to make it happen. They are singularly passionate about engaging the public to help get everyone involved in curing blood cancer, whether as a donor, volunteer or financial supporter. Bruce was happy to give back to the Gift of Life.



## Abbey Horwitz P.G. Chambers School



P.G. Chambers School is a school for children with special needs. Abbey's daughter, Jillian, has been enrolled in the school for the past 2 years and just began kindergarten there.

The school has given so much to Jillian, Abbey's family, and the other students and their families. Jillian has learned and grown so much in her time there. When she began she was non-verbal and could not communicate with the world around her. Since beginning at P.G. Chambers, her vocabulary has grown by leaps and bounds, and she is now able to communicate her basic needs and wants to her family. While she still has a way to go, every day they see amazing changes in her.



Jillian and all of her schoolmates always look so happy when they are at school, and their joy is infectious. Abbey's hope is that with this donation to the school, she is able to give back to them a bit of the joy that she gets whenever she is there and interacting with the students.

Abbey and her husband decided to match the \$100 donation to donate a total of \$200.

The donation is being used to purchase a new swing either for one of the playgrounds or for one of the therapy gyms at the school. The principal and therapists are working together to determine the best placement for the swing.

Swinging and movement is such an important part of the learning experience for children at P.G. Chambers. In addition to it being fun, it helps build core muscle strength and often provides a calming influence on the children. For many children, Jillian included, swinging before beginning an educational activity helps to focus their attention, so they are more receptive to the task at hand.

Abbey tries to volunteer at the school as often as her schedule permits by going into the classroom to help with activities, read, or even have a dance party. Since Jillian has been enrolled in P.G. Chambers, Abbey has been class mom for two years. She also recently joined the school's Development Committee, whose mission is to raise over \$1 million each year for the school.



**Fred Stellato**  
**Pediatric Cancer Foundation of**  
**the Lehigh Valley**

This foundation supports the entire family battling pediatric cancer by providing individual assistance based on the needs of the particular family. This foundation was founded by the sister of Fred's assistant, Pam Marks. Pam's nephew had a form of brain cancer. Fred is currently serving his second term on the Board of Directors.

Fred's \$100 was donated to the foundation's annual event, the Hearts of Gold Gala.



## **Matthew Andersen** ▲ **Cystic Fibrosis Foundation**

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is a non-profit organization established to provide the means to cure and control cystic fibrosis. Matt chose to donate to this charity because the sister of his law school roommate, Andrew, has Cystic Fibrosis and Matt has seen firsthand how this organization has benefitted the lives of those with CF. When Laura was diagnosed, the life expectancy was 21 years old. She is now 24, and the life expectancy is 40 years old. Andrew is being named to the CFF's Central Pennsylvania Foundation's Finest, and he is collecting donations on behalf of his sister.

## **Steven J. Reed** **Children's Brain Tumor Foundation**

This foundation provides an array of information and resources to assist in accessing expert care to ensure quality of life for children with brain or spinal cord tumors. A good friend of Steve's from Chatham, Robert Budlow, is the foundation's long-time president and a survivor himself of a brain tumor. Steve says it has been an inspiration for the community to see Robert's tremendous amount of giving for this great cause.



## **Al Metz** **Ringwood Manor Association of the Arts**

Ringwood Manor Association of the Arts is a nonprofit public charity established in 1968 to provide educational and exhibition opportunities to professional and hobby artists of all ages. It holds numerous open and members' shows during the year, including a Young Artists' Exposition. Al's teenage son, Nick, has benefited greatly from the tutelage of some of the professional members, and Al became involved as the Director of Grants for the RMAA to show his appreciation for the cause and for its role in furthering Nick's and other students' artistic ambitions.

RMAA occupies the historic Carriage Barn in Ringwood Manor State Park, where it holds its shows and demonstrations. The roof of the 100+ year old Barn has dozens of serious leaks, imperiling the galleries and the structure. The Park Administration is forcing the RMAA to fund the \$60,000+ in repair costs. RMAA is ill-suited to raising funds of that magnitude (in addition to its own modest operating costs), so it is mounting major fundraising efforts to try to accomplish the repair in stages. Al contributed his money to the Fund that RMAA has set aside for this purpose.





*Marketing Department*  
**Edward Miller, Cady Darago, Megan  
Crafa, Jacqueline Ehrenkranz, Rebecca  
Cugliari**  
**Visions and Pathways**

Located in Bridgewater, Visions and Pathways has been helping abused, neglected, and homeless youth since 1973. Each year, hundreds of teens from difficult family situations find a safe haven and the caring support they need in one of seven programs for youth ages 13 to 21-plus. The teens receive help with the basics of food and shelter as well as counseling, medical attention, education, recreation, career and employment counseling, financial literacy - all of the skills they need to succeed. With the help of the entire firm, the marketing department held an in-house bake sale to collect even more money for this charity.





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