



Men & Boys Fund exceeds fundraising challenge

Published: Wednesday, 5 October 2022 13:18

@brianjohnsonBP

BRISTOL – The Men & Boys Fund has exceeded a fundraising challenge issued by an anonymous donor, securing a matching grant.

Susan Sadecki, president and CEO of the Main Street Community Foundation, said that the Men & Boys Fund held its 5 year anniversary celebration in June. During that meeting, she was approached by a donor who offered to match up to \$5,000 for money raised between then and Sept. 30.



Past recipients of grants from the Men & Boys Fund at the Main Street Community Foundation. -FILE PHOTO

“They said that they wanted to help with the development of the fund and the endowment,” said Sadecki.

Ultimately, the Men & Boys Fund was able to not only meet this fundraising challenge, but exceed it. A total of \$7,580 was raised by donors.

“We were delighted and overwhelmed by the number of donors who responded to this challenge,” said Sadecki. “Growing the endowment in this way will ensure that support for local men and boys will not only continue but grow forever.”

Rich Carmelich, chair of the advisory committee of the Men & Boys Fund, thanked all of those who helped to meet the fundraising challenge.

“I want to thank all of our supporters and everyone who contributed,” he said. “It wasn’t just a couple of people; a large group contributed to help us meet this challenge. I also want to thank the anonymous donor who agreed to make a matching donation. This all stemmed from our fifth anniversary event in June, which went really great. This will go a long way to help us continue to meet the needs of men and boys in the region.”

Sadecki said that a lot of people helped to grow the Men & Boys Fund, which has awarded more than \$36,000 since its inception. Grants have provided fundraising for programs targeted toward men and boys in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott.

“The result of this fundraising challenge is that we can continue to really invest in gender specific programs to meet the needs of local men and boys,” said Sadecki. “There is a difference in needs between men and boys when it comes to education, suicide rates and many other metrics. This funding will help us continue to support programs to better serve men and boys in our local communities.”

Past grant recipients have included programs for workforce development, camperships for boys, workshops for fathers, life skills classes for teenage boys and more.

“We are currently in the middle of the grant cycle for the Men & Boys Fund and we’re reviewing applications,” said Sadecki. “

Sadecki.

For more information, call the Main Street Community Foundation at 860-583-6363.

Brian M. Johnson can be reached at 860-973-1806 or bjohnson@bristolpress.com.