

United Way of Greater New Bedford now accepting grant applications from non-profits and public entities

United Way of Greater New Bedford is now accepting proposals from non-profit organizations and public entities for Community Impact funding. Community Impact grants are aimed to support the most effective existing programs and services in United Way's target areas of health, education, financial stability, and basic needs.

Organizations are eligible to apply for \$10,000 – \$25,000 for operational support to continue, maintain, or expand already existing high quality programs and services. Proposals must directly align with UWGNB's priority areas and target issues and must have the existing infrastructure to track specific program indicators. Programs and services must be available to residents in United Way of Greater New Bedford's service area: Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, Freetown, Marion, Mattapoisett, New Bedford, Rochester, and Wareham.

"Community Impact grants allow local organizations to continue and/or expand the programs and services they are offering for residents in Greater New Bedford," said Michelle N. Hantman, President & CEO. "These grants allow us to partner with our region's leading non-profit organizations who are delivering much needed services to residents in need. The impacts of COVID-19 have only increased or exacerbated the needs of many of our most vulnerable residents."

To read the full RFP and learn more about United Way's priority areas, visit unitedwayofgnb.org/community-impact-grants. Applications are due on Friday April 23rd at noon.

As with all United Way grants, Community Impact proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by a Citizen Review Volunteer Committee made up of community members from Greater New Bedford.

Contact Michelle N. Hantman with any questions regarding the Community Impact grants at 508-994-9625 ext. 212. To learn more about Community Impact Grants and United Way at unitedwayofgnb.org.

New Bedford roadwork sites for the upcoming week of April 5, 2021 – April 9, 2021

The City of New Bedford has roadwork sites for the upcoming week of April 5, 2021 – April 9, 2021 and they are as follows:

Eversource:

Eversource will be working on the gas main relays and services at:

- Pleasant St. working on Pleasant St. at Russell St. on tie-ins
- Union St. working on services from South Sixth St. to Orchard St.
- Hathaway Rd. working from Highland St. to Mt. Pleasant St.
- W. Rodney French Blvd. working from 392 W. Rodney French Blvd. to 380 W. Rodney French Blvd.
- Phillips Ave. working from Belleville Ave. to Riverside Ave.
- Cove Rd. / County St. / Scott St. working on services from 95 towards County St.

Other:

- Belleville Ave. on-street parking will be restricted from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday – Friday in the posted work zone areas.
- Contractor (PA Landers) scheduled to resume road reconstruction on Cottage St. from Parker St. to Sycamore St. On-street parking will be restricted from 7:00 AM – 4:00 PM Monday – Friday in the posted work zone areas.
- Contractor (K.R. Rezendes, Inc.) to continue work at MassDOT Project #606718, roadway reconstruction and related work (including traffic signal installation) along a section of Hathaway Rd., Nauset St. and Mt. Pleasant St. Construction to take place during regular working hours (Monday – Friday), police details and traffic controls will be in place.
- Contractor (PA Landers) to resume MassDOT Project #606709 for roadway reconstruction and related work along a section of Kings Highway and Tarkiln Hill Rd. Construction to take place during regular working hours (Monday – Friday), police details and traffic controls will be in place.
- Contractor (Island Lighting) will be completing site restoration from installation of new athlete park lighting at Diamond One of Buttonwood Park.
- Contractor (North Turf) will be on site at Hazelwood Park continuing installation of the new bowling greens.
- DPI will be working on drainage installation on Hillman St. from Chancery St. to Ash St.
- DPI will be filling potholes city-wide on a continuous basis.
- Contractor (Baystate WinSupply) is scheduled to continue large water meter replacements at various locations throughout the city. There are no anticipated traffic controls for this work.
- Due to ongoing construction at the High Hill Reservoir residents may experience discolored water. The water is safe, and the discoloration will be temporary. We recommend allowing the water to settle for a few hours and then flushing your service line by letting the bathtub run for a few minutes

until the water clears.

- Contractor (SCR Constructors) will continue site work at the future South Coast Rail station platform locations in the City. If you have questions, please email the project team at SouthCoastRail@dot.state.ma.us

*** Please note: Contractors will continue to follow guidelines and protocol regarding COVID-19 social distancing while conducting work in construction zone.*

Due to the current COVID-19 situation the Department of Public Infrastructure will be closed to the public entry. Office staff is available to assist by email and telephone.

Four “Every day is earth day” climate change response clean up events planned for New Bedford in April

In addition to the four cleanup events throughout the city there are three special “save the date” events in May and June. Here are the details:

Initiative Boys and Girls Club Neighborhood Cleanup

Saturday April 3, 2021, 8am-2pm

Serenity Garden Cleaning, Vegetable & Flower Beds for Planting, Dumpster on James Street between North and Hillman Street.

Go Green Residents GET your brooms, shovels, rakes, gloves and water clean your attics, cellars, front/backyards,

streets/sidewalks, storm drains, vacant lots, beaches, shorelines and help your neighbors, plant trees, flowers, vegetables and compost. Join the Go Green Team: Go Green Residents, Boys and Girls Club, Vets Hall, Neighborhoods United, Latino Coalition, AJ. Gomes Neighborhood Associations, Verdean Gardens, Community Foundation, Minority Action Committee, Island Foundation, Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Committee, NB Historical Society, Old Bedford Village, Youth Conservation Corps, Ben Rose REC, NEIE, Cruz Companies & "Zero Waste" in cleaning OUR part of MOTHER EARTH.

NO TIRES!! NO PAINTS!! NO FLAMMABLES!!

For more information call 774-202-0603 or E-mail obvdcbr@yahoo.com. An Environmental Justice Project.

Alfred J. Gomes Neighborhood Association Outdoor Community Informational Meeting

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 6:00pm

41 Bedford Street

Serenity Gardens Bedford & South Sixth St.

Guests: New Bedford Community Policing Officers

Speakers: OPEN, Informational Session

Discussion Topics: Climate Change, COVID-19, Morse Cutting Tools, JOBs, Training and Small Business Assistance, Update on the reconstruction of the Baby Kenny's Tot-Lot, Water Splash Pad at Joseph Monte Park, Pee Wee Baseball Diamond at Gomes Park Beauregard Pina Vietnam Veterans Park corner Rivet and South First Street Go Green Spring Summer and Fall Cleanups, Serenity Gardens Planting Beds available, **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.**

Sponsored by: AJ Gomes Neighborhood Association, Neighborhoods United, Verdean Gardens, Cruz Companies, Latino Coalition, Minority Action Committee, Old Bedford Village, Community

Foundation SEM, Ben Rose REC, All Scholastic Athletic Program, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness, NB Community Services, Public Schools, Police Dept. Island Foundation. For more information call 774-202-0603 and/or E-mail obvdcbr@yahoo.com. An Environmental Justice Project.

Serenity Garden's EARTH DAY Neighborhood Cleanup

Saturday April 24, 2021 8am-2pm

Dumpster at 41 Bedford Serenity Garden Corner Bedford & South Sixth Street

Go Green Residents GET your brooms, shovels, rakes, gloves and water clean your attics, cellars, front/backyards, streets/sidewalks, storm drains, vacant lots, beaches, shoreline and help your neighbors, plant trees, flowers, vegetables and compost. Join the Go Green Team: Go Green Residents, Boys Girl Club, Vets Hall, Neighborhoods United, The Latino Coalition, Alfred J. Gomes Neighborhood Associations, Verdean Gardens, Minority Action Committee, Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Committee, Old Bedford Village, Youth Conservation Corps, Ben Rose REC, NEIE, & "Zero Waste" in cleaning OUR part of MOTHER EARTH.

NO TIRES!! NO PAINTS!! NO FLAMMABLES!!

For more information call 774-202-0603 or E-mail obvdcbr@yahoo.com. An Environmental Justice Project.

Boys and Girls Club EARTH DAY Neighborhood Cleanup

Saturday April 24, 2021 8am-2pm

Dumpster on James Street between North and Hillman Street

Go Green Residents GET your brooms, shovels, rakes, gloves and

water clean your attics, cellars, front/backyards, streets/sidewalks, storm drains, vacant lots, beaches, shorelines and help your neighbors, plant trees, flowers, vegetables and compost. Join the Go Green Team: Go Green Residents, Boys Girl Club, Vets Hall, Neighborhood United, Latino Coalition, AJ. Gomes Neighborhood Associations, Verdean Gardens, Community Foundation, Minority Action Committee, Island Foundation, Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Committee, NB Historical Society, Old Bedford Village, Youth Conservation Corps, Ben Rose REC, NEIE, Cruz Companies & "Zero Waste" in cleaning OUR part of MOTHER EARTH.

NO TIRES!! NO PAINTS!! NO FLAMMABLES!!

For more information call 774-202-0603 or E-mail obvdcbr@yahoo.com. An Environmental Justice Project.

SAVE THE DATES:

- Survivors of COVID-19 Victims Awareness Month, May 20– June 20 2021
- Opening Ceremony Joseph J. Monte Park "Remembrance Celebrations," Thursday, May 20, 2021 4pm to 8pm
- National Hurricane Disasters Preparedness Training Family Fun Day (Being Prepared Being Vigilant Being Responsive), Saturday June 5, 2021

New Bedford to begin annual

street sweeping program

The Department of Public Infrastructure will conduct its annual major street sweeping program in the city, including a parking ban on designated sides of the street beginning Thursday nights, as listed below. The program will run from April 1 through November 1.

Street sweeping will occur from 11:50 p.m. on Thursdays to 6:00 a.m. on Fridays. The street sweeping will operate on a bi-weekly schedule, at the following locations:

FIRST and THIRD Thursday of the month:

- Dartmouth Street (from Matthew Street to Allen Street)
- Kempton Street (from Rockdale Avenue to Sixth Street)
- Mill Street (from County Street to Rockdale Avenue)
- Rivet Street (from Route 18 to Hemlock Street)

SECOND and FOURTH Thursday of the month:

- County Street (from Rivet Street to Cove Street)
- Ashley Boulevard (from Nash Road to Coggeshall Street)
- Acushnet Avenue (from Nash Road to Coggeshall Street)
- North Front Street (from Nash Road to Coggeshall Street)

Failure to follow the posted street sweeping signs will result in vehicles being towed. During this timeframe, parking will be prohibited within the posted areas to allow sweepers full access to the curb line.

These focused areas of sweeping are in addition to the regular, weekly scheduled street sweeping on the city's main thoroughfares.

Anyone with questions may contact James Costa of the Department of Public Infrastructure at 508-979-1550 ext. 67344.

New Bedford Police Department investigating north end hit and run

UPDATE: *"NBPD issued a criminal citation and are summoning one in this case, Ryan LaFrance, 44, 103 Clifford St., He has been charged with leaving the scene of personal injury, leaving the scene of property damage and operating to endanger reckless operation of a motor vehicle."*

Original press release:

"At approximately 6:15 pm on March 31, NBPD's north-end patrol units responded to a hit and run incident on Princeton St. near the Ashley Blvd. intersection.

Witnesses reported a vehicle traveling east on Princeton St. at a high rate of speed before sideswiping two parked autos. A female was exiting one of these vehicles at the time of the incident. The victim was alert but subsequently transported to the hospital for treatment of injuries.

The suspect vehicle fled the scene. The incident remains under investigation by Ofc. Sasha Vicente and members of the department's traffic division. Early reports indicate that a newer model white sedan, possibly a Ford Fusion, may be involved. The vehicle should have extensive damage to the front end.

If anyone has any information regarding the vehicle or operator who fled, please contact New Bedford Police at 508-991-6300."



Photo by Ray Rouke.



Photo by Ray Rouke.

New Bedford woman seeks public's help in retrieving her beloved American Staffordshire terrier "Topsy"

"It's rare I ever post anything like this but my mom and her friend decided to go behind my back and give away my dog without my consent last night.

With absolutely no word given to me that she was leaving this household for good or even making sure it was okay with me first. Which would have never been okay with me!

I have absolutely no clue where she is or who she could have been given to. She's such a sweet baby; she gives hugs & cuddles, doesn't bark, and gets along with any human or animal. She has severe attachment issues and has been badly abused. She never had a stable home when she was a pup so I can't imagine how terrified she is now.

Please if anyone has seen or heard of anyone getting a new dog please let me or my sister know ASAP! She's an American Staffordshire terrier, responds to 'Topsy'!

Please help me find my baby! She could be anywhere from New Bedford to Dartmouth or Acushnet!"-Olivia Marie.



Olivia Marie photo.



Olivia Marie photo.



Olivia Marie photo.

Massachusetts Department of Unemployment Assistance warns of current text and email scams circulating

Please be aware of current scams. Massachusetts residents have received text messages and emails that include a link requesting claimants enter their login and password on a site that looks similar to UI Online. If you have received such a message, please do not respond.

Responses to requests from DUA should only be uploaded through your secure account at <https://uionline.detma.org/Claimant/Core/Login.ASPX> or https://ui-cares-act.mass.gov/PUA/_/. DUA will never ask you to reply to a text or email with your personal information.

DUA takes fraudulent claims seriously and we are working closely with state and federal law enforcement agencies to protect claimants' information. We want to assure you that there is no evidence of a state data breach.

The following considerations are suggested to help you protect your online profiles and account information.

As part of our online security protocol, we recommend that you check your UI profile information often (at least 1x per week) this includes your logon, password, name, contact information. Change your information back and report any discrepancies or changes not made by you immediately to DUA by calling (877) 626-6800

When checking your UI profile, pay close attention to your payment selection to be certain the payment type and / or account information is correct

Be alert to any unknown email sources containing links. Never click on a link unless you are expecting one or you know the sender and recognize the email address – this may be a phishing scheme to obtain access to your computer

Create security credentials that you will remember but are hard for others to guess. Do not give your security credentials to ANYONE – DUA will never contact you asking for that information

Report any changes or suspicious activity involving your UI claim immediately to DUA by calling (877) 626-6800

Monitor communications from DUA often in case you receive a message that a change has been made to your account or to make you aware of an ongoing scheme that has affected claims or warnings from other UI agencies

DUA WILL NOT ask you to verify your eligibility for unemployment benefits, or for personal information by email,

phone or text message. If you receive an email, phone or text message and you are unsure if it came from DUA, contact us by calling (877) 626-6800

If you believe someone is using your identity to falsely claim unemployment benefits, please complete our secured form at www.mass.gov/unemployment-fraud to alert us.

Here are some common unemployment scam techniques to watch out for:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/unemployment-insurance-scams>

Massachusetts receives approval for the Hynes Convention Center to be designated as mass vaccination site

“The federal/state partnership launches this week with FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency and other federal partners and will bring 6,000 additional daily vaccine doses to Massachusetts and will help reinforce the Commonwealth’s focus on vaccine access and equity.

Yesterday MEMA Director Samantha Phillips joined Governor Baker, Lt. Governor Polito, Secretary Sudders, Senator Markey, Congressman Lynch, CDC Director Dr. Walensky, FEMA Administrator Fenton, FEMA Acting Regional Administrator Ford and others to tour the expanded site.

All eligible people in Massachusetts can continue to access appointments at the Hynes through the preregistration process.

Learn more about preregistration: <http://mass.gov/vaxsignup>
Sign up to be notified about appointments: <https://vaccinesignup.mass.gov> -Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA).

Dozens of area non-profits awarded \$323,088 including New Bedford and Fall River

Bristol County Savings Bank (BCSB), through its charitable foundation, announces it has awarded grants totaling \$323,088 to 45 non-profit organizations in the Taunton-Attleboro, New Bedford-Fall River and Northern Rhode Island areas. Since the Bristol County Savings Charitable Foundation (BCSCF) was formed in 1996, more than \$24 million has been committed to hundreds of different non-profits. In 2020, the Foundation awarded \$2.2 million to various 501(c)(3) organizations.

The organizations that received grants from the Foundation are as follows:

New Bedford-Fall River area, \$137,860 – Atlantis Educational Foundation, Inc. (\$10,000); Camp Ellie Mae (\$5,000); Coastal Foodshed (\$5,060); Entrepreneurship for All, (EforAll) Inc. (\$5,000); Lloyd Center for the Environment (\$5,000); New Bedford Art Museum (\$5,000); New Bedford Symphony Orchestra (\$5,000); Seven Hills Behavioral Health (\$5,000); St. Vincent's Services (\$15,000); STEAM the Streets -Marion Institute (\$5,000); Steppingstone Incorporated (\$5,000); The

Salvation Army – Fall River Corps (\$5,000); The Salvation Army – New Bedford Corps (\$5,000); The S.E.A.L Foundation (\$10,000); Whitney Academy, Inc.(\$16,800); Thomas Chew Memorial Boys & Girls Club, Inc. (\$15,000); uAspire (\$3,500); Yeah Corps (\$7,500); and YWCA of Southeastern Massachusetts (\$5,000).

Taunton-Attleboro area, \$91,728 – Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South (\$10,000); Girls Incorporated of Taunton (\$7,500); Hockomock Area YMCA (\$15,000); Horizons for Homeless Children (\$2,500); Kyle Cares – The Kyle Johnson Foundation (\$5,000); Old Colony Historical Museum (\$5,000); Old Colony YMCA (\$13,500); Society of St. Vincent de Paul – Taunton District (\$3,000); The ARC of Bristol County (\$12,728); The Literacy Center (\$7,500); and Triumph, Inc. (\$10,000).

Northern Rhode Island area \$93,500 – Camp Ruggles, Inc (\$3,000); Capital Good Fund (\$7,500); Children’s Friend & Service (\$7,500); Crossroads Rhode Island (\$7,500); Girls on the Run Rhode Island (\$2,500); Hope & Hospice Care of Rhode Island (\$7,500); Little Sisters of the Poor Jeanne Jugan Residence (\$6,000); Local Initiatives Support Corporation-LISC (\$10,000); Pawtucket Central Falls Development (\$10,000); Reach Out and Read Rhode Island (\$4,000); Sojourner House, Inc. (\$4,000); The College Crusade of Rhode Island (\$5,000); The Empowerment Factory (\$7,500); The Learning Community Charter School (\$4,000); and YMCA of Pawtucket (\$7,500).

“During the pandemic, the Bank has been keenly focused on our mission to support the communities we serve by making them a better place to live and work,” said Patrick Murray, President & CEO of Bristol County Savings Bank and President of Bristol County Savings Charitable Foundation. “Though our investments in local charitable organizations, along with our community partnerships, we are doing our best to fulfill that purpose at a time when many non-profits have an even greater urgency of need.”

The Bristol County Savings Charitable Foundation was established in 1996 as part of the Bank's 150th Anniversary celebration. Its intent is to fund the needs that contribute to the economic and the social well-being of the people and institutions located in the greater Taunton/Attleboro Region, the greater New Bedford/Dartmouth Region, the Fall River Region and the Northern, Rhode Island Region, with particular emphasis in the areas of education and literacy, economic development and housing for the low- to moderate-income population.

Massachusetts State Police conclude Woman's History Month by honoring first three State Policewomen in Massachusetts

"In honor and conclusion of Women's History Month, we would like to recognize the first three State Policewomen in Massachusetts.

Mary Haley, the first female State Policewoman in both Massachusetts and the United States, followed by Julia Frances (Fannie) Baker Ames, and Mary A. Nason, who replaced Fannie Baker Ames after her resignation. Fanny served as a member of the inspection department of the district police for six $\frac{1}{2}$ years, resigning her position in December 1897 to care for a sick daughter. Click on each name to view their biographies.

We thank Lieutenant Colonel Ron Guilmette (Ret.) and

Lieutenant Tom McNulty (Ret.) for researching and compiling their biographies, and Trooper Andrew Canata for assisting with this post.”-Massachusetts State Police .