



Rockland Community Foundation
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Rockland Community Foundation Joins Nationwide Celebration
to Recognize the Local Impact of Community Foundations**

November 9, 2020 – Rockland Community Foundation will join in a nationwide celebration, November 12-18, 2020, to recognize the increasingly important role these philanthropic organizations play in fostering local collaboration and innovation to address persistent civic and economic challenges.

For more than a century, community foundations have served as a trusted partner and resource whose effect can be seen in the lives of millions and in the vibrant neighborhoods that continue to thrive through their mission-driven work. During this time, community foundations come together to share and reflect on the stories of impact over the past year.

“The work of community foundations’ spans beyond the practice of giving. There is a tangible impact that can be seen in the lives of those these selfless organizations serve,” said Ariel Aufgang, AIA Rockland Community Foundation Board Chair. “We are more determined than ever to bring our community partners together to find innovative and effective solutions for some of our most challenging social problems and advance the most promising of opportunities to benefit our residents.”

Community foundations are independent, public entities that steward philanthropic resources from institutional and individual donors to local nonprofits and represent one of the fastest-growing forms of philanthropy. In 2019, RCF awarded over 217 grants for charitable activities across the County. The Foundation stewards over 80 charitable grants, one of which was the successful Chromebooks for Kids Fund which was created by former Rockland Residents and NFL Super Bowl stars Devin & Jason McCourty of the New England Patriots. In addition, RCF granted over \$10,000 in COVID-19 Emergency Grants to over 10 local nonprofits in our community.

As community foundations find solutions for communities large and small, urban, and rural – it is the collective work of these organizations that will have the most profound impact. This was most evident amid this year’s coronavirus pandemic where over \$1 billion was distributed by community foundations in response to the crisis. Additionally, community foundations went beyond the money to help their communities adapt during this critical time—supporting charities, schools, nonprofits, and small businesses through partnerships with public institutions in cities, states, and in cooperation with the federal government.

Community Foundation Week was created in 1989 by former president George H.W. Bush to recognize the work of community foundations throughout America and their collaborative approach to working with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to address community problems.

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The Rockland Community Foundation is committed to improving the quality of life for all people in Rockland County by increasing charitable giving. Its mission is to connect people and businesses with the causes that matter most to them through the creation of funds, across a wide range of interests, that donors create and the



Foundation stewards.