A NEWSLETTER CREATED TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY UPDATED ON RECENTLY AWARDED GRANTS



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> The mind that opens to a new idea never returns to its original size.

> > **Albert Einstein**

# Winter 2019

Happy New Year! And Happy 15th Birthday to the Brookfield Education Foundation!

As we reflect on 2018, we are happy to have funded some new and exciting programs. For the first time ever, most of our grants funded were brought to us by the Brookfield community! New programs were funded by grants to local organizations such as Brookfield Cares, the Brookfield Library and Brookfield Social Services, to name a few. Follow-up on some amazing previously funded grants was incredible; we get very excited to see successful grants turn into sustainable programs. Simply put, it's why we love being part of the BEF!

As we move forward in 2019, we look forward to the 10th anniversary of our Honor an Educator program, celebrated every Spring in conjunction with Teacher Appreciation Week. We have also unveiled our Appreciation Cards, available year round. Please see details in this newsletter. Finally, we are working on plans for our 2019 Gala event!

As an education foundation that funds projects town-wide, we continue to encourage both our residents and our educators to take a look at our grant criteria and consider the BEF as a source for funding your innovative ideas. Check out our website and how to "Apply for a Grant". Please reach out to any board member or email us with questions. We're happy to help!

We are so grateful for your support. Thank YOU for being an important part of our mission to fund new programs in our community! We value each donation and assure that we are vigilant in assessing our financial controls process and our funds on a monthly basis.

Kristen Joshi, President

# Gala Fundraiser Update

We are thrilled to report that our 2018 gala was a huge success. The gala, held this year at the Candlewood Inn, raised over \$22,000! The BEF board thanks <u>YOU</u> for making this year's gala one of our most successful events to date.



The BEF would also like to thank the following sponsors:

**Platinum** Eversource **Gold** Brookfield Animal Hospital

Brookfield Children's Physicians Brookfield Learning Center The Goddard School



**Safe Ride** Greenlight Limousine Summers Insurance Wine Bottle Sponsor The Bott Agency Linda DeLucia of William Raveis Real Estate



Live Auction Sponsors Dan's Garage Band Fast Franky's The McGrade Family Reverie Brewing Company Simply Sweet Cupcakes Twins BBQ









#### Community Mini Grant Unified Dance Team at Brookfield High School



Championed by Brookfield High School student, Karli Queenan, the Brookfield Education Foundation has funded a Unified Dance Team at Brookfield HS. Although BHS has many Unified programs, there is no Unified Dance Team. Students currently involved with Unified Sports and the Best Buddy program will have the opportunity to participate on the new Dance Team. The hope for the Unified Dance Team is to offer a creative outlet for Unified students to enjoy. The program will begin this Spring.

# Supporting the BEF

**Monetary**: The Brookfield Education Foundation is a volunteer organization. With the exception of minimal printing, postage, and state filing fees, all donations go directly to innovative educational programs for Brookfield residents. In addition, since the Brookfield Education Foundation has been recognized as a 501(c)3 organization, every dollar donated is tax-deductible.

For your convenience please use our QR Code to donate through PayPal!



Amazon Smile: Show your support for the BEF when shopping online! Use

www.smile.amazon.com and select Brookfield Education Foundation. Same great shopping, same pricing, and support for a great cause!

Leave a Legacy: Making a lasting contribution isn't just for the wealthy. You can leave a gift of any size in your will and, in doing so, will make a tremendous difference to our community. All it takes is a legal will, and the goodwill to make your important charitable work live on forever.

**Vehicle Donation:** You can donate any vehicle, anywhere, running or not, by contacting www.v-dac.com and selecting Brookfield Education Foundation as your charity. You are entitled to receive a tax deduction for your contribution.

**Volunteer:** The BEF is always in need of energetic and motivated volunteers. For more information on how to get involved, please contact the BEF at brookfieldeducationfoundation@gmail.com

#### 2018 Grant Review!

#### **Community Major Grants**

- Parent Support Network for Brookfield Cares
- Live Well Leadership Training and Workshop at the Brookfield Senior Center
- Early Learning Backpack Program at The Brookfield Library

## **School Mini Grants**

- Introduction to Robotics at Christian Life Academy
- "One Town One Read" Author Visit at Brookfield High School
- **Community Mini-Grants**
- First Aid/CPR Education by Girl Scout, Reese Reiling

## Appreciation Cards Available

Do you have a special someone to thank?

Consider purchasing our appreciation cards. They make the perfect thank you for a coach, teacher, friend, mentor, tutor, babysitter, etc.!

\$25/package of 5 cards



Please contact Kristi Lynn Hofsess at eatonkl@yahoo.com to arrange school pickup or delivery.

### THE BEF NEEDS YOUR HELP!



The BEF requests your feedback! If you have any comments or suggestions for our foundation, please email us at:

brookfieldeducationfoundation@gmail.com

