

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



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Learning is not attained
by chance, it must be
sought for with ardor
and attended to with
diligence.

Abigail Adams

Fall 2020

Dear Friends,

We have all been through a year of adapting - to everything - remote jobs, remote learning, limited to no social activity, etc. As we continue to shift gears and evolve, so have the grants brought to us in 2020. The BEF has funded grants this year that are all being implemented in new and different ways, but nonetheless, still delivering innovative education to the Brookfield community. We invite you to take a few minutes to check out the details on these new grants: 3D Printing at BHS was funded in the early stages of COVID and addressed the need for PPE, the Brookfield Library Story Walk introduces a new and active way to enjoy storybooks in the community, and the YMCA's Blood Pressure Self Monitoring program addresses a safe way to educate those with health issues.

Your generous donations to the BEF have made many great programs possible, including these brought to us in 2020. Please check out our website to view details on previously funded grants. We are grateful for your continuous support - thank you! If you have any new programs, we want to hear about it! Check out our [grant criteria](#) on our website to see if your idea meets our criteria. We also invite you to reach out to a board member for assistance.

Normally we would be preparing for and advertising our "Thanks for Giving" Gala at this time of year. We are foregoing the gala this year, but we do have some special plans for our usual gala weekend. This year we invite you to join us in turning support to our local businesses - they have been so generous to us over the years and we'd like to show them our appreciation! Please see the details for our "Thanks for Giving - 2020 Edition" weekend and join us in showing your support on social media!

Be well ~
Kristen Joshi, President

Thanks for Giving, 2020 Edition

This year, in lieu of the annual Thanks for Giving Gala, the Brookfield Education Foundation is organizing a weekend of giving back to our community to show support for the businesses and organizations that have participated in the Gala through the years. Show your support Friday, November 20th through Sunday, November 22nd by shopping, dining, purchasing a gift card or membership, or writing a positive review to express your thanks to these businesses for supporting the BEF. Please visit our website for more information and way to participate.

www.brookfieldeducationfoundation.org/thanksforgiving-2020/

A flyer for the "Thanks for Giving 2020 Edition" event. The flyer has a warm, autumnal color palette with yellow, orange, and brown tones. It features decorative elements like leaves and swirls. The text on the flyer reads: "The Brookfield Education Foundation invites you to participate in Thanks for Giving 2020 EDITION". Below this, it says: "This year, in lieu of the BEF annual gala, we are organizing a weekend of giving back to our community, to show support for all the businesses and individuals who have supported us through the years." The dates are listed as "Show your support Friday, November 20, 2020 through Sunday, November 22, 2020". It also includes the instruction "Share your support Use #ThanksforGiving2020 on social media to share your support for local businesses." At the bottom, there are icons for "SHOP", "DINE", and "GIFT CARD" under the heading "Ways to Participate". A QR code is also present. The website URL www.brookfieldeducationfoundation.org/thanksforgiving-2020/ is repeated at the bottom.

Community Major Grant Storywalk via The Brookfield Library

The Brookfield Education Foundation was able to fund a request for ongoing storywalk programming. Championed by Debbie Brooks, Head of Children’s Services at The Brookfield Library, this reusable Storywalk will be available to the entire community for years to come. This project takes literacy outdoors. Using sturdy outdoor re-fillable frames, picture books (or poetry) can be posted on each frame, and families can walk along as they read each page or part of the story, combining nature with literacy. The frames are portable and can be used in various places throughout Brookfield such as the Library, any of the school grounds, the Still River Greenway, the municipal campus, etc. Residents of all ages will benefit from this literacy focused grant.



School Major Grant 3D PPE Printing at Brookfield High School

This grant was championed by 17 year veteran BHS educator Heather Biancheri. The BEF provided a 3D printer and associated equipment to make PPE for healthcare workers and first responders during the Covid crisis; video tutorials for the equipment are then to be produced and kept in an online resource as a remote teaching tool for students at BHS. Finally, products created using the printer will be the ‘jumping off’ point for a new club at BHS which will encourage relevant volunteerism and empathy in students.



Community Major Grant Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring at the YMCA

Championed by Lisa O'Connor of the YMCA, the BEF has funded a Blood Pressure Self-Monitoring Program which will be delivered to participants virtually. The Y developed this program to help individuals better manage hypertension, improve their overall health and offer regular blood pressure checks. The program includes virtual office consultations for one on one support, Nutrition Education Seminars, and the opportunity for problem solving and social interaction among participants. The program is offered to ten Brookfield residents who will receive blood pressure cuffs at the beginning of this pilot program which began in September 2020.

What makes a BEF Grant successful?



Do you have an interest in funding exciting new educational programs? Do you have a few hours each month to contribute to our foundation?

Email us at brookfieldeducationfoundation.org to find out about how to get involved with the BEF!

The BEF would like to thank the following sponsors of our 2019 Annual Gala Event

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