

THE MASSACHUSETTS CHILD: A LEGACY OF CARING

Though the COVID-19 pandemic has upended everyone's lives, professionally and personally, The Massachusetts Child recognized right away that our most vulnerable students would be at even greater risk of isolation and hardship — so Mass Child immediately made emergency grants available to local associations. MTA members responded in a flash.

Educators from communities large and small identified students in need who would benefit from a package of art supplies, books, projects and the like. The emergency grants are available to all preK-12 locals seeking to provide enrichment and supplemental educational materials to students in need while our schools remain closed.

Prior to the closing of our schools and the general state of emergency, Mass Child had provided more than \$23,000 to 29 locals assisting students in need.

Your commitment to your students remains inspiring to us — and it is inspiring to others. The family of Rita Astorino, who taught science in the Springfield Public Schools and died in 2013, donated \$40,000 to Mass Child in memory of Rita and her husband.

The blumshapiro Foundation, the charitable arm of the blumshapiro financial firm, awarded Mass Child a \$2,300 grant to reimburse locals that help students in need cover costs for extracurricular activities. Donations make our work possible. We are grateful for the support Mass Child receives from the MTA, MTA Benefits and MTA members.

During the coronavirus pandemic, we are accepting donations via the MTA Venmo account. The handle is *@MassachusettsTeachers-Associat*, and it is important to write "Mass Child" in the "What's it for" box.

For information about emergency and other grants, visit the Mass Child page at *massteacher.org/masschild*.

Providing excellent insight and leadership on the Mass Child Board of Directors are new members Millie Ficarra, Bobby Travers and Kathi Rogers, along with Chris Mulroney, who rejoined the Board.

Finally, I want to thank Elizabeth Woodaman and Jackie Lawrence for all of their service on the Board.

We look forward to the day when we can all be together again.

Sincerely,

Nicole Prevost

Nicole Prevost, President Massachusetts Child

THE MASSACHUSETTS CHILD DONOR ROLL

DIAMOND SPONSORS (MORE THAN \$100)

Kristine Barker	Christine Mulroney
Taylor Brennan	Merrie Najimy
Jean Conley	Sarah Nathan
Vargaret Costello	Max Page
Mildred Ficarra	Nicole Prevost
	Maryann Robinson
Philip Katz	Donna Sirutis
Jason Mathes	Carl Stamm
Scott McLennan	Elizabeth Tripathi

GOLD SPONSORS (UP TO \$100)

Ruth Allen	Janice Morrissey
William Durkee	Ruth Reedy
Gail Manos	Kathryn Rogers
Diana Marcus	Jessica Rosenthal

BENEFACTORS

Massachusetts Teachers Association

MTA Benefits

Estate of Sylvester A. and Rita D. Astorino

GIFTS IN THE NAME OF OTHERS

Merrilyn B. Cushing Thomas and Marilyn Licciardello Gail Maheras James and Dorothy Murphy Lynn Murphy William and Margaret Roeger

In Memory of Donald Johnson

OUR MISSION:

TO HELP MTA EDUCATORS HELP STUDENTS IN NEED

THE MASSACHUSETTS CHILD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NICOLE PREVOST, President, Quincy	JESSICA ROSENTHAL, Stoughton
RUTH ALLEN, Dracut	Robert Travers, Jr., Cambridge
Kristine Barker, <i>Waltham</i>	Maureen Viturale, <i>Retired</i>
Margaret Costello, Shawsheen	MERRIE NAJIMY, MTA President
WILLIAM DURKEE, <i>Retired</i>	Max Page, MTA Vice President
Mildred Ficarra, <i>Retired</i>	LISA GALLATIN, MTA Executive Director-Treasurer
Gail Manos, <i>Brockton</i>	KATHLEEN A. CONWAY, MTA Finance Director
Diana Marcus, <i>Burlington</i>	SCOTT MCLENNAN, MTA Staff Consultant
CHRISTINE MULRONEY, Framingham	JANICE A. MORRISSEY, MTA Staff Assistant
KATHRYN ROGERS, <i>Retired</i>	



Dear Colleague:

The Massachusetts Child remains committed to helping educators assist students who may need extra support to ensure their success in the classroom and beyond.

The Massachusetts Child needs your help. Working together, we can make a difference. Please consider making a meaningful contribution to The Massachusetts Child program in honor of or in memory of a colleague, friend, student or loved one. Remember and recognize those connected with your local.

Thanks for your participation.

Educators working with The Massachusetts Child to support students – a winning combination, indeed!

I WANT TO HELP THE MASSACHUSETTS CHILD

Name of local association or individual contributor:

Address (for acknowledgment purposes):_____

Enclosed is a gift of:

- □ Up to \$100 (Gold Sponsor)
- Over \$100 (Diamond Sponsor)
- Local Association Sponsor

Please recognize this contribution in memory of or in honor of _____

If you would like a letter announcing your gift sent to the honoree or his or her family, please provide contact information here:



Please send your check, payable to The Massachusetts Child, to: The Massachusetts Child | 2 Heritage Drive, Quincy, MA 02171-2119.



WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The Massachusetts Child is a charitable corporation founded by MTA members in 1996 to help students struggling with financial need. The Mass Child is a reimbursement program available to all MTA preK-12 local associations. Members use funds from their local associations to purchase qualifying items for students, and Mass Child reimburses the local associations. Please note that Mass Child cannot reimburse individual members; all grant applications must have the signature of the local president.

MTA locals with fewer than 500 members are eligible for reimbursement grants of up to \$1,000 during the course of the school year. Locals with 500 or more members can receive grants totaling \$2 per member.

Standard grants can be used to reimburse purchases of clothing, shoes, hygiene products and eyeglasses, as well as school supplies that are not usually provided by the district such as backpacks, notebooks and pens. Many locals use the grants to make sure that students have appropriate winter clothing. Grants have also been used to assist vocational school students with license fees, work clothing and supplies that are not provided by the school. Items must be for specific students; bulk purchases will not be reimbursed.

Summer Reading Program

Extracurricular

Assistance

Standard

Grants

The Summer Reading Grant is designed to get books into the hands of students for their enjoyment. Locals with 500 or fewer members can apply for up to \$200, and locals with more than 500 members are eligible for \$500. Books must be intended for specific children in need. Ideally the book selections will not be required reading, but books that students themselves choose to read during the summer break. The application process for Summer Reading Grants begins in May.

Mass Child can provide some assistance with funding for **extracurricular activities.** Local associations can apply for up to \$100 to reimburse financial assistance provided to students so they can participate in extracurricular activities requiring school-based fees. For example, the grant can be used toward a needy student's portion of the cost for field trip admission fees or transportation and for fees required to participate in enrichment opportunities, clubs or athletic teams.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

AFTER using funds from your local association for qualifying purchases, submit a reimbursement form and original receipts to The Massachusetts Child, MTA Division of Communications, 2 Heritage Drive, 8th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171-2119. Receipts should contain only the items pertaining to the reimbursement requests. Checks are sent to locals after requests are reviewed at Mass Child Board meetings.

To see if an expense qualifies for reimbursement, email Mass Child Board President Nicole Prevost at *suzzyjojo@aol.com* or MTA Staff Consultant Scott McLennan at *smclennan@massteacher.org*. For more information and reimbursement forms, visit *massteacher.org/masschild*.

