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BOSTON POST ADOPTION RESOURCES AWARDED \$90,000 CUMMINGS GRANT
Brookline, MA nonprofit receives 3 years of funding from Cummings Foundation

Brookline, May 23, 2023 – Boston Post Adoption Resources is one of 150 local nonprofits that will share in \$30 million through Cummings Foundation’s major annual grants program. The Brookline-based mental health services provider was chosen from a total of 630 applicants during a competitive review process. It will receive \$90,000 over three years.

Boston Post Adoption Resources (BPAR) was founded in 2012 to provide specialized therapeutic care and culturally sensitive support, connect people to post adoption resources, and educate the public about the impacts of adoption. The organization provides free resources at www.BPAR.org and has published two critically acclaimed books, *Adoption Is a Lifelong Journey* and *Voices Unheard: A Reflective Journal for Adult Adoptees*.

“This generous Cummings Foundation grant positions BPAR to increase access to long-term clinical services for children, adults, and families touched by adoption and to increase education and training of other professionals,” said executive director Kelly DiBenedetto, LMHC. “A three-year financial commitment is an investment in our mission to address the shortage of adoption-competent mental health support in Greater Boston and to offer trauma-informed therapeutic care in an environment that encourages lifelong healing.”

BPAR will use grant funds to expand therapeutic post adoption services and to respond to external requests for adoption competency education and training materials for mental health professionals and the community.

The Cummings \$30 Million Grant Program aims to give back in the areas where it owns commercial property. Its buildings are all managed, at no cost to the Foundation, by its affiliate, Cummings Properties. This Woburn-based commercial real estate firm leases and manages 11 million square feet of debt-free space, the majority of which exclusively benefits the Foundation.

“The way the local nonprofit sector perseveres, steps up, and pivots to meet the shifting needs of the community is most impressive,” said Cummings Foundation executive director Joyce Vyriotes. “We are incredibly grateful for these tireless efforts to support people in the community and to increase equity and access to opportunities.”

The majority of the grant decisions were made by about 90 volunteers. They worked across a variety of committees to review and discuss the proposals and then, together, determine which requests would be funded. Among these community volunteers were business and nonprofit leaders, mayors, college presidents, and experts in areas such as finance and DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion).

This year's grant recipients represent a wide variety of causes, including housing and food insecurity, workforce development, immigrant services, social justice, education, and mental health services. The nonprofits are spread across 46 different cities and towns.

Cummings Foundation has now awarded \$480 million to greater Boston nonprofits. The complete list of this year's 150 grant winners, plus nearly 1,500 previous recipients, is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org.

About Boston Post Adoption Resources

Brookline-based Boston Post Adoption Resources (BPAR), a mental health nonprofit, has provided specialized trauma-informed individual and group therapeutic care and culturally sensitive support since 2012. BPAR connects people to post adoption resources and educates the public about the impacts of adoption. Through their services, BPAR invites those touched by adoption to join our community in an environment that encourages lifelong healing. Additional information is available at www.BPAR.org

About Cummings Foundation

Woburn-based Cummings Foundation, Inc. was established in 1986 by Joyce and Bill Cummings of Winchester, MA and has grown to be one of the largest private foundations in New England. The Foundation directly operates its own charitable subsidiaries, including New Horizons retirement communities, in Marlborough and Woburn, and Cummings Health Sciences, LLC. Additional information is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org.