



## **2016 MIAA COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD FINALISTS- TEAM CATEGORY**

### **Bishop Feehan High School- Girls Lacrosse Team**

The Bishop Feehan High School Girls Lacrosse team has proactively contributed to their community on a continual basis. The girls on the team have been engaged in a number of activities that show their concern for others. In 2015, their focus was on the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, The Friends of Jaclyn Foundation and children with pediatric brain tumors, Guatemalan "Hermanas LAX," Autism Awareness, and the Wounded Warrior Project. In 2015, 2014, and 2013, the Bishop Feehan Girls Lacrosse team joined the St. Jude Hospital supporters in the Boston community for the "St. Jude Give Thanks Walk," where they raised money for the local hospital. In 2015, they surpassed the amount raised the previous years-\$290,000. The Bishop Feehan Girls team has continued to raise funds in all of their community endeavors.

### **Boston Latin School- Girls Ice Hockey Team**

The girls, led by junior Kerry Keaney, formed a partnership with the Boston Bear Cubs, an organization that provides opportunities for people with Autism and other developmental disabilities to play hockey. Kerry reached out to the Bear Cubs organization on her own accord and organized this great community service project. The Girls Ice Hockey team participated in a two-hour session with the Bear Cubs. The team helped the younger athletes skate, pass, and shoot hockey pucks. They also scrimmaged the advanced players, passing along smiles from player to player. The girls showed a great amount of patience and gave the Boston Bear Cubs an irreplaceable experience.

### **Ludlow High School- Boys and Girls Cross Country Team**

Ludlow High School Boys and Girls Cross Country teams have had a history for dedicating time to their community. For the past six years, the team has volunteered time to set up, and help with check in and clean up, for the elementary PTO Lions Roar road race. For the past 13 years, both teams have volunteered at the Ludlow Fire Department's open house, helping young children through obstacles and manning the refreshment table. Individual athletes from both teams have helped members of the elderly community by shoveling snow and moving firewood. As if this is not enough, each year both teams have worked to beautify the athletic facilities. This year's project was to landscape the letter LHS into the hill next to the school's stadium bleachers.

## **Sharon High School- Girls Basketball Team**

This summer, the Sharon Girls Basketball team held their first ever Summer Basketball Clinic, where they had almost 40 girls in grades 3-8 participate. In September, the girls also helped coach the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Fall Basketball Clinic where they helped develop over 60 girls' basketball players. The girls were able to volunteer four hours each Sunday for 8 weeks, until November. Just before winter break, in December, the basketball team held their first ever "Late Night Madness" event, where all of the boys and girls youth basketball players met the Varsity basketball teams and were invited to play with the team. They also held a "Media Day," where they invited the 4<sup>th</sup> grade travel team to come watch a practice and then interview the players. Each 4<sup>th</sup> grader had their picture taken with an athlete. By hosting these clinics, the Girls Basketball team has impacted over 150 lives, by becoming role models to all of the girls' who aspire to play at Sharon High School in the future.

## **Swampscott High School- Girls Soccer Team**

The Girls Soccer Team at Swampscott High School has been involved in the Rovers Program since 2011, and each year more players join this cause. Their decision to volunteer with this program and share their soccer knowledge, skill, time and most importantly their compassion and understanding, is commendable. This year, the girls' commitment to the Rovers Program became even more evident, when one of their MIAA State Tournament games was scheduled on the same day as the Rovers Tournament, which had worked so hard preparing for with their players. The girls went above and beyond to plan around this tournament, and with the help and coordination of parents, they were able to get to the Rovers game and get back in time for their own game. Both events were a success. The Rovers Players had an experience that they will never forget, and the girls won and moved on in the tournament.

## **Tewksbury Memorial High School- Girls Volleyball Team**

The Tewksbury Memorial High School Girls Volleyball team has raised almost \$3000 total in their short season. In September 2015, the team participated in the ALS ice bucket challenge where they raised \$250 in donations. The team also donated materials and time to create 40+ fleece blankets for Project Linus and the Department of Children and Families. They raised \$900 for Easter Seals in an Easter Seals sponsored event. The team sold pizza, took donations at parent/teacher meetings, worked concession stands at their games, sold T-shirts, and took responsibility for gym set up. In October 2015, the girls raised \$250 by walking as a team to support Lazarus House, a charity in their community that helps those less fortunate. To finish off the season, the girls raised an astonishing \$1000 for Cancer research at Dana Farber, by running the "Dig Pink" for a cure game, where the girls took donations and sold paper volleyballs in remembrance of those fighting cancer.

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