This summer, The Parmenter Foundation proudly granted $10,000 to Family Promise MetroWest. This grant will assist Family Promise MetroWest to carry out its mission to transform the lives of families with children who are homeless by mobilizing a diverse community to provide shelter, education and comprehensive support. Family Promise strives to break the cycle of homelessness by providing shelter to MetroWest families who are homeless, professional case management to help families transition out of homelessness and into sustainable and secure housing, and a comprehensive approach to employment, including education, child care and transportation.

The Parmenter Foundation was pleased to present Sue Kuan of Wayland with the Grace Johnson Volunteer Award on November 1st for her dedication to the Parmenter Food Pantry. Established in 2005, the award is given annually to an outstanding volunteer from a Parmenter Foundation grantee organization. The award is named in honor of Grace Johnson (1925-2001), a longtime Wayland resident, who contributed hands-on work to numerous charitable organizations. Ms. Kuan embodies Grace’s devotion to helping others. As described by Laurie Hojlo, the Parmenter Food Pantry Director, “Sue is hardworking. She travels around Wayland picking up donated non-perishable food from banks, grocery stores, and the post office and delivers it all to the food pantry. She then unpacks the food, checks the expiration dates and shelves the donated products. On the monthly food distribution days Sue arrives early to get the fresh food organized and helps to pre-pack food that are delivered to the homebound. When the food pantry opens, she greets recipients and helps them pack up fresh and non-perishable foods to take home. Further, Sue also serves in an important role of interpreter for our Chinese patrons. She is extremely compassionate and friendly and makes everyone feel welcome.”

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Jennifer Wiles, Director of Children’s Bereavement Services at CareGroup Parmenter (a Parmenter Foundation grant recipient) was invited to teach at the Apollo Institute in Beijing, China this past April. As a visiting instructor at Apollo, Jennifer led a Grief Retreat and taught seminars in Children’s Bereavement, the HEARTplay model, and Dance Movement Therapy with Children. Students came from all over China and were professionals in the fields of psychology, social work, nursing, education and school administration. The work was graciously and enthusiastically received. Jennifer has been invited by director Dr. Li Weixiao to return to Apollo in the Spring of 2019, where she will lead Family Grief Retreats and continue to teach about HEARTplay and other aspects of the field of children’s bereavement.

**COMMUNITY FUN-RAISERS**

We are humbled by the spirit of giving of our friends who held FUN-raisers generating more than $26,000 in proceeds to The Parmenter Foundation in 2018:

- **Amy O’Donnell**, owner of Amy’s Sweet Solutions in Wayland, donated 40 dozen cupcakes for the Parmenter Food Pantry Thanksgiving food distribution - a dozen cupcakes for every order of turkey cake pops she sold during the Thanksgiving season

- **The Rokes family** held their 2nd Annual Friends of The Parmenter Foundation Golf Tournament in June and with the generosity of more than 60 golfers raised over $8,000

- **Camp Erin Boston** volunteers, including Michelle Iguarta and Stewart McKenzie, held the 1st Camp Erin Boston 5K Run/Walk in September and raised over $10,000

- **Author Jodi-Tatiana Charles** has donated over $1,000 from the proceeds of her book, *It’s Just a Rug*, for Children’s Bereavement Services

- **Dave Raymond** sold chowder, lobster rolls, and more at the Peabody International Festival and raised over $900

- **Amy Washak** paddled her SUP 20 miles on the Sudbury River through Wayland, Lincoln and Concord – over a 6-hour trip! – and raised over $3,300 in the process for Camp Erin Boston

**GRANTEE HIGHLIGHT: HEARTplay™ GOES TO CHINA!**

*Photo Credit: Shay Fitzpatrick*