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Research Institute for Learning and Development awarded \$100,000 grant from Cummings Foundation

*Lexington based nonprofit receives grant to provide an after-school mentoring program
for the James L. McKeown Boys & Girls Club of Woburn*

LEXINGTON, June, 2017 – The Research Institute for Learning and Development (ResearchILD) has been selected as one of the 100 local nonprofits to receive a grant of \$100,000 through the Cummings Foundation’s **\$100K for 100** program. ResearchILD, an internationally known educational research organization, based in Lexington, MA develops educational programs for children, adults, and adolescents with learning and attention differences. ResearchILD was chosen from more than 370 applicants during a competitive review process by the Cummings Foundation. The grant will be used to support the SMARTS Executive Function and Mentoring Program as part of the “After the Bell” program at the James L. McKeown Boys & Girls Club of Woburn, MA.

Approximately 300 people, including staff and board members from the 100 recipient organizations, will gather at the Foundation’s fifth annual Grantee Reception on June 8 at TradeCenter 128 in Woburn to celebrate the \$10 million infusion into Greater Boston’s nonprofit sector. With the conclusion of this grant cycle, Cummings Foundation has now awarded more than \$170 million to local nonprofits alone.

“With the generous support of the Cummings Foundation, ResearchILD can transform the lives of more students by helping them to learn *how* to learn so that they can achieve lifelong success,” states Dr. Lynn Meltzer, President of ResearchILD in Lexington. “We’re thrilled that the Cummings Foundation has recognized ResearchILD’s important work in the community and we look forward to expanding our SMARTS program to a new population of students served by the James L. McKeown Boys & Girls Club of Woburn.” The SMARTS program uses an innovative peer mentoring approach, where older students are paired with younger students to help them implement learning strategies in their schoolwork so that they can improve academically.

The \$100 for 100 program supports nonprofits that are not only based in but also primarily serve Middlesex, Essex, and Suffolk counties. This year, the program is benefiting 35 different cities and towns within the Commonwealth,

Through this place-based initiative, Cummings Foundation aims to give back in the area where it owns commercial buildings, all of which are managed, at no cost to the Foundation, by affiliate Cummings Properties.

“Nonprofit organizations like ResearchILD are vital to the local communities where our colleagues and clients live and work,” said Joel Swets, Cummings Foundation’s executive director. “We are delighted to invest in their efforts.”

This year’s diverse group of grant recipients represents a wide variety of causes, including homelessness prevention and affordable housing, education, violence prevention, and food insecurity. Most of the grants will be paid over two to five years.

The complete list of **\$100 for 100** grant winners is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org

About ResearchILD

Headquartered in Lexington, ResearchILD is directed by Dr. Lynn Meltzer and is dedicated to the mission of helping children, adolescents and adults with learning challenges succeed in school and in life. ResearchILD focuses on research, development of mentoring and leadership programs for schools, publications of books and software, professional development for teachers, and scholarship support for educational services. For more information on ResearchILD’s SMARTS Executive Function and Mentoring Program, please contact Jamie Cutler, ResearchILD, in Lexington, MA, at 781-861-3711 x13 or jcutler@researchild.org.

About Cummings Foundation

Woburn-based Cummings Foundation, Inc. was established in 1986 by Joyce and Bill Cummings of Winchester, Mass. With assets exceeding \$1 billion, it is one of the very largest grant-making foundations in New England. The Foundation directly operates its own charitable subsidiaries, including two New Horizons senior communities in Marlborough and Woburn. Its largest single grant to date was \$50 million to Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University in North Grafton, Mass. Additional information is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org.

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