



# COMMUNITY FOUNDATION of Southeastern Massachusetts

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## **Community Foundation Huidekoper Fund Awards Grants for Youth Athletics**

The Huidekoper Fund of the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts has awarded grants to three youth athletic programs in the region.

The Huidekoper Fund was created by a generous bequest of Peter G. and Mary B. Huidekoper, who spent many summer days with their children on the shores and the waves of Buzzards Bay. The Fund will make annual competitive grant awards for youth athletics in the Foundation's service area.

"The Huidekoper Fund celebrates this legacy and the rich heritage of youth athletics that is an essential part of an engaging and active life in Southeastern Massachusetts," said Community Foundation President John Vasconcellos. "We are pleased to be supporting and encouraging youth athletics and physical fitness in our region."

**The Boys and Girls Club of Fall River** was awarded a \$2,000 grant to support staff time for its "Triple Play Challenge", a physical fitness challenge program using obstacle courses, basketball drills, jump rope, and more. This series of non-competitive, yet challenging activities encourages members to increase their physical fitness. Based upon past participation, the Club anticipates Daily Challenge will serve at least 275 youth during outside school hours October through June.

**The Buzzards Bay Coalition and Youth Opportunities Unlimited (Y.O.U.)** were each awarded \$1,000.00 to support summer kayaking trips for New Bedford youth.

In summer 2017, Buzzards Bay Coalition will offer **Buzzards Bay Youth Expeditions**, five free, two-hour kayaking adventures for youth ages 12-16 along Buzzards Bay, with a particular focus on residents of New Bedford. They expect to serve 40 youth.

Y.O.U.'s grant is for the **Explore Your Environment Program**, which will allow 60 low-income youth (ages 9 to 16) from New Bedford to have a unique experience exploring river habitats in kayaks, partnering with Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures of Westport. The program will consist of 4 one-day kayak trips in July and August 2017)

***About the Community Foundation***

Since 1995, area residents have been turning to the Community Foundation of Southeastern Massachusetts to make their philanthropic giving as effective as possible. The Community Foundation is a public charity serving thousands of people who share a common concern – improving the quality of life in Southeastern Massachusetts. To date, the Community Foundation has distributed over \$25 million from 250 funds to humanitarian, educational and cultural organizations in the region. More information about the Foundation can be found at [www.cfsema.org](http://www.cfsema.org).

Contributions to the Community Foundation and the Huidekoper Fund can be made at <https://www.cfsema.org/donors/donate-to-a-fund/donate>.

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