



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 18, 2014

**Greater Lowell Community Foundation Responds to Fire on Branch Street by Funding Expanded Fire Safety Education and Prevention Efforts in the City**

Prompted by the recent fire and tragic loss of life witnessed by our city, the Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF) convened representatives from the Lowell Fire Department, the International Institute of New England, and Lowell Community Health Center to discuss fire education and safety efforts throughout our community. This meeting identified three key areas of partnership: the creation of an internship position to collaborate with the Lowell Fire Department on education efforts in community settings; hosting a forum about fire education and safety with community leaders; and the development of a video appropriate for all members of our community on fire safety to serve as an educational tool.

The Greater Lowell Community Foundation will commit \$10,000 in funding to these fire education and safety efforts. GLCF Executive Director Susan Winship said, "In light of the recent tragedy in Lowell, I am amazed by the heartfelt response of our community—the ability to rally together and provide prayers, support, and relief to the survivors and their families. I am happy to be able to lend the resources and the assistance of the Greater Lowell Community Foundation to expand education efforts to residents of the city about fire prevention, protection, and safety. I am enthusiastic about collaborating with the Lowell Fire Department and local nonprofit organizations."

**ABOUT THE GREATER LOWELL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

Since its inception in 1997, the Greater Lowell Community Foundation (GLCF) has focused on improving the quality of life for the people in the communities it serves. A philanthropic organization in the Greater Lowell/Merrimack Valley area, the GLCF provides education and financial support. Through academic scholarships and charitable foundations, our vast donor network addresses a wide range of regional needs for charities, community groups and area students.

The members and staff of the GLCF all take their role as the voice of philanthropy in our community very seriously, and endeavor to always provide an effective and trusted channel for helping the community.

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