

Harvard's Healing Garden Expands Communication Initiatives Thanks to Generous Grant from the Middlesex Savings Charitable Foundation

Non-Profit Provides Healing Mind-Body Support Services for People with Cancer



The Virginia Thurston Healing Garden Cancer Support Center offers integrative support services to optimize quality of life for all those who are affected by cancer.

Harvard, MA Margaret Koch, Executive Director of the <u>Virginia Thurston Healing Garden Cancer Support Center</u> (The Healing Garden), today announced the expansion of the non-profit's communication initiatives thanks to a generous grant from the Middlesex Savings Charitable Foundation. The Healing Garden is the premiere provider of integrative oncology care in Massachusetts, and the only provider offering cancer support programs nestled in 8 acres of serene woodlands and gardens. The Healing Garden's tranquil facility in the heart of Harvard, MA offers immersive mind-body programs including support groups, education, expressive and integrative therapies, and individual counseling.

"We are grateful to the Middlesex Charitable Foundation for this generous grant which will allow us to reach more people who are suffering with cancer," said Margaret Koch, Executive Director. "Thanks to the Foundation we are able to expand our communications initiatives, including engaging a consultant who will grow and enhance key community relationships and expand our impact throughout Massachusetts. We look forward to opening our doors to new clients seeking healing and support throughout the cancer continuum."

For almost 25 years The Healing Garden's goal has been to optimize the quality of life for all those who are affected by cancer – men, women, and their caregivers – regardless of cancer type, prognosis, or financial ability to pay for services. The Healing Garden welcomes over 300 client visits per month for multiple services from fitness and wellness classes to healing therapies including acupuncture and oncology massage - many offered free of charge. The Healing Garden services clients from over 165 communities across Massachusetts.



A community dedicated to improving quality of life

Since its creation in June 2000, the Middlesex Savings Charitable Foundation has provided more than \$6 million in grants to over 600 nonprofit organizations providing critical community services throughout its community. Established as a nonprofit, private charitable foundation, the Foundation carries out the philanthropic mission of Middlesex Savings Bank, supporting nonprofit organizations, services and programs in a wide variety of fields, including education, public health and welfare, the arts, and community development. The Foundation also provides annual scholarship support to college bound seniors in addition to its principal grant-making philanthropic program

For information about The Healing Garden's mind-body support services please call 978-456-3532 or see our website at www.healinggardensupport.org

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About The Virginia Thurston Healing Garden Cancer Support Center

Situated on 8 acres of serene woodlands and gardens in Harvard, MA, The Healing Garden offers integrative therapies, education and psychosocial support for people affected by cancer, their families and caregivers, regardless of cancer type, prognosis, or financial ability to pay for services. The Healing Garden works with a broadly skilled team of cancer care therapists who provide many services on a pro-bono basis, and use evidence-based, best practices for a range of treatments. Professional staff also includes an oncology social work specialist who provides supportive care management, guiding clients through the entire cancer continuum including help navigating through the labyrinth of the health care system. For more information about group workshops, individual services or case management support, call 978-456-3532 or see www.healinggardensupport.org. Facebook @VirginiaThurstonHealingGarden