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NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION DONATES \$200,000 IN THE NAMES OF 2015 MYRA KRAFT COMMUNITY MVP AWARD WINNERS

Twenty-six New Englanders honored at Gillette Stadium during the 2015 Myra Kraft Community MVP Awards.

Susan Canning of Westfield, Mass. wins grand prize of \$25,000 for KEVS Foundation.

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — The Kraft family and New England Patriots Charitable Foundation's Myra Kraft Community MVP Awards place a spotlight on those who give their time to help others and exemplify leadership, dedication and a commitment to improving their communities through volunteerism. Each year, the Kraft family and the New England Patriots Charitable Foundation host the awards program as part of the ongoing Celebrate Volunteerism initiative in honor of Myra Kraft's example of being a lifelong volunteer.

On June 9, 26 volunteers were recognized for their contributions at a luncheon and awards ceremony at Gillette Stadium. Each Community MVP received grants for their respective nonprofit organizations. Fifteen New England-based organizations were presented with \$5,000 grants in honor of their volunteers' work. Ten others received grants of \$10,000 and one grand prize winner was presented \$25,000.

"It is truly inspiring to hear the incredible stories of each Myra Kraft Community MVP Award winner," said Patriots Chairman and CEO Robert Kraft. "Every volunteer has such a unique story about how they got involved in their community and it is very touching to learn about their impact. These individuals are making a lasting impact on a daily basis and we are excited to have the opportunity to thank each of them for their commitment. This is truly one of my favorite programs and I know Myra would be proud of the work each of these volunteers are doing."

On hand to congratulate the award winners was Patriots Chairman and CEO **Robert Kraft**, New England Patriots Charitable Foundation President **Joshua Kraft**, Patriots and Pro Football Hall of Famer and Patriots Executive Director of Community Affairs **Andre Tippett**, and Patriots players including linebacker **Jerod Mayo**, tackle **Nate Solder** and kicker **Stephen Gostkowski**.

Susan Canning of Westield, Massachusetts was selected as this year's \$25,000 grand prize winner.

"Being recognized as a recipient of the Myra Kraft Community MVP award validates the importance of our work in the community and continues to bring awareness of sudden cardiac arrest in youth," said Canning. "This is such an incredible honor for me and the KEVS Foundation."

In 2011, Canning lost her son Kevin to sudden cardiac arrest at the age of 19. She managed to turn her grief into a way to positively impact others by creating KEVS Foundation in honor of her son. Canning raises awareness of sudden cardiac arrest, teaches CPR and AED classes and raises funds to help donate AEDs to local schools and fields.

"Susan's dedication and tenacity encourages our volunteers to forge ahead and continue to spread awareness of sudden cardiac arrest in our youth," said Dr. Michael Willers from the Children's Heart Center of Western Massachusetts and Medical Director for the KEVS Foundation. "She turned her unimaginable grief with the loss of her son into lifesaving action. Her selection for the Myra Kraft Community MVP Awards program helps to increase awareness of sudden cardiac arrest in young adults and recognizes the countless hours she gives in memory of her son Kevin."

This past year, the foundation taught CPR skills to more than 3,800 students and donated more than 20 AED units. Canning helped coordinate more than 900 heart screenings last year and as a result of her screenings, several children have been diagnosed with previously undetected heart conditions.

Canning volunteers tirelessly while also working a full-time job and serves as a constant advocate for sudden cardiac arrest. She has presented several bills to senators and continues to dedicate her time to ensure that no parent experiences the same loss that she did.

"Volunteering, to me, is a way to give back and help others through my life experiences," said Canning. "It is my hope and desire to give back to families, to help prevent losing another young soul due to sudden cardiac arrest. I'm just so blessed to have a strong community to support my mission and Kevin to guide me to do the right thing."

The 2015 MVPs represent all six New England states, a variety of nonprofit organizations and range in age from 17 to 83 years old. The Kraft family and New England Patriots Charitable Foundation received a record number of applications this year from nonprofit organizations looking to recognize their outstanding volunteers. Nominations open each spring and the awards are open to all nonprofit organizations in the New England region. For more information on these awards, please visit www.patriots.com/community.



Patriots Chairman and CEO **Robert Kraft** and Patriots and Pro Football Hall of Famer **Andre Tippett** congratulate Susan Canning from KEVS Foundation for being selected as the 2015 Myra Kraft Community MVP Award grand prize winner. During the June 9 luncheon, the Kraft family and the New England Patriots Charitable Foundation awarded \$200,000 in grants to 26 New England nonprofits. KEVS Foundation will receive a \$25,000 grant in honor of Canning's volunteer efforts.



Patriots Chairman and CEO **Robert Kraft**, Patriots Charitable Foundation President **Joshua Kraft**, and Patriots and Pro Football Hall of Famer **Andre Tippett** were joined by Patriots linebacker **Jerod Mayo**, kicker **Stephen Gostkowski** and tackle **Nate Solder** to celebrate their award on the field of Gillette Stadium. The 26 volunteer winners range from 17 to 83 years old, with one winner from each state in the region. Winning nonprofits provide support for many causes, including education, domestic violence resources, healthcare, homelessness, mentoring, military support and more.

Below is a complete list of the 2015 Myra Kraft Community MVP Award Winners:

<u>Name</u>	Hometown	Organization	Organization Town
\$25,000 Grand Prize Winner			
Susan Canning	Westfield, Mass.	KEVS Foundation	South Hampton, Mass.
\$10,000 Second Prize Winners			
Claire Bloom	Somersworth, N.H.	End 68 Hours of Hunger	Somersworth, N.H.
Holly Brown	Whitman, Mass.	Looking and Feeling FAB, Inc.	Whitman, Mass.
Robbin Burns-Laubi	Westport, Mass.	Devin Laubi Foundation	Westport, Mass.
Michele Dillon	, ,	Jeff's Place Children's Bereavement Center	, ,
Chaskiesha Figueroa	Framingham, Mass. Lawrence, Mass.	Beyond Soccer	Framingham, Mass. Lawrence, Mass.
Robert Glidden, Jr.	Proctorsville, Vt.	Proctorsville Fire Department	Proctorsville, Vt.
Tracy Johnston	Scituate, Mass.	Scituate CORSE Foundation	N. Scituate, Mass.
Charlie Lenore	West Hartford, Conn.	Hartford's Camp Courant	Hartford, Conn.
Deirdre Carmody Millones	Narragansett, R.I.	Domestic Violence Resource Center	Wakefield, R.I.
Alex Tomaszewski	Wells, Maine	Camp No Limits	Wales, Maine
Alex Tomaszewski	wens, maine	Camp No Limits	waics, maine
\$5,000 Third Prize Winners			
Nonie Bouthilette	Florence, Mass.	Sibling Connections	Somerville, Mass.
Suzanne Carter	East Dennis, Mass.	Flower Angels USA	West Dennis, Mass.
Ian Clemence-Schreiner	N. Woodstock, N.H.	New England Disabled Sports	Lincoln, N.H.
Brad Cole	Milford, Conn.	K9 First Responders	Milford, Conn.
Forrie Cotten	Bangor, Maine	The Shepherd's Godparent Home	Bangor, Maine
Hallie Fuchs	Fairfield, Conn.	Norma F. Pfriem Breast Care Center	Bridgeport, Conn.
Aprill Lane	Mansfield, Mass.	AGC Scholarship Foundation	Mansfield, Mass.
John Mauro	Auburn, Mass.	National Ataxia Foundation	Auburn, Mass.
Macey Miller	Newtonville, Mass.	Greater Waltham Arc	Waltham, Mass.
Rebecca Moniz	East Greenwich, R.I.	Realtor Foundation Rhode Island	Warwick, R.I.
Corin Nava	Warwick, R.I.	Project Sweet Peas	Warwick, R.I.
Rev. Dr. Robert Odierna	Nashua, N.H.	The Front Door Agency	Nashua, N.H.
Dana Siegal	Stoneham, Mass.	Voices of Hope	Stoneham, Mass.
Alyssa Silva	Cumberland, R.I.	Working on Walking	Cumberland, R.I.

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