
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Cummings Foundation Funds to be used for Entrepreneur Programs
2019 "\$100k for 100" Grant to Venture Cafe Foundation**

Venture Cafe Foundation has been selected as one of 100 local nonprofits to receive grants of \$100,000 each through Cummings Foundation's \$100K for 100 program. Venture Cafe Foundation was chosen from more than 430 applicants. The Cummings grant will underwrite programs at Roxbury Innovation Center supporting entrepreneurs in Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan, and beyond with early business classes, workshops, and mentorship programs to help them build profitable, job-creating businesses.

"We are grateful to Cummings Foundation for this grant," said Kevin Wiant, Executive Director of Venture Cafe Foundation. "Thanks to this grant, we can expand our programming for local businesses and entrepreneurs as part of our mission to boost economic development through small business growth."

"The Cummings Foundation is committed to the local communities where the staff and clients of the Cummings organization live and work," said Joel Swets, Cummings Foundation's executive director. "We are delighted to support worthy nonprofits like Venture Cafe Foundation that are working tirelessly for the benefit of the people they serve." This year's diverse group of grant recipients represents a wide variety of causes, including underserved populations, education, healthcare, hunger relief, and homelessness prevention. Most of the grants will be paid over two to five years. The complete list of 100 grant winners is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org.

Venture Cafe Foundation, one of Boston's "50 On Fire" in 2018, is an inclusive 501c3 organization whose mission is to educate and connect anyone with an idea to the resources and relationships they need to launch and grow successful businesses. Roxbury Innovation Center is a landmark project for the City of Boston, developed jointly with Venture Cafe Foundation to support local economic development by encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship.

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