

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE WITH PHOTO JULY 30, 2020

Catie's Closet Receives \$100,000 From Boston Resiliency Fund

DRACUT, MA – Catie's Closet is honored to be a grantee of \$100,000 from the Boston Resiliency Fund, which will assist the organization's COVID-19 Relief and Summer Essentials initiatives.

Since March, Catie's Closet has purchased, gathered and delivered toiletry kits for students and their families who are utilizing the emergency meal sites established by Catie's Closet public school partners. To date, Catie's Closet has provided over 340,000 toiletries to 36 sites in Boston.

The organization has served over 50,000 families total.

"While COVID-19 has presented many challenges, we remain committed to serving our students and families, especially during this time of increased need," said Mickey Cockrell, CEO and Co-Founder of Catie's Closet. "We have adjusted our methods of service to ensure our students, families and school partners can rely on us to receive the critical items they need."

Catie's Closet is among more than 200 organizations that received grants from the Boston Resiliency Fund. The City of Boston established the fund to aid individuals and families disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

"We are extremely thankful for the continued support from the steering committee for the Boston Resiliency Fund," said Cockrell. "It will cost \$240,000 to continue providing the essential toiletry items to our families through summer. These funds are crucial in helping us meet that requirement."

Catie's Closet received two separate \$25,000 grants from the Boston Resiliency Fund in April. The organization received a \$50,000 total grant in July to continue its COVID-19 relief efforts.

To learn more about Catie's Closet and its COVID-19 and Summer Essentials initiative, visit <u>catiescloset.org/covid19</u>.



Photo Cutline: Catie's
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relief efforts through summer.

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Established in 2010, Catie's Closet is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that improves school attendance and the self-esteem of students living in poverty by offering in-school closets filled with free clothing, toiletries and other necessities. Serving 50,000

students, Catie's Closet is offered in 85 schools across nine school districts in Massachusetts and New Hampshire with distribution centers in Dracut and Boston, Massachusetts. More information is available at catiescloset.org.