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Freedom House Awarded \$500,000 Cummings NeXT Grant

Grove Hall nonprofit receives transformational investment from Cummings Foundation

Dorchester, MA – November 4, 2022

Freedom House is one of 7 local nonprofits to receive grants of \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 each through Cummings Foundation's \$5 million Nonprofits Experiencing Transformation (NExT) Grants program. It will receive a \$500,000 investment.

Freedom House transforms the academic and college-going identity of our community by working with high school and post-secondary students to foster academic success and promote a post-secondary education as a tangible goal. Its Preparing Urban Students for Success in Higher Education (PUSH) student success programming, enables underrepresented students to overcome barriers to college completion, while becoming active citizens; through a combination of intensive coaching, meaningful social/emotional development, identity building, community service, jobs, college preparation, and career exploration. "This transformative contribution by the Cummings Foundation enables us to accelerate progress towards achieving our Vision 2025 goals," said Freedom House Chief Executive Officer Charmaine L. Arthur. "The Cummings Foundation has been in our corner for many many years, but through this meaningful investment the Foundation forged the way for us to start writing a new chapter for Freedom House." Grant funds from the Cummings Foundation will be used to provide comprehensive youth-development focused programs and services to reach 1,000 more high school and college students annually, expand mental health programming, and double Freedom House's partner network across Boston.

With the help of a diverse team of volunteers, the Foundation first identified to nominate, vet, and determine the NExT Grants winners. "Through our ongoing relationships with grantees, we learn about their latest and greatest initiatives," said Cummings Foundation executive director Joyce Vyriotes. "Our aim with these awards is to mitigate the financial barrier to these transformational projects, giving organizationally sound nonprofits the boost needed to amplify their impact in the regions they serve."

Cummings Foundation has awarded nearly \$450 million to date to nonprofits based in greater Boston.

About Freedom House

Freedom House is building economic, racial and social equity in our communities through education and leadership development. For 72 years, Freedom House has been a leader in programs and services that champion educational equity and economic opportunities for Black and Brown youth throughout our communities. We see education as a pathway toward economic



opportunities. We focus on college access and post-secondary success to increase college graduation rates and career readiness by providing comprehensive services focused on holistic youth development to our students. Freedom House was founded in 1949 by Muriel and Otto Snowden as a catalyst for promoting equality for lower-income Bostonians; with an initial goal of centralizing community activism in the fight for neighborhood improvement, good schools, and harmony among racial, ethnic, and religious groups primarily in the Roxbury/Dorchester area. For more information about Freedom House, visit <https://freedomhouse.com/>.

About Cummings Foundation

Woburn-based Cummings Foundation, Inc. was established in 1986 by Joyce and Bill Cummings and has grown to be one of the largest private foundations in New England. The Foundation directly operates its own charitable subsidiaries, including New Horizons retirement communities, in Marlborough and Woburn, and Cummings Health Sciences, LLC. Additional information is available at www.CummingsFoundation.org.

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