

MEDFIELD FOUNDATION, INC.
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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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June 23, 2003

MEDFIELD FOUNDATION AND COA RAISE MONIES FOR BUS

Medfield, MA – The Medfield Foundation announced today that it raised over \$11,000 for the Council on Aging's new bus. The Medfield Foundation's check was presented by its treasurer, Abby Marble to COA Director, Roberta Lynch, with Medfield Foundation president Kevin Hern and board members Osler Peterson and Lou Fellini looking on. Lou Fellini is also the Chair of the COA. The bus was recently purchased as a result of a joint public and private funding combination. The 2002 town meeting voted to partially fund the bus purchase to the extent of \$26,855, while the COA and the Medfield Foundation fund raised private monies of over \$13,000 and \$11,229 respectively to make the purchase of the \$50,992 bus possible .

Kevin Hern stated that this bus purchase is exactly the sort of public and private partnership that the Medfield Foundation was created to fulfill, doing raising private funds for unmet public needs in Medfield. He noted that the Medfield Foundation is also currently assisting the Medfield Youth Outreach Worker to raise private funds to meet the needs of Medfield youth that will otherwise go unmet, and also assisting the individuals seeking to build an improved Dale Street School playground who have already raised over \$25,000 through the Medfield Foundation. The Medfield Foundation is a nonprofit, tax deductible corporation created in 2002 to raises private monies for public purposes in Medfield. Hern said that as a new community foundation, the Medfield Foundation expects that all monies raised each year will be turned over to support the goals indicated by the individual donors (the Medfield Foundation allows donors to designate donations for particular broad categories), but that the long term goal is to establish an endowment, which he expects to occur via planned gifts.

Pete Peterson, a Medfield selectman, noted that the combination of the lack of adequate state funding for Medfield schools and the state budget crisis of the past several years makes the Medfield Foundation's efforts all the more timely. "The town budget is truly lean and there just is not enough money in the town budget to meet all the real needs that exist in town, and raising property taxes is not the answer, as not everyone can afford to pay more. The dilemma is that the extras get cut from the town budget, extras that could add a lot to the quality life in Medfield," said Peterson.

The new COA bus is already in active service according to Lynch, and is in such demand that there have been days when both the new bus and the old COA van have been needed at the same time. Lynch said it was "the best feeling" for the COA to be able to run both vehicles at once, so 14 people can now travel away from Medfield, while the van still serves the in town needs. The new bus can be seen parked in front of the Pfaff Center.