



19th  
Annual

# Local Support. Real Impact.

## 2026 Nominated Organizations

### Backyard Growers

Backyard Growers cultivates healthy, connected, resilient communities and fights for food sovereignty by empowering people to grow their own food. We increase equitable access to vegetable gardens and the resources people and communities need to grow their own food. [backyardgrowers.org](https://backyardgrowers.org)

### Better Together for Cape Ann, Inc.

Better Together for Cape Ann is dedicated to supporting local individuals and families through acts of kindness and community-driven initiatives. Through programs like community meals and direct assistance, the organization addresses immediate needs while fostering a stronger, more connected Cape Ann community.

### Cape Ann Animal Aid

Cape Ann Animal Aid is a non-profit, no-kill organization dedicated to facilitating appropriate placement of adoptable animals and enhancing the lives of all companion animals by promoting respect through education, outreach, and wellbeing. [capeannanimalaid.org](https://capeannanimalaid.org)

### Cape Ann Veterans Services

The Office of Veterans Services assists Gloucester veterans in seeking out sources and assistance in obtaining benefits for which they are eligible. We also assist with coordinating Memorial Day and Veterans Day observances, maintaining military records of Gloucester veterans, as well as veterans' cemeteries and death registry. [gloucester-ma.gov/147/veterans-services](https://gloucester-ma.gov/147/veterans-services)

### Essex Shipbuilding Museum (EHSSM)

The EHSSM provides a center for education, preservation, and study of traditional Essex shipbuilding and the community that has supported it for over 300 years. We value the unique craftsmanship, skills, creativity, learning abilities, and connectedness to the shipbuilder's environment. [essexshipbuilding.org](https://essexshipbuilding.org)

### Friends of Manchester Council on Aging

By keeping our elders as integral members of the community and supporting them through community services, resources, and intergenerational activities, we endeavor to improve their well-being and enjoyment of life. [manchester.ma.us/371/council-on-aging](https://manchester.ma.us/371/council-on-aging)

### Generous Gardeners

We are a group of volunteers with the mission of philanthropy through gardening. We currently care for 29 public spaces in Gloucester. Most of our plants are donated by our volunteers, but we also purchase plants with funds from our annual Gloucester Garden Tour and private donations. [generousgardeners.org](https://generousgardeners.org)

### Gloucester Education Foundation

Since 2005, this non-profit organization has sponsored new and innovative education programs and provided support for programs that had been eliminated or significantly curtailed due to cutbacks. [gloucestereducationfoundation.org](https://gloucestereducationfoundation.org)

### Grace Center

The Grace Center is a day resource center that provides essential support services, meals, and outreach programs for individuals and families in need. Driven by volunteers, the organization helps address food insecurity and basic needs while fostering dignity and connection within the community. [lifebridgenorthshore.org](https://lifebridgenorthshore.org)

### Harborlight Homes

Harborlight Homes focuses on creating access to affordable housing for all people and families in our communities. Through property development, rental assistance, and supportive services, the organization helps residents maintain stable housing and build a foundation for long-term well-being. [harborlighthomes.org](https://harborlighthomes.org)

More on back!



Serving the Cape Ann Community Since 1887.

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### Ipswich Education Foundation

Our mission is to partner with and encourage the local community to invest funding, time and talent for innovative initiatives designed to enrich and support the whole student while advocating excellence and access to transformative educational experiences for all Ipswich citizens. [ipswichedfoundation.org](https://ipswichedfoundation.org)

### Ipswich Humane Group

Ipswich Humane Group is a non-profit organization that assists Ipswich Animal Control to enable a no-kill animal shelter in the Town of Ipswich. It is 100% donation-funded and run by volunteers. [ipswichhumanegroup.com](https://ipswichhumanegroup.com)

### Manship Artists Residency

Manship Artists Residency is dedicated to the preservation of an environmentally and historically significant site that has been given new life as an international, interdisciplinary artists residency for the benefit of the community and visitors to Cape Ann. [manshipartists.org](https://manshipartists.org)

### National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI)

NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. [nami.org](https://nami.org)

### The Open Door

The mission of The Open Door is to alleviate the impact of hunger in our community. We use practical strategies to connect people to good food, to advocate on behalf of those in need, and to engage others in the work of building food security. [foodpantry.org](https://foodpantry.org)

### Pathways for Children

Pathways' services began in 1967 with the founding of our Head Start preschool classrooms on Cape Ann, and we've continued to grow and adapt to meet the changing needs of our communities. Today, we offer educational programming for children from birth to age 13, social support services for families throughout Essex County, and professional development initiatives that inspire the next generation. [pw4c.org](https://pw4c.org)

### Rose Baker Senior Center

The mission of the Rose Baker Senior Center is to design, implement, and promote programs and services that support the independence, health, and well-being of Gloucester's senior citizens. [gloucester-ma.gov/291/council-on-aging](https://gloucester-ma.gov/291/council-on-aging)

### Schooner Adventure

Schooner Adventure, Inc., based in Gloucester, Massachusetts, operates the schooner at sea as a living symbol of America's maritime heritage. The organization restores and preserves the historic Schooner Adventure to inspire future generations and foster a love of the sea. They use the vessel as a community resource for educational programming focused on maritime history, culture, and environmental issues. [schooneradventure.org](https://schooneradventure.org)

### SeniorCare, Inc.

The mission of SeniorCare, Inc. is to provide and coordinate services to elders, enabling them to live independently at home and remain part of their community. They serve residents of Gloucester, Essex, Beverly, Hamilton, Wenham, Ipswich, Manchester-by-the-sea, Rockport, and Topsfield. [seniorcareinc.org](https://seniorcareinc.org)

### Wellspring House

Wellspring is guided by the vision of a just society where every member of our community thrives. Wellspring inspires families and adults on the North Shore to achieve employment and financial security through stable housing, education, job training, and career readiness. [wellspringhouse.org](https://wellspringhouse.org)



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