



## Six Semi-Finalists for the April 17<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Meeting of 100+ Women Who Care Monadnock

### Andy's Summer Playhouse

582 Isaac Frye Hwy , Wilton, NH 3086,  
<https://www.andyssummerplayhouse.org/>  
Established in 1971  
501(c)(3) - 02-0304022

**What the charity does:** Andy's Summer Playhouse is an innovative summer youth theater located in Wilton, New Hampshire. Every summer we produce original works performed by local artists ages 8 to 18 with direction and mentoring by professional artists from all over the country! Offering a range of programming, children are able to learn both on stage and behind the scenes. Our doors are open to all children, no matter their physical or cognitive abilities or socioeconomic status.

#### **Geographic area where services will be delivered:**

Bennington, Dublin, Frankestown, Greenfield,  
Peterborough, Rindge, Temple

**Summary of how the funds would be used:** Funding received tonight from 100+ Women would be allocated directly to the Scholarship Fund, allowing all children to have access to our summer programming, whether they require a full or partial scholarship.

### Grand Monadnock Youth Choirs

20 Goyette Dr., Peterborough NH 03458  
[www.GrandMonadnockYouthChoirs.org](http://www.GrandMonadnockYouthChoirs.org)  
Established in 1997  
501 (c)(3) - 27-0014241

**What the charity does:** The Grand Monadnock Youth Choirs is the performance-based choral music program for young singers in our region. We serve nearly 100 singers in 5 different ensembles from 17 different towns in New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts. In 2018, we awarded over \$4000 in tuition assistance. Keeping children at the center of our mission, we teach music fluency by singing and performing engaging and relevant repertoire, regional and international travel and multicultural cultural music, and strengthening community.

#### **Geographic area where services will be delivered:**

Rehearsals are held in Peterborough and Keene, NH, however we serve children from Amherst - Putney.

**Summary of how the funds would be used:** The Grand Monadnock Youth Choirs is committed to remaining financially accessible to all families through a comprehensive tuition assistance program. Because singing develops the whole child, increases emotional awareness, improves academic success, and connects singers, audiences, cultures, and history, every child should be given the assistance needed to participate with other talented dedicated singers with GMYC.

### Monadnock 4-H Robotics Club FRC Team 1729 Team Inconceivable

49 Vose Farm Rd, Peterborough, NH 03458  
[www.Team1729.org](http://www.Team1729.org)  
Established in 2009  
501(c)(3) - 46-4879837. Gen No. 5940

**What the charity does:** We are the Monadnock 4-H Robotics Club, based in the Southeastern Monadnock Region. Through our For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) Robotics Competition (FRC) Team 1729, we provide robotics, engineering, design, science, computer programming, public speaking and problem solving experiences for middle and high school students throughout the region. We serve approximately twenty middle and high school students with ten 4-H leaders and five parent volunteers managing the project. We are based in New Ipswich, New Hampshire and include students from four school districts over an area of more than 340 square miles. Our club and all of our learning experiences are based on the guiding principles of 4-H, as well as the ideal of Gracious Professionalism as put forward by FIRST. Gracious Professionalism or "Coopertition" is the philosophy that teams should help each other even when they are competing. Combining the thoughtful problem solving and service oriented approach from 4-H, with the respectful competitiveness from FIRST, our students approach the world with leadership skills, strong moral character, excellent problem solving abilities, fairness in the face of our opponents, and a strong desire to compete to their greatest abilities. Our mentors strive to help students succeed by "developing and fostering youth leadership, citizenship, and life skills." (Monadnock 4-H Robotics By-laws, 2013). Monadnock 4-H Robotics Club has not charged any membership fees since its inception. We strongly believe that the opportunities for positive change and life changing transformation are too high to risk by instituting that barrier to participation. We do ask that each club member be part of the fund raising efforts. Our team is entirely grant and donation funded and we look to the community and region around us for support.

#### **Geographic area where services will be delivered:**

Monadnock area (Peterborough, Temple, New Ipswich, Mason, Rindge, Milford, Dublin, Amherst)

**Summary of how the funds would be used :** A contribution to our team will help us continue to engage students of the Monadnock region with STEM and Robotics. Our team efforts support the 4-H goals of making Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) accessible, engaging and sustainable.

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**Monadnock Humane Society**

20 Depot Square, Suite 16, Peterborough, NH 03458,  
[www.monadnockhumanesociety.org](http://www.monadnockhumanesociety.org)  
 Established in 1875  
 501(c)(3) - 02-6005610

**What the charity does:** Monadnock Humane Society (MHS) is a private, nonprofit organization that serves the Monadnock Region, which includes 44 towns. MHS cares for an average of 1,400 animals each year with a staff of 28 and the help of over 700 active volunteers. Its mission is to strengthen the animal-human bond by promoting and providing for the well-being of animals, and its vision is for a compassionate community for animals and their companions. MHS receives no state or federal funding, and is not affiliated with any other agency or organization. It is supported solely by the generosity of those in our community.

**Geographic area where services will be delivered:**  
 The Contoocook Valley Region

**Summary of how the funds would be used:** Should we be chosen to present, we will ask that funds be used for the MHS Animal Safety Net Program which is a safe haven for pets and peace of mind for survivors of domestic violence, for those who may need rehabilitation, for those who are homeless and need a place for their pets to stay while they find solutions and for those who are displaced by emergencies. This funding will cover the costs of caring for these pets while their owners find safe living situations. These funds would be used specifically for residents of the towns of the Contoocook Valley

**Music on Norway Pond**

41 Main St., Hancock, NH  
[www.musiconnorwaypond.org](http://www.musiconnorwaypond.org)  
 Established in 2007  
 501(c)(3) - 32-0277883

**What the charity does:** At Music on Norway Pond we don't make music, we grow music. Over the last twelve years, we have created a unique space for people of all ages and all musical levels to thrive and flourish as performers and audience members. We have become a fertile musical community unlike any other in the country. The bones of the program are simple - three choruses of children and adults from our region and a concert series featuring professional musicians, mostly from Boston and New York. Every season, ten or more concerts are presented, attended by 1,500 appreciative audience members, mostly on Sundays from 4-5 pm. The one constant running through all our concerts is a passionate commitment to musical excellence - not to be confused with perfection - but rather creating a profound connection among the performers, the composer's music and the listeners. We strive to make the audience feel like an integral part of the experience. They are not observers; the magic would not happen without them. The performers, young, old, amateur and professional alike, are all transformed and inspired by the feeling of this positive power to connect and affect. Our musical garden is remarkably diverse, and this causes it to thrive. The music ranges from classical to folk, opera and Broadway. Performers are from local elementary

and high schools and colleges, Boston's New England Conservatory, and include leaders of performing arts groups here and top-level professionals from Boston and New York. All gather in the Hancock Meeting House, forming mentorships, partnerships and life-changing musical experiences. Two years ago, our Junior Minstrels children's chorus sang with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood, an experience that will resound in their souls for the rest of their lives. Talented high school students perform alongside professional singers and actors, and many make lasting connections. And once someone has performed at Music on Norway Pond, they become treasured alumni/ae and often return, suggesting new ideas and musicians for our program. Out of these connections, the program grows and flourishes. Audience members leave the concerts and follow the careers of these young musicians with invested pride. Music on Norway Pond was created and is nurtured along by renowned conductor, Jody Hill Simpson who is a master teacher, providing support, encouragement and skills to draw out beautiful music from all ages of singers. She causes music to grow out of the connections she makes. Twelve years ago, running the program was much simpler. At this stage, rather than expand our program, we seek to deepen it and ensure its continuity. Improvements in fund raising, grant-writing and especially in young audience development must happen. Our hour-long concerts are free to students and there are plenty of seats close to the performers. The music is heart-stoppingly exciting and inspirational. Music on Norway Pond is a thriving treasure that has yet to be fully harvested. Facts and figures: • Each fall, the Norway Pond Festival Singers gather for rehearsals, sight-reading and skills improvement sessions, and performances ranging from house concerts to full choral works for audiences of over 300. These women are joined every winter by men and local students for a major choral work or concert version of a Broadway show, including "Carmina Burana" and most recently "Pippin". • Junior Minstrels, our program for youth, serves children from 6 to mid-teens through engaging rehearsals and two major performances each year. • We present 4 - 5 main concerts and 2 house concerts during the non-summer months including one-act operas, the nationally-acclaimed string orchestra "A Far Cry", classical guitarist John Muratore, the folk ensemble "Night Tree," award-winning pianist Tony Yike Yang, Brazilian specialists "Choro Bastardo," and American folk favorites Lorraine Lee and Bennett Hammond. Many artists come from our partnership with the N.E. Conservatory of Music.

**Geographic area where services will be delivered:**  
 Monadnock region, mostly greater Peterborough, with concerts in Hancock.

**Summary of how the funds would be used:** Funds would be used to enlist part-time staff to act as a community liaison to draw more young people to our concerts, and to increase our administrative capabilities especially in fundraising and grant applications. These funds would also help us give more scholarships to Junior Minstrel families.

**Peterborough Human Services Fund**

25 Elm Street, Peterborough, NH 03458  
<https://www.facebook.com/PeterboroughFoodPantry>  
Established in 1996

501(c)(3) - 02-0492281

**What the charity does:** The Peterborough Human Services Fund has three main components: 1) The Peterborough Food Pantry - provides food for approximately 300 households per month. With a volunteer-based staff and board, our support comes entirely from donations and grants. We conduct a respectful and confidential interview with each new customer so we know we are truly feeding those in need. Whenever possible, we also share food with ~3 community suppers in town. 2) Hungry Students Program - in collaboration with All Saints Church, we supply healthy snacks and emergency vacation food to social workers, nurses and teachers in the eleven ConVal schools. They in turn help feed children who are hungry at school and food insecure at home. 3) Resident Emergency Aid Program - working closely with the Peterborough Town Welfare Officer, school social workers and/or other Peterborough agencies, our Board assesses how best to help a family in need. Some examples of assistance include help with utility bills, medical bills, dental emergencies, car repairs and rent. Applications are considered on a case-by-case basis.

**Geographic area where services will be delivered:**

13 towns in the Greater Peterborough area: all of ConVal, Masenic and Jaffrey-Rindge

**Summary of how the funds would be used:**

The Peterborough Food Pantry has made great inroads in elevating the nutritional awareness of our customers by adding occasional fresh produce options through our "fresh rescue" program with Hannaford's in Rindge and our winter "Green Bag" produce donations from local merchants, but those donations now fly out as quickly as they come in! To offer fresh options on a regular basis we are asking 100+ Women Who Care to help us fund the ongoing purchasing of additional fruits and vegetables from local growers or grocers to create a reliable stream of healthy produce to our customers' diets.