**Applying a Systems Approach to Social Emotional Learning in Schools**

On Monday, November 4th, Walker welcomed more than 160 representatives from 29 schools and districts across the state to kick off a yearlong professional development program called Sustainable Solutions: Applying a Systems Approach to Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and Mental Health Supports and Services in Schools. This program is funded by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). [Read More →](#)

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**A Friendly Donation**

Last spring, Paul Shorthose & Family were one of Walker’s honorees at the annual *Lives in Bloom* Gala. To commemorate this award, many friends of the Shorthose family contributed together to fund a bench with an inscribed plaque that was installed on Walker’s campus over the summer. The bench sits under a tree where children, families, and staff can sit and enjoy the outdoors. We’re grateful to the Shorthose family and the generosity of their friends in making this thoughtful gift that offers an enduring and tangible benefit to Walker.
Meet Team Walker 2020!

We're honored to be part of the John Hancock Marathon Non-Profit Program. Ten amazing athletes will run the 2020 Boston Marathon® and fundraise on behalf of Walker! To meet our runners, click here.

Donor Spotlight: Barbara Weidlich

Through volunteerism, giving, and event participation, Barbara Weidlich has supported Walker for more than 30 years! We are extremely grateful for her dedicated investment in our mission, her advocacy, and her generosity. Barbara recently retired from the FAM Funds Board of Independent Trustees at Fenimore Asset Management, an investment company based out of New York. They honored her retirement with a $10,000 donation to the charity of her choice. It is an honor and a privilege to be chosen as the recipient of this gift by Barbara. This tremendous donation will directly benefit the children and families served by Walker.

“Walker is a special place, and I’m so pleased to be able to support them with this meaningful gift,” shares Barbara. We can’t thank Barbara enough for her many years of dedicated commitment to Walker!

Gobbling Up Fun at Walker's Annual Turkey Bowl

The annual Turkey Bowl is a beloved tradition at Walker every November, and this year was no exception! Two teams played a friendly game of flag football. Children participated as players and fans. On the sidelines, we were grateful for the group of volunteers from NESN Connects! who cheered on the players.

NESN Connects! volunteers
and served popcorn and hot chocolate.

After the game, children and staff enjoyed a celebration dinner featuring turkey with all the trimmings. Every table displayed a holiday-themed centerpiece created by the children. Turkey Bowl brings together children, staff, volunteers, and members of the Board of Directors for a fun and memorable event!

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**Fore the Children Golf Tournament Raises More Than $143,000**

On Monday, October 7th, more than 100 golfers played in Walker’s 30th Annual Fore the Children Golf Tournament at Dedham Country and Polo Club. Thanks to support from our golf committee, sponsors, players, and volunteers, we raised more than $143,000! [Read More →]

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**COMING SOON**

**Help Spread Cheer This Holiday Season**

The Walker Wishes Holiday Toy Drive is taking place now through December 10th. Walker offers a variety of seasonal giving opportunities for individuals, companies, and community organizations. To learn more, [click here.](#)

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**Giving Tuesday**
Giving Tuesday is a global day when people are encouraged to give, collaborate, and celebrate to impact their local communities. This year, it falls on December 3rd. Stay tuned for future news from Walker on how you can get involved!

Save the Date for Walker's 20th Annual Lives in Bloom Gala

Mark your calendar for Walker's Lives in Bloom Gala taking place on Saturday, May 2, 2020 at the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel. We hope you can join us!