

January 2022 Newsletter

"While they may be someone else's child, they are not someone else's problem..."

Why we do what we do...

As a reminder of why we do this, here are some relevant statistics:

- Out of 2.2 billion children in the world, 1 billion live in poverty.
- 84% of children born into poverty in the U.S. are still poor in their late 20's.
- Roughly 93 million adults in the U.S. read at or below the basic level needed to contribute successfully to society.
- Children fell far behind in school during the pandemic and have not caught up.
- 17% of U.S. children have one or more developmental disabilities.

A primary objective for <u>Someone Else's Child</u> (SEC) is to "move the needle" in those areas where we focus our efforts – education (early childhood to young adult), literacy, youth living with disabilities, and economic justice.

We strive to collaborate with organizations and individuals outside of SEC to create collective impact and community value that is greater than we could have achieved on our own.

Community and family involvement is at the heart of our approach, e.g. kids-helping-kids; families-helpingfamilies....





Someone Else's Child

2021 Highlights

- > Collaborated with over 40 non-profits globally to improve the lives of underserved children and teens
- Continued to refine SEC's guiding principles of compassion, innovation, and partnership
- Recruited an Executive Director to help shape the future of SEC
- > Invested over \$800,000 in children/teen causes

Christine Dixon Joins SEC as Executive Director

We are thrilled to announce that Christine Dixon has joined SEC as its Executive Director. Christine will be responsible for the day -to-operations of SEC and working with the Board to fulfill SEC's mission and expand its scope and impact.

Christine has a BA of Arts from Holy Cross and a Masters degree in Social Work from

Boston University. She has spent her entire career in social service working as a Mental Health Specialist and a Coordinator of Human and Family Services. Her most recent role was as E.D. at Project Hope in Boston, an organization providing underserved women and children access to education, jobs, housing, and emergency services.



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"The opposite of division isn't unity. It's collaboration." Dar Williams

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Leap for Education

SEC has recently started to work with LEAP for Education in Salem, MA. LEAP for Education, Inc. is a non-profit that provides free afterschool, academic programs to youth ages 11 -24 who are lowincome and firstgeneration college students. These programs provide academic support and enrichment, and college readiness skills as well as career and college advising.

It is the first North Shore organization of its kind to empower underserved youth to graduate from college and succeed in education and life regardless of ethnicity or gender.

As for impact, 100% of students enrolled in LEAP's College Success programs graduate high school and enroll in post-secondary degree or credential programs.



86% of College Success students graduated with a post-secondary degree or credential or have successfully entered their junior year in college.

75% of College Success students graduated with a post-secondary degree or credential.

Founded by Linda Saris, LEAP also operates in Peabody and Lynn, MA.





Father Ken's Vineyard

We recently reconnected with an old friend from high school days, Father Ken Deasy. With a mission that is similar to SEC's, <u>Fr.</u> <u>Ken's Vineyard</u> gives hope to the poor and marginalized with the help of like-minded priests and nuns who combat human trafficking, domestic violence, and other forms of coercion. This on-the-

ground ministry includes extensive work with prisoners, parolees, and crime victims, including youth, adults, and families. A dynamic aspect of Fr. Ken's approach comes from Catholic school students who lend a hand where they can with this ministry, similar to SEC's kids-helping-kids initiatives. Supporting schools and other

organizations in Kenya, South Sudan, Haiti, Hawaii and California, Fr. Ken's message resonates with a broad cross section of economic backgrounds, cultures and ages. SEC is honored to support his compassionate and thoughtful efforts around the world.



SEC's Global Reach Extends to Mexico

71% of the rural population in Mexico lives in poverty and 21% without access to food. Rural Mexican populations have informal, unstable and poorly paid jobs. Fundación El Árbol is a Mexican nonprofit organization with a mission io promote new development opportunities in rural communities. Its programs are focused on boosting sustainable and self-managed rural communities, where quality education and cooperation are key in promoting growth. For its first foray into Mexico, SEC is partnering with Ad Astra and Fundación El Árbol to help fund two impactful programs that combine S.T.E.A.M education and food sovereignty to achieve sustainable food production and healthy nutrition through backyard farms/orchards while teaching STEAM to kids in rural Mexico.

"We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give." Churchill

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Holiday Meal Program

SEC, in concert with <u>Girls Inc. of Lynn</u>, <u>Boston Explorers</u>, the <u>Hernandez School</u>, <u>Building Audacity</u> and <u>Smart from the</u> <u>Start</u> assembled and distributed over 350 <u>holiday meals</u> to Boston area families. With recent economic challenges, exacerbated by COVID-19, food insecurity is at an all-time high.

Sadly, right now the need is great and we so appreciate our partners, supporters and young people who helped make this meal program a success. In particular we want to thank Julia Christian, Mia Atallah, Tom & Kathy Mealey, Robert Clayman, Susan Ogan, and Bob Mayo. Finally, much appreciation to Jonathan Slawsby of Madison Foods for his extreme generosity in helping make this program possible.







2022 Priorities for Someone Else's Child

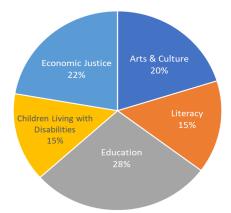
- Starting with our new Executive Director, expand our staff in a responsible way to better support SEC's mission and growth objectives.
- Identify expanded areas to support the children and teens we serve.
- Seek out thought leadership and advocacy opportunities to highlight solutions to issues impacting youth.
- Identify supportive partnerships (funders, non-profits, community organizations) and collaborations that enhance our efforts to serve.
- Be a leader/convener in motivating collective impact and building community value.
- Create a stable operating platform for Someone Else's Child to include a permanent office location, effective technology support, prominent web & social media presence, and meaningful community involvement.

Mill City Grows

SEC has recently established a partnership with <u>Mill City Grows</u>. The organization fosters food justice by improving physical health, economic independence, and environmental sustainability in Lowell, MA through increased access to land, locally-grown

food, and education. MCG's school gardens are available to about 8,000 students per year, and provide educational opportunities as well as food that is distributed via cafeteria share tables and weekend backpack shares for low-income families. SEC has partnered with MCG to provide after-school programming for youth that integrates nutrition, gardening, and STEM learning. This education program provides creatively combines gardening, food, and nutrition education for youth and their families in Lowell.







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"Goals achieved with little effort are seldom worthwhile or lasting." Johnny Wooden

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following corporations and individuals who provided such generous support to our fundraiser. We are so appreciative.

- First Republic
- Holland & Knight LLP
- <u>Alex Brown/Raymond</u> <u>James</u>
- PURE Insurance
- <u>Chubb Insurance</u>
- Blue Cross Blue Shield

Robert Mayo John Greenbaum Michael Mingolelli Spencer Macalaster Leslie Emack Connie Fredericks Peter Fallon Jo Ann Simons Joan & Ted Klemm Kathy Buerer Jordan & Paula Bergstein Mike Vitulli Paul Sanfilipo Fiona Minney Bill Dobson

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"Kids-Helping-Kids"



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Christine Dixon Executive Director cdixon@someoneelseschild.org

Our First Big Time Fundraiser...

Someone Else's Child (SEC) held its first major fundraiser at the Cabot Theater in Beverly, MA. on December 4th. Peter Wolf of J. Geils fame, and his terrific band, The Midnight Travelers, blew everyone away with a career spanning and energetic show. A sell-out crowd of almost 800 friends, SEC collaborators and Peter Wolf fans shared in an inspiring community event.

A huge thank to our corporate sponsors: First Republic Bank, Raymond James, Holland & Knight, Chubb Insurance, PURE Insurance, and all the contributors that made this event such a ringing success. We are so grateful and appreciative. We grossed over \$140,000 for the event between corporate sponsors, friends, supporters, and Peter Wolf fans. All funds net of the program costs (Cabot rental, expenses, band, etc.) will go to the youth programs that SEC supports.







"Goals achieved with little effort are seldom worthwhile or lasting." Johnny Wooden



Greens Do Good



Boston Explorers at the Wang



Rwanda Coop Cassava Harvest



Kids in Community



Smart from the Start Summer Pilgrimage



Boch Center One Spark Starts a Fire

"If you want to go fast, you go alone; if you want to go far, you go together."