

At this time of year we are often reminded of those around us in need. As a way of giving back, Whipstitch Capital team members each select a nonprofit organization they would like to support and Whipstitch makes a donation on that team members behalf.

Our team's selections inspire us, so during this season of giving, we want to share more on each of the organizations chosen and the motivation behind each selection.

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I chose OSC (One Step Closer) because of its action and thought leadership around sustainability and JEDI. Through the JEDI Collaborative, Climate Collaborative, Packaging Collaborative, Women's Circle, and their CEO Chapters, they are advancing these initiatives in the natural products industry and more broadly. In addition to making the world a better

place, sustainability and JEDI are both economically responsible drivers of growth in consumer brands since younger, climate conscious consumers are increasing their purchasing power, and the US population is becoming increasingly diverse.



Michael Burgmaier New Mainers Assistance Program



I selected the New Mainers Assistance Program (NMAP), a nonprofit that I helped start last year with my partner Rachel Houlihan, who serves as Executive Director. During 2022, Rachel and I got to know several families in the process of seeking asylum from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Angola. They were temporarily living in our community inside crowded shelters at local hotels.

We saw a need and decided to act. NMAP is an all-volunteer organization whose mission is to help families and individuals as they navigate the asylum process: with housing, honing their English skills, education, beginning the application process for asylum and obtaining work permits. NMAP has helped house more than 30 people locally. To learn more or to donate please **click here.** 



Andress Blackwell
Junior Golf of Alabama
junior
Golf

At the young age of four, my Dad started showing me how to swing a golf club. Little did I know how impactful that would be in teaching me lifelong lessons around sportsmanship, etiquette, competitiveness, (a sense of humor), and ultimately setting me up to benefit from a sport that allows for graceful aging. Today golf has

gained immense popularity yet still has access challenges. As part of the Alabama Golf Association, Junior Golf Alabama is working to create new educational, instructional, and playing opportunities for youth of all backgrounds across Alabama and Northwest Florida. Through programs like Youth on Course Alabama, future generations are welcomed into the game of golf while breaking down barriers to cost.



Tim Sousa Coalition Against Trafficking in Women



I chose the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women for my charity this year. I believe that human trafficking is one of the the most grotesque crimes in modern history and rampant the world over, yet it is barely discussed.



Greg Ucich Big Brothers Big Sisters



I selected the Big Brothers Big Sisters, Manchester, New Hampshire organization; they matched me with my 'little brother,' Kody, in 2011. 12 years later, Kody and I still keep in touch. The power of creating positive relationships with kids cannot be understated – a little time can go such a long way. There is a shortage of male

mentors in many BBBS branches. So, guys, please reach out to your local organization and sign up!



Kathy Foster Haiti 180 HAITI180

Haiti 180 provides a home for 40 orphaned children, a school for 400 children from surrounding villages, supports a newly opened medical center for the community, and provides housing for the elderly as well as children who have outgrown the orphanage. In 2019 my family went on a mission trip and stayed at the orphanage for a life-changing week. During that time, we were in awe

of how happy the Haitians were - living in huts with very little food - they welcomed each day with a smile and loved to meet the missionaries. The economic and political instability throughout Haiti makes it difficult to assist in person. All mission trips have been cancelled since before the pandemic and this makes it even more important to financially support Haiti 180.



Kristofer Hall Operation Underground

selection this vear Operation is Underground Railroad. Child sex trafficking and exploitation is an international problem that often goes underrepresented and underreported. Operation Underground Railroad assembles teams of former CIA, law enforcement, and skilled operatives, while conducting operations in identifying.

recovering, and extracting victims of child slavery and sex trafficking. Rescuing survivors, seeking justice for those who commit these atrocious crimes, and providing aftercare to survivors with a path to recovery is just the first step in shining light on this global epidemic and I'm proud to support Operation Underground Railroad and their mission.



**METCO** 

**METCO** (Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity) is a program in Massachusetts that assists students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds by enabling them to travel to and participate in school systems with greater funding. By bridging this gap and offering equal opportunities, the METCO program has empowered students through quality education, leading to an elevation in

socioeconomic standings for many.



Sam Zander Maple Valley Food Bank

The Maple Valley Food Bank serves my hometown, which is struggling to find enough food for people this holiday season. This donation will help brighten the holidays and make an enormous difference for families that are in need of community support.



Julianne Slavin Ellie Fund

This year, I've selected the Ellie Fund, an organization dedicated to providing vital support services for women and men who are currently undergoing breast cancer treatment. The Ellie Fund offers assistance in various forms, such as groceries, transportation, housekeeping, childcare support, and oncology massage therapy. These services aim to eliminate obstacles that often lead to disparities in health

outcomes. My mom has been battling breast cancer since 2018 and I've come to realize that the cancer journey continues outside the doctor's office. Organizations like the Ellie Fund play a crucial role in enhancing the quality of life for those fighting breast cancer.



Nate Cronin The Elizabeth Peabody House



The Elizabeth Peabody House is a community-focused non-profit located just around the corner from where I live in Somerville, MA. They provide support for local families in several ways including early childcare, after-school and summer programs, and also run a food pantry

for student families experiencing food insecurity. They do amazing, on-the-ground work that has a direct impact on Somerville and neighboring communities.



Taylor Urlich Adaptive Sports Foundation



Growing up skiing, I often shared the slopes with adaptive skiers and snowboarders and have always been inspired by these athletes. Adaptive Sports Foundation (ASF) provides life changing experiences to individuals with physical and cognitive disabilities within an athletic space for able-bodied

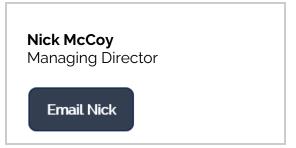
individuals. By supporting ASF, you play a part in them providing thousands of children and adults with disabilities with access to outdoor physical activity.

## **About Whipstitch Capital**

Whipstitch Capital is the largest independent investment bank in the U.S. specializing in next-generation and insurgent consumer brands. We provide sell-side, buy-side M&A along with private placement services. Founder own and led, we understand that every situation, every company and product is unique. We listen. We focus. We provide honesty and transparency. We make deals happen. We create the 'whipstitch' of the deal. Get ready to Deal Different<sup>TM</sup>.

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