



November 2020 Newsletter

Dear Donors,

We have the most exciting news and it coincides with Mike’s 70th birthday!

Rumphius Foundation has been granted 501(c)(3) status, which means we can simplify your donation process. No longer will you, and we, be frustrated by the paperwork and demands of sending checks through Fidelity Charitable. We apologize for complications that have occurred.

Beginning immediately all contributions can be made out to “Rumphius Foundation” and mailed to: Rumphius Foundation c/o 23A Johnson St Newburyport, MA 01950. A receipt noting your tax-deductible donation will be mailed to you. We want you to know how grateful we are for your support over the past seven years and we hope we can count on you as we move forward.

2020 Grants

It has been a disturbing year with COVID, political strife, and threats to our climate. While the needs nationwide are immense, Rumphius continues to strive to help in small but meaningful ways. We made three grants in 2020 and the appreciation we received from these organizations belongs to you.

Our first grant went to **Sawhorse Revolution** in Seattle, WA. Their mission is to construct sustainable, student-designed, tiny homes which are placed in a city-sanctioned homeless village in Seattle. The Wunderbar Salvage House features 80% recycled materials from area salvage yards. One tiny home is estimated to support up to 40 people over the next 10 years.



These homes will spark seeds of hope for the people who live in them. Although construction was delayed due to COVID restrictions, Sawhorse expects to resume building in the spring.

Our second grant was presented to **Root Studio** in Turner Falls, MA. Like so many other rural areas of the country, Turner Falls is struggling to survive as the town's paper mills close. Today the town's poverty rate is higher than the national average and the county's teen pregnancy rate is triple that of other areas in the state. Root Studio was created as a safe place for teenage girls where they can be creative and find hope. The space includes washers/dryers, yoga space, and art and group therapy. Rumphius Foundation was happy to provide support for further creative outlets and art therapy.

Our third grant went to **Colrain Central School**, a small elementary school in Colrain, MA, to support their initiative to educate elementary students about the pollution impacting the North River that flows through their town. The river fell victim to chemical spills from manufacturing plants and resulted in the death of thousands of fish downstream. The students are eager to help.

The first-grade students partnered with Trout Unlimited to raise trout eggs in their classroom with the intention of repopulating the river. Colrain's fifth graders purchased water test kits to determine the feasibility of replenishing the trout population, testing spots up and down the river. Both grades are reflecting on the process and their research on watersheds by writing a commemorative book documenting their process. It is exciting seeing young people taking action to revitalize natural resources.

As we look ahead to 2021, we are focused on hope and our desire to make a greater impact with the ever-growing need. We appreciate your continued support.

Stay well. With gratitude,
The Schuller Family

For those wishing to donate please make checks out to
[Rumphius Foundation](#) and mail to 23A Johnson St. Newburyport, MA 01950