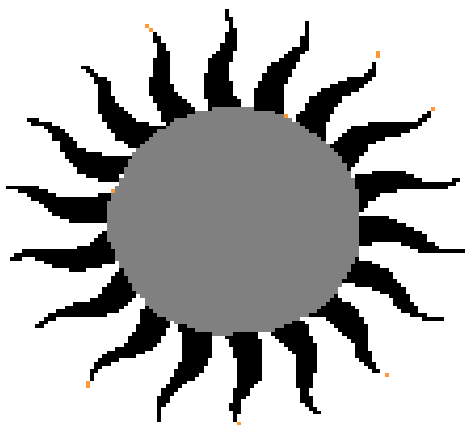


RAY OF HOPE

PROGRAM AND MONTHLY RECIPIENT



Left to right: Debbie Cerra and Louise Condon, Louise Condon Realty, Laura Simmons-Stern, January RAY Recipient, and Jon Mattleman, Needham Youth Services

January Recipient – Laura Simmons-Stern

Laura Simmons-Stern is a senior at Needham High School; Laura was nominated by Anna Miller who has been Laura's friend since first grade. Anna felt that Laura is "inspiring, hard working, and does so much to help her community". Laura has been involved in the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life since she was in the sixth grade. Following in her older brother's footsteps, Laura became the co-chair of Relay For Life when she was only a junior in high school. In addition to raising thousands of dollars, she has been a team captain for five years, Top Fundraiser, Entertainment Chair, and Event Co-Chair. This year Laura is the Event Chair and is also a member of the New England Relay For Life Task Force. Laura is an active member in extra curricular activities at Needham High School that include being treasurer of the Student Council, member of Chorale, the spring track team, and founder of the club, The Power of One: Fighting Poverty in Africa. She is also a delegate on the Student Advisory Council to the Mass. State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. She has spent her summers doing service in numerous Latin American and African countries and is a Wilderness First Responder. In her free time Laura enjoys playing the piano and practicing yoga.

Needham Youth Services Representative - Jon Mattleman

Jon is the Director of the Needham Youth Commission, and a firm believer in the ability of youth to contribute to the larger community. He envisions this program as one in which to highlight the positive actions of the young people of Needham.

Needham Business Association Representatives – Louise Condon and Debbie Cerra

Louise is the owner/broker of Louise Condon Realty, Inc. – Needham's Home Town Brokers. The company has been a long-standing member of Needham's Business Association and the Needham community. Condon Realty is a full service Real Estate Office serving Needham and surrounding communities. Debbie is a Needham Realtor with our "Home Town Broker"™, Louise Condon Realty, Inc. and is involved with volunteer work and organizations in Needham and is excited to be a part of the Ray of Hope Award honoring a local teenager.

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