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**Beverly teen receives first \$15,000 “KELLY” educational award  
after being nominated by his mentor**

**Award created by Mass Mentoring to honor Liberty Mutual leader Edmund F. Kelly (“Ted”)**

**BOSTON** – Thanks to the Children’s Friend and Family Services Mentoring Program in Salem, Nicholas Helides has had the opportunity to be a mentor to a 13-year-old Beverly boy, Corey, for the past two years. Over the course of their relationship, Helides has dedicated himself to helping Corey do well in school and overcome challenges associated with an unstable home life. He has advocated for Corey at his school, and enrolled him in a special camp and in boating lessons to provide a sense of mastery.

“Corey has worked extremely hard on improving his school work – particularly in math and reading, and he is extremely motivated to continue putting in that effort,” said Helides. “It’s just difficult to see Corey struggle academically, and I knew how helpful it would be for Corey to have a tutor. The money from the KELLY Award will make that possible now, and I’m so glad I nominated him for it.”

The KELLY Award is the namesake of Liberty Mutual Chairman, President and CEO Ted Kelly and his wife Debbie, and was created by Mass Mentoring Partnership this year to honor Kelly who served from 2000 to 2007 as board chair of Mass Mentoring – an umbrella agency for youth mentoring in Massachusetts -- and to recognize his dedication to providing educational opportunities to youth.

The awards will provide educational support to youths, who with the support of their mentors, have overcome and persevered through adversity. (KELLY is the acronym for Keep Encouraging Lifelong Learning for Youth.)

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Corey is one of three mentees who received the inaugural KELLY Awards at a special event on Jan. 31 at the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum to recognize Ted Kelly's contributions to youth mentoring in Massachusetts. He will receive \$5,000 this year, and \$10,000 over the next two years.

Dorrie Kimkaran, who runs the Children's Friend and Family Services Mentoring Program through which Helides and Corey were matched, noted, "Nicholas has been a consistent and powerful presence in Corey's life going above and beyond what is expected of the average mentor. He knows that Corey has dreams just like the rest of us, and thankfully the KELLY Award will give him a chance to realize a few of them."

ACCESS, a Boston-based student financial aid advisor, will assist Mass Mentoring with KELLY Award administration. A selection committee comprised of Mass Mentoring board members, representatives from the Massachusetts Service Alliance and United Way of Massachusetts Bay/Merrimack Valley, as well as ACCESS, chose the 2008 KELLY Award recipients.

Mass Mentoring Partnership ([www.massmentors.org](http://www.massmentors.org)) is the only statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to working with more than 130 mentoring programs to strategically expand mentoring to meet the needs of youth across Massachusetts.