

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**BUFFALO OLMSTED PARKS CONSERVANCY RECIPIENT OF RALPH C. WILSON, JR. LEGACY FUNDS AT THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR GREATER BUFFALO**  
*GRANT WILL FUND MUCH NEEDED UPGRADES TO SOCCER FIELD*

**(BUFFALO, NY)** – The Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy, the first nonprofit organization in the nation to manage and operate a historic urban park system, today announced that it has received a \$24,000 grant from the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Legacy Fund at the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo. The much needed grant will be used to renovate the Rumsey Soccer field at Delaware Park.

“This funding will allow us to re-grade the field, amend the soil profile, and reestablish the turf to create a safe, level playing surface for the thousands of youth that use the field each season.” stated Greg Robinson, Director of Park Administration, Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy.

Visible work has already started and will be ongoing for the next few weeks. The Rumsey field area will need the rest of the fall and spring for turf to establish. The Conservancy appreciates the cooperation of all park users, and requests that all activity including any recreational or dog use, be stopped until the spring in order to accomplish the best results with the investment of this vital funding.

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### **About the Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy**

The Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy is the first nonprofit organization in the nation to manage and operate an entire urban park system that consists of 850 acres of beautifully designed historic parks, parkways and circles. The Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy is a not-for-profit, membership-based, community organization whose mission is to promote, preserve, restore, enhance, and maintain the Frederick Law Olmsted-designed parks and parkways in the Greater Buffalo area for current and future generations. More than 2.5 million people use Buffalo's historic, award-winning Olmsted Park system annually for recreation, relaxation and rejuvenation. The parks were designed by America's first landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted more than 148 years ago. Basic maintenance of the parks has been greatly improved since the 2004 groundbreaking public-private agreement with the City of Buffalo and Erie County. Since that time, the Olmsted Parks Conservancy, now partnering with the City of Buffalo, has retained full responsibility for the management and care of these green spaces which are listed on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. Most recently, the American Planning Association recognized Delaware Park as one of the 2014 Great Places in America and The Guardian named the Olmsted park system as one of the best park systems in the world.

The Buffalo Olmsted Park System includes:

Six parks: Cazenovia Park in South Buffalo, Delaware Park in Delaware/Parkside District, Front Park at the Peace Bridge, Martin Luther King, Jr. Park at Fillmore Avenue, Riverside Park at Niagara and Tonawanda Street, and South Park at McKinley Parkway

Seven parkways: Bidwell, Chapin, Lincoln, McKinley, Porter, Red Jacket, and Richmond

Eight landscaped traffic circles: Agassiz, Colonial, Ferry, Gates, McClellan, McKinley, Soldiers, and Symphony

### **About the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo**

The Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, a 501 (C) (3) organization, was established in 1919 to enhance and encourage long-term philanthropy in the Western New York community. The Foundation's mission is: Connecting people, ideas and resources to improve lives in Western New York. For over 95 years, the Community Foundation has made the most of the generosity of individuals, families, foundations and organizations who entrust charitable assets to its care. The Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Legacy Funds were established at the Community Foundation to provide support to four areas that were important to Mr. Wilson: caregiving, community assets, design and access, and youth sports. Endowment funds, like these created to honor Mr. Wilson, are designed to grow over time and provide funding for charitable causes according to a client's wishes. [www.cfgb.org](http://www.cfgb.org)