

## Erland Construction Gives Back to its Hometown of Burlington



### *Burlington, Massachusetts –*

Erland Construction is well-known as a builder of residential, commercial and institutional projects. What may not be quite as evident is its role as a builder of community relationships in Burlington, Mass., the company's long-time headquarters.

As the holidays approach, Erland's generosity and commitment takes on greater meaning in the community it calls home. Whether it's giving a toy to a young child, delivering a turkey breast to a hungry family or donating to veterans in need, Erland's employees take extraordinary pride in supporting Burlington and its residents who face unrelenting life challenges.

"Our relationship with Erland has been excellent and ongoing, and I hope it continues," said Judy Walsh, a board member for the Burlington non-profit People Helping People.

Erland keeps close to Burlington residents through its Community Relations Committee and the Erland Foundation. The construction company supports a range of community causes, but has been particularly giving to People Helping People. This year, it collected 5,000 non-perishable items for the organization's food pantry in just four weeks.

During the Christmas season, Erland will grant the wishes of 50 children with an assortment of gifts ranging from gift cards to portable music players. They also donate living essentials to the children, such as pajamas, hats, gloves and underwear. Over the years, Erland employees have sprinkled the spirit of the holidays to hundreds of Burlington youngsters.

"Erland has always been very generous providing wishes of the children that I give to them, increasing the number of gifts almost yearly," Walsh said. "They have helped us go from giving each child four wishes, instead of the two when I started in 2010."

The business also awards a scholarship each year to a Burlington High School student, funds an enrichment program in the school district, hosts a Valentine's Day party for the Burlington Council on Aging, sponsors a youth baseball team and supports a local veterans' organization.

Erland employees also support a number of charitable walks. This year, it raised funds for the Wage Hope at PurpleStride Boston. Funds raised at the event support pancreatic cancer research and the Erland team walked to honor loved ones fighting the disease. The event raised \$472,000 for pancreatic cancer research.

Heidi Aliski, a project manager at Erland, leads the company's 10-member Community Relations Committee. The Committee was established in 2001, although Erland had been supporting community programs long before that. The Committee meets quarterly to discuss support for community organizations.

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*continued...* Aliski, who has worked at Erland since 2007, shared she enjoys giving back to the community and joining colleagues for charitable causes. "It's nice to do a walk, it's good team building," she said. "It's rewarding to do something different and I think it shows that Erland has a caring, softer side."

Erland has been a contributing community partner since establishing itself in Burlington in 1977. The community can count on year-round support, and this year the company gave more than 2,700 pounds of food to the People Helping People food pantry in October. It also helped build additional shelving units for the pantry to support the growing number of donated goods. Year after year, season after season, Erland's caring and generous employees have helped build a better Burlington – in more ways than one.

"It is because of companies like Erland Construction that we have been able to grow our programs, provide our pantry clients with healthier food and get those in need through tough times," Walsh said.

Erland also gives back to Burlington and beyond through the Erland Foundation, which provides funding that makes a positive difference in the lives of selected groups in the community. This year, the Erland Foundation hosted two successful fundraisers that led to significant contributions for local charities including: Boys & Girls Club of Woburn, People Helping People, Easterseals New Hampshire, Gear2Goals, and Miguel's Fundraiser. Through these fundraising efforts, the foundation strives to increase awareness and educate others about target causes.

Over the past 41 years, Erland Construction has successfully grown into the Northeast's leading open shop construction management and general contracting firm. The Company is headquartered in Burlington, Massachusetts and has specialized expertise for new construction, additions, and renovations in major market sectors including advanced technology/life sciences, academic, corporate, commercial, residential, senior living and hospitality. For more information, visit [www.erland.com](http://www.erland.com).