

Client:

The Children's Room; Arlington, MA

Designer:

David McCoy, Geographia Landscape Design

Design Completion:

Fall 2008

Description:

In winter 2007, The Children's Room (TCR) contacted COGdesign with a request for a garden design that would support the nonprofit's mission of helping children and teens grieve for the loss of someone dear. David McCoy developed a plan that would reflect the process of healing, emphasize the natural cycles of life, and bring beauty and animation to TCR's landscape.

An old crumbling and unsafe stone wall along the perimeter of the property was replaced with the help of a Smith Family Foundation grant.

Eileen Michaels, owner of A Yard and A Half Landscaping in Waltham, stepped forward to donate her company's expertise to grade the site, prepare the soil, and build a needed retaining wall. Her crew installed a new paved walk that starts from the sidewalk and winds its way into the new front garden. They also installed sod and helped with planting.

A plant palette of floriferous, ornamental, and multi-featured selections will bring butterflies, insects, and birds to the site and dazzle the young people with seasonal displays of flowers, fruit, form, and color. Lynne Bower, manager of Stonegate Gardens in Lincoln, personally ordered David's selection of plant material and provided it, at cost, to the project.

Skilled volunteer gardeners made joyful work of putting plants into the ground in early May 2009 while photographer Kathy Tarantola captured the day.

