LITTLE BROTHERS FRIENDS OF THE ELDERLY BOSTON

Greetings!

This season I am thrilled to announce that LBFE's intergenerational CitySites and Digital Dividends programs are back in person! We have 10 weekly CitySites and 4 weekly Digital Dividends programs happening live, in the community rooms of senior housing across the city (along with 4 virtual programs). What a delight it is to see older and younger participants, side-by-side, laughing together, learning together, and becoming friends.



As always, our programs looks a little different from site to site. At a housing community in Jamaica Plain students are conducting 1:1 interviews to write short personal biographies of their older friends. In the North End Richard and Joe are teaching students winning chess strategies. In Roslindale they've painted pots and are watching their daisies sprout for a glimpse of Spring when winter is in full swing. In Brighton our students are teaching a virtual ESL class. And, of course, we're always playing cards, coloring, and hosting Bingo games.

Our Digital Dividends pilot program is hitting its stride, too. In Mattapan, the South End, Mission Hill, and Brighton classes of 10-15 older adults are learning to access the virtual world. Just this week a class learned how to create Zoom meetings to connect with friends and family and have been practicing with each other to remember the skill. Others have completed a course on Mousersize and are mastering the fine motor skills needed to navigate a track pad.

As we go into the holiday season we're looking forward to celebrating together again. While we're still unable to host our large Thanksgiving Day luncheon, we'll be hosting smaller themed activities at each of our 18 intergenerational programs. We're also grateful for a team of volunteers in our Holiday Buddy program who will be making regular phone calls and spreading holiday cheer from now until New Year's Day.

I will greatly miss the Thanksgiving Day luncheon again this year - it's been one of my greatest joys at LBFE. But until we're able to resume the tradition, I am incredibly grateful for everyone in the LBFE family. You've keep adapting and rising to the call to make sure our older neighbors and friends always have a community to rely on. The holidays will look different again this year, but the love, joy, and care shown to our older friends is as strong and reliable as ever. Thank you.

Warmly,

Nikki Shults Executive Director



Holidays at LBFE

For health and safety concerns LBFE will not be hosting our Annual Thanksgiving Day Luncheon. To mark the holidays, we will be hosting smaller intergenerational celebrations, relaunching our Holiday Buddy program, and working with sponsors to send care packages to older adults in care communities.

<u>Learn More</u>

"Season 2" Now Available!

Thanks to everyone who came out and made this year's Friends on the Harbor a night to remember. If you weren't able to attend - you can watch a recap now on our YouTube Channel

Watch Here





LBFE Around the World

LBFE Boston is proud to be working to relieve isolation and loneliness alongside LBFE Chapters across Europe and North America. Together we can create a world that is friendlier place to age.

Read Here

Why Digital Equity Matters

LBFE and student researchers at Northeastern University worked together to conduct a literature review of older adults' technology usage. What we learned was not surprising - older adults want, and need, digital literacy.

Learn More



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