

February 2022

LBFE Boston's Quarterly News



Hello!

Together, we've done quite a bit since our last newsletter! We delivered 171 holiday gifts to our older friends and another 50 care packages to older adults experiencing housing transitions. We matched 24 older adults and volunteers for companionship through *Holiday Buddies*. We welcomed 172 older adults into intergenerational spaces at *CitySites*. We introduced 45 older adults to technology in our pilot *Digital Dividends* program. And the year is just getting started!

While we ended 2021 with our programs mostly in-person, COVID has brought most of our programming back into the digital space this winter. I am proud of my team's ability to be agile and flexible and to be ready for the unexpected. Without missing a beat, our programs restarted on time at the beginning of the semester. I'm also proud of the older adults in our programs for learning and adopting new technologies to make friends either through a screen or across the same table. Resiliency has been a theme for most of us over the past two years, and we're committed to building community however that looks on a given day. As COVID cases drop, we're hopeful to be together again, in-person, soon.

This month I'm saddened to announce the departure of our teammate, Director of Development Robert Guthrie. His last day with LBFE was February 10th. He shares, "I've enjoyed being part of LBFE since April, 2020. I always will be impressed with the mission, integrity and heart of the LBFE family of volunteers, staff and older friends. I'm leaving LBFE to join my spouse on sabbatical in Israel and Europe." We wish him the best in his travels and future endeavors. His optimism, positivity, and thoughtfulness will be missed around the office.

As we prepare for more changes this winter and spring I'm grateful for the sense of stability and support from you, the LBFE family. Thank you for always being there for our older friends, and for LBFE. I'm glad you're here.

Warmly,

Nikki Shults
Executive Director



Our Board of Directors' Vice President, Billy Pitman, is running the Boston Marathon this April! He's running in honor of LBFE and ending elder isolation. We're incredibly grateful to be a part of his marathon journey.

[Cheer Billy On](#)

DEI Update

LBFE's partnership with YW Boston is underway. Following our five-week intensive dialogue series with our board and staff, our Digital Dividends Program Manager, Teresa Yao, and Executive Director, Nikki Shults, were named project co-liaisons. In this role, they will ensure our DEI action plan is thoughtfully developed and implemented.



[Learn more about Inclusion Boston](#)



We're Hiring

Help LBFE-Boston build our communications and development efforts! We're looking for a development generalist, a social media maven, and an intergenerational enthusiast to join our lean team and support our work across Boston.

[Apply Online](#)

What We're Reading

We share a lot of articles, podcasts, books, and videos at LBFE. Here's a great story of the contributions and value of our oldest neighbors. This was shared by LBFE's Program Director, Cynthia Wilkerson.

[Read the article](#)



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