



FY2024

IMPACT REPORT

WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN.



With so much change and uncertainty, it can be hard to find anything that feels familiar and reliable. But thanks to your support, that's exactly what LBFE Boston (Little Brothers-Friends of the Elderly) has remained for the older adults we serve. Week after week, day after day, LBFE shows up—at senior buildings and centers across the city—building community, connecting generations, and providing moments of joy and brightness, no matter what the headlines say.

Since 1979, LBFE Boston has been a safe harbor for older adults, volunteers, and community supporters alike. Just today, at the Back Bay Post Office on Clarendon Street, someone overheard me asking for

mail for “Little Brothers” and shared her memories of volunteering in the 1980s. Though our programs have evolved, we both agreed that our mission has remained constant—just like our motto: “Flowers Before Bread.” We all need joy and delight to thrive, especially in hard times. With your continued support, LBFE Boston will keep creating those spaces for joy—for decades to come.

Cynthia Wilkerson

Cynthia Wilkerson
Executive Director

OUR MISSION

Since 1979, LBFE Boston (Little Brothers—Friends of the Elderly) has been committed to relieving loneliness and isolation among low-income older adults, something that is more important now than ever.

OUR VISION

Today, our free, on-site social, tech, and arts programs are delivered directly in Boston's public and affordable senior housing and at local senior centers. LBFE Boston advances equity by offering older people with limited resources a range of activities similar to what you find in market-rate retirement communities.

At the heart of our model is connection and building belonging and community. We engage local college students as participants, fostering friendships that bridge generations. More than 1,000 older adults participate in our programs, proving that aging in community—not in isolation—is both possible and powerful, all while honoring cultural preferences and removing linguistic and physical barriers to participation.

OUR PROGRAMS



CitySites

Creating social connections across generations



Digital Dividends

Bridging the digital divide for older adults



Creative Connections

Nurturing creative expression through professional arts instruction



Gen2GenQ

Uniting the LGBTQ+ community through intergenerational conversations

GOALS

Reduce Loneliness Among Older Adults

Implement supportive environments and regular engagement opportunities to foster meaningful relationships and emotional well-being.

Prevent Social Isolation

Provide consistent, accessible programs that enable older adults to develop and sustain social networks through community involvement and peer support.

Foster Intergenerational Connections

Develop initiatives that bring together older adults and younger generations through mentorship, shared learning, and collaborative activities.

Increase Access to Enrichment Programs

Ensure older adults in public and affordable housing have access to digital literacy, arts, and social engagement programs that enhance quality of life and reduce barriers to participation.

OUR IMPACT

“
CREATIVE CONNECTIONS BRINGS EVERYONE TOGETHER. I LOVE IT!



“
A great program, much needed for ‘us elders.’ Thank you—don’t give up on this program, or on me!



100%
Tech Cafe participants at 2Life Communities & Brighton Campus: “This class has made a positive difference in terms of helping me socialize.”

275+
Holiday packages delivered to older adults in the communities we serve.



“
I have learned so much more than I ever expected, I’m very grateful, I would have never been able to write this without their help, thank you!



“
IT MAKES ME FEEL ALIVE!



2,200
Volunteer hours combined from students, supporters, donors, community partners, and Board of Directors

19 CREATIVE CONNECTIONS CLASSES IN FY24, INCLUDING:
Art/Mixed Media, Dance, Drumming, Painting, Poetry



1K+
Older participants in CitySites, Digital Dividends, Creative Connections, Gen2GenQ, and holiday programs



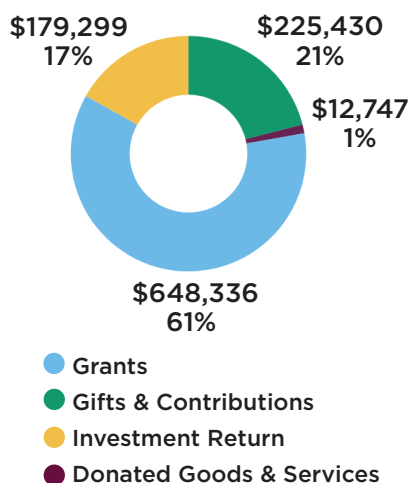
THIS YEAR WAS MARKED BY BOTH CHANGE AND GROWTH.

As new staff joined LBFE and longtime team members moved on, flexibility, transparency, and trust proved essential in navigating transitions and maintaining our commitment to community and connection.

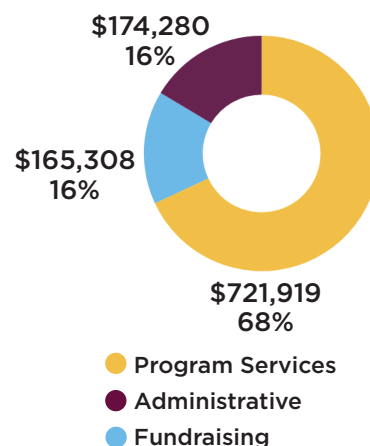


YES, THE LAUGHTER HELPS IN DIFFERENT WAYS, MENTALLY, SPIRITUALLY, IN OUR DAILY LIVES BECAUSE WE FORGET A LITTLE OF OUR PROBLEMS OR THE LONELINESS WE LIVE IN. SO YES, WE FEEL A LITTLE HAPPIER AND IT HELPS A LOT.

FY2024 TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE: \$1,065,812



FY2024 TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES: \$1,061,507



FUTURE PLANS

In the coming years, LBFE Boston will continue to broaden our intergenerational impact through CitySites and Gen2GenQ. We'll provide essential technology training and support via Digital Dividends and enrich lives through classes and arts access offered by Creative Connections. Across all our efforts, our core mission remains the same: to build meaningful community and lasting connections with the older adults we serve.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

There are so many ways to get involved with our mission! Sign up to receive updates from LBFE Boston. Volunteer to host a supply drive. Become a committee member. Engage your company for a service project or corporate sponsorship. For more information, scan the QR code below or email info@lbfeboston.org

THANK YOU!

Thank you to our individual donors, corporate sponsors, grantors, in-kind donors, volunteers, staff, Board of Directors, and community partners. Together, with your continued generosity, LBFE Boston will remain a bright beacon, bringing joy and connection to older adults throughout Boston and helping to build community wherever we go.

