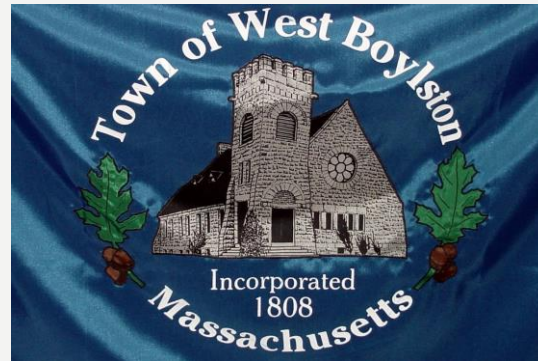


WEST BOYLSTON COMMUNITY INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAM



Massachusetts Association
of Councils on Aging

THE PROJECT: SENIOR GREETERS IN THE SCHOOL

THE WEST BOYLSTON TEAM:

COUNCIL ON AGING
MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL
PUBLIC ACCESS CABLE STATION
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Why did we choose to participate in this grant opportunity?

- Council on Aging: To strengthen the relationship between the senior center and other parts of the community
- School: Seniors understand relationships vs. younger people, they can be a role model.

THE BRIDGES TOGETHER TRAINING HELPED US TO FOCUS ON DETAILS TO HAVE A SUCCESSFUL PROJECT: JOB DESCRIPTION & RESPONSIBILITIES, TIME COMMITMENT, ETC.



“When people walk into our school to visit they know this is a kind place because the seniors are friendly.” Meghan, Grade 6

"The table near the Media Center is a happy place because the seniors are always smiling and talking to us." Sophie, Grade 6



"I like seeing Ms. Pat because she is always super friendly and says Hi...makes my day better" Elizabeth, Grade 6.

THE IMPACT

Older Adults- My volunteers have told me that they are giving their time but they feel like they are getting back more. – Lisa Clark Viklund, COA Director

"They (the students) are a joy to be around." –Hampton

"I think if you show an interest in kids, they show interest back." – Karyn

The Greeter Program has acted as a support conduit for the students by bringing people together. - David Lizotte, VP

FUTURE PLANS

The program is new to the school. At first the students did not know what to make of having older adults in their corridor. However, many have warmed up to their addition in the school. We feel that a good foundation is been laid and hope to continue next year with more senior volunteers and more interaction with the school programs.

**THANK YOU
BRIDGES TOGETHER
MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL ON AGING
THE WEST BOYLSTON SCHOOLS
FOR THIS WONDERFUL GRANT OPPORTUNITY
TO BRING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER**

- How some individuals, quite advanced in years, continue to radiate a youthful aura in physical vitality, and in palpable spiritual presence, has a great deal to do with how much exposure to youth and young ideas they maintain well into their senior years. And the young ones get to be the beneficiaries of such radiance and vitality. - Robert Weathers, Southern University's School of Behavioral Studies

