



NORTH END / WEST END

NEWS

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2024



THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION AND HOLIDAY DISTRIBUTIONS FOR ABCD NORTH END/WEST END NSC SENIORS

The ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC) had a lot to be thankful for at its annual Thanksgiving celebration for North End and West End seniors—a turkey feast with all the trimmings sponsored by Loft & Vine and Star Market gift cards donated by Senator Lydia Edwards, State Representative Jay Livingstone, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, City Councilor Gabriela “Gigi” Coletta-District 1, and City Councilor Sharon Durkan-District 8, for their constituents. Church on the Hill also donated Star Market gift cards at the Blackstone Apartments in the West End.

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- Celebration of La Befana with Frattaroli Family and Artu
- Relax and Color!



ABCD North End/West End
Neighborhood Service Center
1 Michelangelo St. #100 Boston, MA 02113



617.523.8125 | bostonabcd.org

MAKING MERRY AT THE ABCD NORTH END/WEST END NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICE CENTER



A view of the crowd

The ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC) rang in the holidays with music, a homemade ham lunch with all the trimmings, and sweets and visitors from the offices of Mayor Michelle Wu, Senator Lydia Edwards, State Representative Aaron Michlewitz, and City Councilor Gabriela "Gigi" Coletta. Over 50 North End and West End seniors were in attendance. Happy Holidays and may 2024 be a year of health and happiness for all!



State Representative Aaron Michlewitz chatting with his constituents



Volunteer David Roderick serving West End seniors



ABCD Deputy Director, Legislative Affairs Aiesha Washington serving holiday ham lunches



ABCD NE/WE NSC Acting Director Julia Power behind the scenes in the kitchen



ABCD NE/WE NSC Advisory Board Member Victor Brogna on trumpet

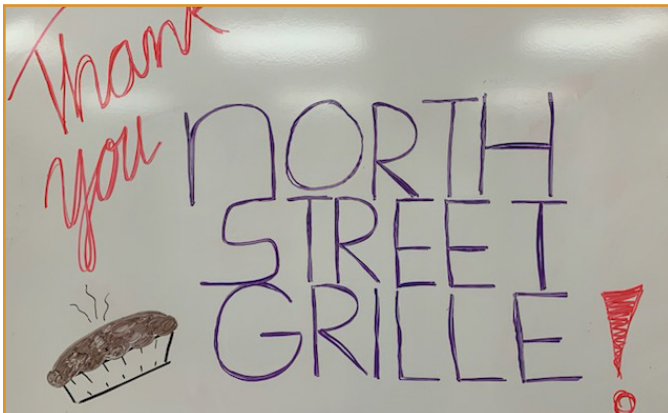
HOT POT PIES AND A HOLIDAY MOVIE ON A COLD AFTERNOON

The ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC) extends our deepest appreciation to Robin Sidell of the North Street Grille for sponsoring a holiday movie for the seniors with hot chicken pot pies from Harrows and cheerful containers filled with popcorn, chocolate, candy, and other goodies.

"We can always count on Robin for her creative ideas and generosity to make fun experiences for our seniors," enthused ABCD North End/West End NSC Acting Director Julia Power. "It was warm and cozy in our community room, and everyone enjoyed watching Elf along with good company and food. They are already asking me what movie we will be showing next!"



Thank you, Robin Sidell of North Street Grille!



ABCD NE/WE NSC Acting Director Julia Power with their popcorn treats



THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION AND HOLIDAY DISTRIBUTIONS FOR ABCD NORTH END/WEST END NSC SENIORS

continued from page 1.

The months of November and December were a time filled with holiday distributions at the ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC). Special thanks go to Steven Colarusso of Antonio's; Al and Maryann Giorgio of La Famiglia Giorgio's; Robin Sidell and Dan Connelly of North Street Grille; and Daniela DiPietrantonio of L'Osteria for turkeys; Marnie and Joe Martorano and the group at St. Joseph Society for turkeys and Star Market gift cards; and Samantha Slater, Helen Child, and Faith Mark, along with the team at Sandborn Head & Associates, for their donation of Thanksgiving totes filled with turkeys and sides.



Acting Director Julia Power with the St. Joseph Society, who generously donated turkeys and Star Market gift cards



Patrick Lyons, Director of Constituent Services, Office of Rep. Aaron Michlewitz, with a neighborhood resident

Thanks to food drives organized by Federated Hermes, 53 State, Pathstone, TD Bank, and more, the "elves" at the NE/WE NSC organized heavy bags of food, with items such as pasta, tuna, raisins, nuts, cereal, soups, shelf-stable milk, spices, and so forth, for North End and West End seniors. Teri Groome, ABCD NE/WE NSC Advisory Board member and the folks at Strada 234, including Brian Calabro and Irene Pien, ran a food drive and Star Gift card drive. They ended the season of their building's giving with a toy drive- the fabulous gifts included Play-Doh, dolls, puzzles, cars, tea sets, and more.



Acting Director Julia Power with the team at Strada 234, who organized both Thanksgiving and toy drives for NE/WE NSC



State Representative Jay Livingstone speaking to his constituents

"Words are inadequate to convey our gratitude for the many donations from our elected officials, businesses, churches, community organizations, and individuals not only during the holidays, but throughout the year," enthused ABCD NE/WE NSC Acting Director Julia Power. "Thank you for making it possible for us to fill their refrigerators and shelves at home and to provide companionship and hot meals in a cozy and welcoming setting. My staff and I look forward to the year ahead serving our North End and West End seniors and feel so fortunate to have the support of such caring and vibrant communities."



Jack Imbergamo, North End/Downtown Liaison & Scheduling Coordinator, Office of City Councilor Gabriela Coletta, District 1



Kennedy Avery, Chief of Staff, Office of City Councilor Sharon Durkan-District 8



Senator Lydia Edwards addresses the crowd



L-R, Jack Imbergamo, Office of Gabriela Coletta-District 1; Julia Power, Acting Director ABCD NE/WE NSC; Senator Lydia Edwards; State Representative Jay Livingstone; Kennedy Avery, Office of City Councilor Sharon Durkan-District 8; Josh Young, Vice President, Field Operations and Legislative Affairs; and Legislative Aide Andretti Stanziani, Office of Representative Dan Ryan

FAST EASY FREE TAX PREP

Did you make
under \$64,000 in 2023?*

Then let ABCD prepare your taxes for **FREE!****

****For those who meet eligibility requirements**



- Free Federal and State Tax Preparation
- Free Electronic Filing
- Free Direct Deposit
- IRS Certified Tax Preparers
- Services available in Multiple Languages

Please call your neighborhood service location for more information. By appointment only, locations are on the 2nd page.

Talk to us about special tax credits like the Child Tax Credit (CTC), Senior Circuit Breaker, EITC and the Federal Affordable Care Act

***Tax services available by appointment only.**
Please call your local ABCD site to schedule a consultation.

ABCD TAX SERVICE LOCATIONS*

ABCD Allston/Brighton NOC

640 Washington Street, Ste 202/201
Brighton, MA • 617.903.3640

ABCD Central Office

178 Tremont St, 1st Floor
Boston, MA • 617.348.6583

ABCD Dorchester NSC

110 Claybourne Street
Boston, MA • 617.288.2700

ABCD East Boston APAC

21 Meridian Street
East Boston, MA • 617.567.8857

ABCD Mattapan FSC

535 River Street
Mattapan, MA • 617.298.2045

ABCD Mystic Valley NOC

239 Commercial Street
Malden, MA • 781.321.2501

ABCD Parker Hill/Fenway NSC

714 Parker Street
Roxbury, MA • 617.445.6000

ABCD Roslindale

18B Corinth Street
Roslindale, MA • 617.477.3768

ABCD Roxbury/N. Dorchester NOC

565 Warren Street
Dorchester, MA • 617.442.5900

ABCD South Boston APAC

424 West Broadway
South Boston, MA • 617.269.5160

ABCD South End NSC

554 Columbus Avenue
Boston, MA • 617.267.7400

ABCD North End/West End NSC

1 Michelangelo Street
Boston, MA • 617.523.8125

** Tax services available by appointment only. Please call the ABCD site to schedule a consultation.*

DON'T FORGET TO BRING

- Valid Government Issued Photo ID
- Social Security card or Individual Taxpayer ID Letter (ITIN) for you, your dependents and/or your spouse
- All 1099 forms – 1099G (unemployment), 1099R (pension payments), 1099INT (bank interest), 1099SSA (Social Security)
- All W2 forms from all jobs for 2023
- Proof of health insurance (health insurance cards, 1099-HC, 1095-A, etc.) for taxpayer, spouse, and all dependents**
- Total child care expenses in 2023, and child care provider's name, address, and Employer Identification Number (EIN) or SSN
- All 1098T forms (tuition payments), receipts for materials and books and bursar statement
- Total student loan interest paid (1098E)
- A copy of last year's tax return
- Bank issued printed account and routing numbers for direct deposit of your tax refund (for both checking and savings account)
- Proof of ANY deductible out of pocket expenses (annual BWSC, 1098E, charitable receipts, etc.)
- Any mail from the Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR)
- Any mail from the IRS

***Taxpayers who have received or expect to receive health insurance credits need to bring proof of ALL household income.*

Without all documents, we cannot complete your tax returns

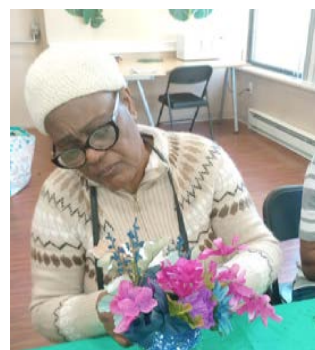
SENIORS AT THE AMY LOWELL APARTMENTS MAKING MERRY WITH ARTFUL MEDITATION WORKSHOPS

The ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC) was pleased to offer an artful meditation workshop to Amy Lowell seniors to kick off the holiday season. Artful Meditation Workshops was created in 2018 as a way to help Consultant Jan Gadson Louissaint deal with the trauma of surviving breast cancer. Each silk flower arrangement she created brought joy and encouraged her healing. Silk floral arrangements and workshops have proven to help participants learn new skills, decrease social isolation, and experience creativity and a sense of joy.



The group enjoyed making holiday arrangements in mason jars while Motown music played in the background. There was time for meditation, mindfulness, and reflection, accompanied by music and light refreshments. Special thanks go to the City of Boston's Age Strong Commission for funding this project through an Expanding Engagement grant.

"Flowers don't tell, they show." – Stephanie Skeem



CHEERS TO ARTÚ AND THE FRATTAROLI FAMILY FOR A CELEBRATION OF LA BEFANA

A celebration of La Befana, generously sponsored by Artú and the Frattaroli family, marked not only the end of the long and festive holiday season in Italy, but also at the ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center (NE/WE NSC). The Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated January 6 with a national holiday in Italy, and the tradition of La Befana is a large part of Italian Christmas celebrations. Epiphany honors the 12th day of Christmas when the three Wise Men arrived at the crèche bearing gifts for the Christ Child. According to the Italian legend, La Befana, a witch riding a broom, refused to join the Wise Men on their journey to see the baby Jesus. When she regrets her decision, she sets out to bring gifts to the Child but never finds him. Instead, she leaves gifts for other children. Italian children leave out their shoes or put up stockings for the Befana to fill on January 5th, Epiphany Eve. Naughty children receive coal.

There was no coal at the NE/WE NSC, but rather a delicious lunch consisting of misto salad, rotisserie chicken, roasted carrots and potatoes, and penne puttanesca. It was a warm, cozy day and a wonderful way to kick off 2024. Thank you again, Artú and the Frattaroli family, for the food and love that you bestowed upon the seniors in the neighborhood!



Joe Creason, Legislative Aide, Office of Representative Jay Livingstone, greets a West End constituent



Joe Creason, Legislative Aide, Office of Representative Jay Livingstone, greets a West End constituent



L-R Colleen Holden of Artú, General Manager Gianni Frattaroli, Artú, and ABCD NE/WE NSC Acting Director Julia Power



Ben Tayag, District Director, Office of State Senator Lydia Edwards speaks with North End seniors

2024 COMMUNITY HERO SPOTLIGHT: TERI GROOME (*NORTH END/WEST END*)

Teri Lynn Groome is a citizen of the world – and deeply committed to her community. An Air Force “brat,” as a child, she and her family moved often. She later traveled the world as a flight attendant, and she and her husband travel to experience different cultures and find common ground.

An entrepreneur and teacher, Teri has long been dedicated to expanding opportunities and supporting underserved communities, as well as fostering the arts. For eight years she volunteered with Dress for Success Boston, and she now serves on the Board of Advisors at the Celebrity Series of Boston and is a member of its Racial Equity Committee, Patron Engagement Committee and Co-chair of the 2023 SHINE! Gala.

When she and her husband moved to Boston’s West End, she discovered the ABCD North End/West End Neighborhood Service Center. Now a member of its Neighborhood Advisory Board, she is a tireless advocate who leads food security initiatives, toy drives, and gives of her time and energy at events, serving, cleaning, and doing whatever will make life better.



“When they hear ‘West End,’ people think Mass General and TD Garden, but we are a neighborhood!

-Teri Lynn Groome

ANNUAL NORTH END CHRISTMAS FUND LUNCHEON

ABCD staff came together with North End neighbors to celebrate at the annual North End Christmas Fund luncheon, which has been held for over 40 years. It was a delicious meal with food donated by local North End restaurants. All funds raised support seniors and families in need. Special thanks go to Ted Tomasone, Paul Cucinatti, and the rest of the committee for organizing this much anticipated and needed event!



You are invited to attend:

ABCD's Valentine's Day Party!

Friday, February 16th at 12 PM

ABCD North End/West End NSC
1 Michelangelo St. Boston, MA 02113

RSVPs are encouraged!
Contact us at 617.523.8125

Lunch will be served!

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JANUARY

2024

HOURS FOR APPOINTMENTS: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

COFFEE HOUR - Everyday - Monday - Friday - 9:00 AM

GROCERIES - Monday and Friday - 10:15am

Call ahead for food distribution, coffee hour, taxi coupons, and appointments 617.523.8125

* **DOWN MEMORY LANE** - 10am - 11am (NE/WE NSC) | 1pm - 2pm (Amy Lowell Apartments)

For the most updated calendar information, please visit bostonabdc.org/newe

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY - CENTER CLOSED	2 Down Memory Lane *	3	4	5 La Befana Celebration - 12pm	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Taxi Coupons -12pm-1pm	13
14	15 MLK JR. DAY - CENTER CLOSED	16 Down Memory Lane *	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Movie Day - 1pm	27
28	29	30 Down Memory Lane *	31			

FEBRUARY

2024

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				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 Taxi Coupons -12pm-1pm	10
11	12	13 Down Memory Lane *	14	15	16 Valentine's Day Party - 12pm	17
18	19 PRESIDENTS DAY - CENTER CLOSED	20	21	22	23 Movie Day - 1pm	24
25	26	27 Down Memory Lane *	28	29		



RED VELVET BROWNIES WITH CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

PREP TIME: 10 MINS

COOKING TIME: 30 MINS

SERVINGS: 16

BROWNIE INGREDIENTS

- ¾ cup unsalted butter (melted)
- 1½ cup granulated sugar
- 2 large eggs (room temp)
- 2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 tablespoon red food coloring
- 1 cup all-purpose flour (spooned and leveled)
- ¼ cup cocoa powder
- ¼ teaspoon salt

CREAM CHEESE FROSTING INGREDIENTS

- 4 oz cream cheese (room temp)
- ¼ cup unsalted butter (room temp)
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- pinch of salt

DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 350°. Line an 8x8 baking pan with parchment paper and set it aside.
2. In a microwave-safe bowl, heat butter until melted. Once melted, add to a large bowl with the sugar and mix until combined. Add in the eggs, vanilla, and red food coloring, mixing until well combined.
3. Add the dry ingredients- flour, cocoa powder, and salt. Mix until everything is combined and there are no streaks of flour left.
4. Pour batter into the pan and bake for 25-30 minutes, or until the center is set. Remove from the oven and allow the brownies to cool in the pan before removing.
5. In a large bowl, use an electric mixer to beat the cream cheese and butter together until smooth. Add in the powdered sugar, vanilla, and pinch of salt, mixing until fully combined.
6. Spread cream cheese icing on top of cooled brownies and enjoy!

abcd
COLORING



ABCD MISSION

ABCD is a nonprofit human services organization that each year provides more than 100,000 low income residents in the Greater Boston region with the tools and resources needed to transition from poverty to stability and from stability to success.

To fulfill this purpose, ABCD uses a comprehensive approach that systematically addresses the range of barriers faced by households in poverty, from day-to-day crises to long-term needs for jobs and education.



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