



Dear Friends,

As we reflect on the past year, we can't help but feel overwhelming gratitude for everyone in the For All Ages community. The dedication and commitment of our board, volunteers, and donors have enabled For All Ages to blossom from an idea to an organization having a real impact.

We are incredibly proud of what we have accomplished with your strong support:

- Hosting our inaugural intergenerational learn-to-fish fishing derby in person during a pandemic.
- Expanding our Tea @ 3 intergenerational friendship community that provides critical social connection for both younger and older adults.
- Spreading awareness of the importance of social connectedness as a basic human need, and the detrimental impacts of loneliness on mental and physical health.
- Hosting our 2nd annual Unite by Light luminary event in Simsbury, CT, bringing together residents and neighbors of all ages for a night of community and reflection.

We hope you'll enjoy learning more about our work and our people in this report.

Thank you for being with us on this journey.

In gratitude,

Deb and Gary



Deb Bibbins Founder & CEO



Gary Sekorski Board Chair

# We believe that every age matters.

### Our Mission

For All Ages is dedicated to connecting the generations and inspiring action to end loneliness, reduce ageism, and improve health and well-being.

### **Board & Advisory Council**

#### **Board of Directors**

Gary Sekorski, Chair, For All Ages Co-Founder
Sashi Aiyathurai, Vice Chair & Treasurer, Chubb
Stephanie Polzella, Secretary, The Hartford
Deb Bibbins, For All Ages Founder & CEO
Victoria Kozar, UConn School of Medicine student
Rupal Parekh, University of Connecticut
Georgia Powell, Optum/UnitedHealthcare
Jennifer Sala, The Hartford
Laurie Tobias, Johnson Brunetti



### **Advisory Council**

**Peter Eder**, At Home in Darien Founding Board Member **Larry Englisby**, CFO, Disability Planning Partners **John Hampton**, CT State Representative

**Sowmya Kurtakoti**, Medical Director of Geriatrics, Hartford Healthcare Medical Group & Chief of Geriatrics at Hartford Hospital

Ed LaMontagne, Immediate Past Chair, Simsbury Aging & Disability Commission
Louis Ramirez, School Social Worker, West Hartford Public Schools
Stefan Riedling, Vice President & Senior Director, Global Market Research & Insights, Cigna
Joel Sekorski, Director of Elderly Services, City of Torrington CT
Tara Willerup, Chair, Simsbury Board of Education

Thomas Zaccheo, Retired Physician, Current Artist, and Lifelong Learner, Farmington CT



# Improving social health across the age span.

Our in-person events and virtual programs are positively impacting people's lives.

The extraordinary events of the last two years prompted us to make a few shifts in our services. We limited the attendance at our inaugural intergenerational fishing derby to ensure social distancing, and are happy to report 100% satisfaction with this unique event.

Our Tea @ 3 Intergenerational Friendship Community ran for 2 sessions in 2021, serving 156 college students and older adults for 12 weeks, with 79% of the participants reporting the program improved their sense of belonging and reduced loneliness.

And while we strive to showcase the wisdom and vibrancy of older adults in each of our programs, we recognized the need to provide social connection to older adults isolated during the pandemic and provide a safe, socially-distanced volunteer opportunity for people of all ages. We launched the Joyful Notes Project in 2020 and delivered thousands of cards in 2021.

Total hours of intergenerational connection:

4,439

People connected:



Joyful Notes delivered to isolated older adults:





# Founding story

For All Ages was founded in 2019 by Deb Bibbins after she watched a family member's social network shrink due to the passing of friends and family, leading to a devastating deterioration in health. Deb's subsequent research into loneliness revealed a direct causal connection to many mental and physical health ailments that result in premature death.

After 30 years in the insurance industry in a variety of financial, legal, and business leadership roles, Deb founded For All Ages with a vision to end loneliness, reduce ageism, and promote kindness across generations by implementing impactful programs that improve the health and well-being of people of all ages.

Deb is pleased to be working alongside long-time friend and co-founder Gary Sekorski to create and host For All Ages' intergenerational programs.

# 2021 Highlights

#### **Program Highlights:**

- Hosted 2 successful 12-week Tea @ 3 Intergenerational Friendship Community sessions involving older adults and students at UConn, CCSU, Connecticut College, Trinity College, and Amherst College in MA.
- Hosted our inaugural Buddies & Bobbers Intergenerational Learn-to-Fish Fishing Derby at Winding Trails in Farmington, CT.
- Delivered thousands of Joyful Notes Project cards to dozens of local adult living communities.
- Hosted a multi-week intergenerational art program with Northwest Catholic High School students and Duncaster residents designing and painting a bear for the West Hartford Bear Fair.
- Hosted our second annual Unite by Light luminary event in Simsbury, CT bringing together 100+ volunteers and thousands of spectators.

#### Select Additional Highlights: Spreading awareness and growing our impact

- Chosen as one of 6 nonprofits countrywide to participate in Prudential's PruBono Marathon with employees collaborating with us on a project.
- Appeared on the WTIC morning show and WTNH's Good Morning CT.
- Presented talk on loneliness to Simsbury United Methodist Church Stephen ministers.
- Spoke at the Simsbury Elder Justice Forum in November alongside CT Attorney General William Tong.
- Named an Official Charity of the Eversource Hartford Marathon.
- Deb and Gary named Community Kindness Heroes at Hartford Yard Goats by Liberty Bank.
- Co-led a discussion salon at the national AARP Livable Communities Workshop on Engaging Older Adults.









## Volunteers

As always, the incredible support of our volunteers was a critical part of everything we accomplished in 2021. Throughout a year of challenging guidelines and restrictions, our dedicated volunteers adapted and remained focused on providing a positive social connection experience for everyone we serve.

In total, 206 volunteers contributed their time to support our mission.

To each of them, we say, "Thank you!"



## Volunteer Spotlight

Sylvia Lecky has volunteered with For All Ages over the past year as the program manager for the Tea @ 3 Intergenerational Friendship program. A retired actuary, Sylvia was looking for a way to give back to her community in a meaningful way.

"The Tea @ 3 Community's mission to address loneliness through tea and friendship is the perfect blend of my passions and a joyful way to impact people's lives."

### Additional Core Volunteer Staff

Gary Sekorski, COO Susan Duncan, Accounting Manager Jeff Meigs, Outdoor Events Manager Siri Palreddy, Campus Connector Coord. Patricia Walsh, Fundraising & Events



# Thank you to our 2021 'business' partners & supporters.

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Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices NE

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**Budget Printers & Embroiderers** 

Clatter Valley Studio LLC

**Disability Planning Partners** 

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Highland Park Market

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Simsbury Cemetery Assn.

Simsbury-Granby Rotary Club

Simsbury United Methodist Church

Stop & Shop

Tell Me Another Stories

The First Church of Christ, Simsbury

The Residence at Brookside

True North Hearing

**UConn Center on Aging** 

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Vincent Funeral Home

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Webber & Meyers LLC

Webster Bank

Westminster School



# Thank you to each and every one of our individual donors and fundraisers.

We are grateful to you for sharing your time, talent, and treasure to provide life-sustaining social connection for your neighbors.





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Our programs have connected people ages 5-100 from 62 towns across CT. For All Ages is Connecticut's only nonprofit organization dedicated to connecting the generations to improve health.





Our generous supporters provide the powerful intergenerational connection that improves mental & physical health for people of all ages.

We can't continue this health-boosting work without you.

For All Ages
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For All Ages is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.



