

FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of the Brookline Senior Center Foundation,

You, our donors, enable us to provide essential services, including transportation to medical appointments, food distribution, fuel assistance, counseling, and a variety of exceptional learning/community building programs for our older residents.

Brookline Senior Center Staff offer these services with compassion. Ruthann Dobek, our inspirational Director throughout the past 40+ years has led the Brookline Senior Center with expertise and joy.

Ruthann is retiring. Thanks to Ruthann's dedication, she leaves a strong operational and financial foundation, staff stability, and an award-winning array of programs for our older residents.

You are invited to join me and others on Sunday, April 27th, 4:00 - 6:00 PM, at the Brookline Senior Center, for a fundraiser to honor Ruthann Dobek.

For details or to contribute if you cannot attend visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/AppreciationCelebration>

Ruthann Dobek's accomplishments include:

- Building the Senior Center
- Longstanding record of securing grants for a variety of programs and services
- Creating the Endowment for the Foundation
- Creation of the HELP Program
- Creation of employment opportunity programs for Older Adults
- Creation of the Transportation Program
- Creation of the Volunteer Program, including intergenerational programming such as the SHOP program
- Creation of a variety of informational and educational publications for the community (Brookline Beacon, Elder Resource Guide, Ask a Geriatrician, etc.)
- Creating and maintaining partnerships with town agencies and other social services agencies in the larger community
- Mentoring student interns, from high school age through graduate school, in the field of aging
- Increasing our capacity around diversity, such as work with Asian, Russian, and Hispanic older adults, LGBTQI+ older adults, etc.

- Co-chair of Age Friendly Cities initiative, resulting in Brookline being named as the first Age Friendly community in New England (under the World Health Organization standards)

- Co-Founder of the Brookline Community Aging Network

Recipient of:

Boston University School of Social Work Alumni Association award in recognition of Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Social Work- May 2001

Massachusetts National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Social Worker of the Year Award- 2008

Massachusetts Councils On Aging (MCOA) Innovator of the Year Award- 2015

Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) Distinguished Employer Award in 2018

Let's honor Ruthann Dobek and her legacy! Sign up for Sponsorships, Tickets, and Contributions here: <https://tinyurl.com/AppreciationCelebration>

Warm regards,

Betsy Pollock, MSW

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President, Brookline Senior Center Foundation