

## 31st Annual Walkathon: The Path for Life Was Sunny and Joyful

By Carol Foote, Outreach and Development Director

What a wonderful day we had to celebrate the 31st annual Path for Life Walkathon on Saturday, May 6. Whether you joined us as a sponsor, fundraiser, community partner, volunteer, walker, entertainer, staff person, or otherwise—we were so pleased you made LifePath and those we serve a priority. Thank you for your participation. The joy shared by event attendees was tangible. Your smiles and stories are testaments to your commitment to making Franklin County and the North Quabbin area a great community to age in place.

Again participants had the opportunity to walk, learn, connect, and spread joy and goodwill. We thank the LifePath staff who created opportunities for attendees to engage with their programs. These interactions and connections reminded us that this community is a special place to grow and age together. We also took the opportunity to introduce our new executive director, Gary Yuhas, to the community. He was welcomed warmly and enjoyed connecting with all of you in different ways.

We've crossed the \$50,000 mark with 14 teams and 63 fundraisers who joined the 2023 effort to secure more than 426 gifts . . . and counting. Should you still be holding gifts you have secured for this effort, please send them before mid-June to be counted in this year's effort. Our hope is to collect another \$15,000 between now and June 30. Will you help us reach this goal?

We thank the following sponsors and community partners for joining us on event day: The Bement School; Community Action Pioneer Valley; Community Legal Aid; Deerfield Academy; Franklin County Community Meals Program; Franklin County's YMCA; RSVP; ProseriTea Planning; South County Senior Center; and US Medical Supply. Please see the full list of local businesses that offered sponsorship of this event.

## A HUGE THANK YOU To Our Path For Life Walkathon Sponsors!



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In kind donations

Adams Donuts, Big Y, Billy Goat Boats, Bridgeside Grille, the Farley String Band,  
Food City, Foster's Supermarket, Franklin Regional Transit Authority,  
Greenfield Corporate Center, Hope & Olive, Ragged Blue, Stop & Shop

We offer thanks to the performers who graced us with their talents, adding spirit to the day: The ROMEOs, the Farley String Band, and Ragged Blue. And special thanks to WHAI for broadcasting live. We were also appreciative to have Cliff's Smokin' Backyard BBQ onsite this year.

The generosity from every person, business, and organization creates the opportunity for older adults, individuals with disabilities, and caregivers to access resources to seek, find, and extend their independence in their own homes and communities. These resources include options for in-home care, nutritional support, housing, SHINE counseling, Healthy Living courses, protective services, financial resources, wellness, and safety. By actively developing community partnerships and working alongside care providers, we can meet and improve the

health and wellness of those we serve.

We are grateful for your thoughtful generosity, inspired by this fundraising effort. Thank you. A final tally will appear in a late July issue of *The Good Life*.

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