

Association for the Relief of Aged Women awards \$220,000; partners with 13 Greater New Bedford community organizations

Partnership will help promote independence and enhance quality of life for elderly, low-income women.

The Association for the Relief of Aged Women (ARAW) today announced the recipients of its Community Partner Grant for 2022/2023. The ARAW's Community Partner Grant offered up to \$300,000 in support of nonprofits and public entities serving Acushnet, Dartmouth, Fairhaven, New Bedford and Westport to establish, maintain or expand programs which align with the ARAW's mission.

"ARAW's Community Partner Grant is a wonderful opportunity to form new partnerships which will allow us to increase our direct financial support to low income, elderly women who may feel they have nowhere else to turn and to fund innovative programs which address the challenges they face," said ARAW's Executive Director, Clare Healy Foley.

By addressing one or more of the following four targeted funding priorities, partners allow these women to maintain their independence and quality of life in the community:

- Trusted sources of knowledgeable advocates in our community who will identify and connect women in need to financial support from ARAW
- Promotion of financial stability and life strategies
- Access to social engagement opportunities to combat loneliness and isolation

- Establishment of safety and stability to foster optimal health and well-being

The 13 Community Partners ARAW selected for 2022/2023 represent an incredible group of organizations – some new partners, some veteran partners. Together, they offer a variety of exciting new programs and some extensions of last year's projects. Each program supports ARAW's vision that elderly women in our community will live well and with dignity address. Community Partners this year are:

AHA! (Arts, History, Architecture)

extension of Portraits of a Port

Cape Verdean Association in New Bedford

extension of Outreach & Programming for New Bedford's Elderly Cape Verdean Community

Coastal Neighbors Network, Inc.

Enhancing Quality of Life and Promoting Independence for Aging Women in Dartmouth & Westport

Dartmouth Council on Aging

extension of Strive to Thrive

New Bedford Art Museum (NBAM/ArtWorks)

Creative Care Program

New Bedford Fishing Heritage Center

Herstory: collecting stories of Women in the Fishing Community

New Bedford Police Department

NBPD Assisting Elderly Female Residents

New Bedford Symphony Orchestra

Music for Life

South Coast LGBTQ+ Network, Inc.

Aging Well

South Coastal Counties Legal Services

Rachel Howland Advocate for Older Adults

Town of Westport/Westport Council on Aging

Community Outreach Project

YWCA Southeastern Massachusetts

Widowed Persons Program

Zeiterion Performing Arts Center

Intergenerational Performing Arts Mentorship