Poverty in Brookline’s Older Adults Higher than State Average!

The 2020 Census affirmed what we’ve seen at the Brookline Senior Center since even before the pandemic: **Poverty among Brookline’s adults 60+ is increasing.** It’s now over 10.6%, up from 7.5% in 2010. At the same time, the percentage of older adults in Brookline is growing three times faster than the overall population.

Inflation, the spiraling cost of housing, rents, fuel prices, healthcare, food, taxes – these impact older adults on fixed incomes even more than the general population and create hardship and vulnerability.

**That’s why the Senior Center is so important to our community**. Each day, we provide programs and services to help older adults in need: Fuel assistance, food distribution, hot lunches, shopping, caregiving support, medical transportation, health insurance advice, social worker support, counseling and much more. Plus, dozens of programs that keep older adults involved in the community and connected socially: Book club, discussion groups, fitness classes, art classes, movies, theater, French and Russian classes, ping pong, computer training, and technology**. Programs that prevent the deadly combination of isolation and loneliness.**

**The Center is also a place where our seniors come to volunteer, help each other, and give back. Did you know?** During FY 2023, Brookline’s seniors donated over 42,000 hours – the equivalent of more than 23 full-time employees!

The Brookline Senior Center continues to flourish and provide essential resources to Brookline’s older adults and their families. But the Town of Brookline funds only 63% of our annual budget. For the remaining 37%, we must rely on grants, corporate sponsors, and wonderful donors like you.

Yes, that’s right. Since our beginning more than 20 years ago, the Center, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, has depended on the generosity of people like you in our community. Your contributions help keep our safety net in place.

Your support is urgently needed to help vulnerable older adults get through the winter safely and with dignity.

Please donate now to keep the Brookline Senior Center Foundation robust.

**I know you share our vision – a caring town where our seniors can age with respect and dignity**. Your generosity will make it possible for the Brookline Senior Center Foundation to continue to help our community’s older adults.

Thank you for your generosity. Your gift makes a huge difference.

Warmly,

Betsy Pollock, MSW

President, Brookline Senior Center Foundation