

September 2019

abcd INSIGHT

Monthly News & Updates

Heroes' Welcome Reception Offers Lively Preview of November 8th Gala



A marketing innovator dedicated to health equity; an executive who ensures that low income community members have access to critical resources; a civil rights attorney-turned municipal diversity and inclusion director, and an 85-year-old educator, entrepreneur and musician who gives back as a matter of course — these are just four of 22 invaluable volunteers to be honored at the 2019 ABCD Community Heroes Celebration on November 8th.

ABCD hosted a prelude to the gala, the Heroes' Welcome Reception on September 19th, filling the Thelma D. Burns building with fellowship, gratitude, and several touching stories.

Event Chair Kelly Fredrickson, president of MullenLowe Boston & New York, drew on an inspiring story from her past to pay tribute to the heroes, and Hero Helyn C. Hall led a rousing "This is the Day That the Lord Has Made," bringing down the house!

ABCD invites you to join us at the Community Heroes Celebration at the Boston Marriott Copley Place on November 8th. Along with honoring our heroes, the brilliant singer and actress Audra McDonald will perform and we will recognize five special honorees — organizations that have served on the ABCD Board of Directors for 50 years! Leadership from the Boston Public Schools, Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, NAACP Boston Branch, Associated Industries of Massachusetts, and the LABOR COUNCIL/AFL-CIO will accept the ABCD "Five for 50" award. Don't miss it!

For tickets and sponsorship information, contact Liz Gillis at elizabeth.gillis@bostonabcd.org and 617.348.6244. And learn more about the event at abcdheroes.org.

Hoop Dreams nets \$100K for ABCD youth programs

This year's 9th Annual ABCD Hoop Dreams charity basketball tournament on Sept. 3rd raised **\$100,000 for ABCD's youth programs**. In addition to the donation, the event put in motion the same winning game plan it has relied on throughout its storied history. There was plenty of spirited



competition on the court and everyone was provided unique access to the accommodating A-list event co-hosts Boston Celtics coach Brad Stevens, Los Angeles Clipper coach Glenn “Doc” Rivers and legendary sports writer Bob Ryan.

The difference this year for Hoop Dreams was that the event was held for the first time at the Auerbach Center, the Boston Celtics ‘state-of-

the-art practice facility in Brighton. The Auerbach Center, which was generously made available to ABCD by Coach Stevens while the TD Garden undergoes major renovations, produced a uniquely intimate experience at Hoop Dreams.

After the buzzer sounded on the final game, The Varano Group, coached by their owner and ABCD Hoop Dreams Event Chair Nick Varano, were declared the 2019 Hoop Dreams champs. But the truth is everyone who participated in this year’s event were champions. Thank you to sponsors Aetna, Clark + Elbing, Eaton Vance, Paradigm Partners, Vertex, Wellesley Mazda and The Varano Group for their support along with in-kind sponsors, Garden Neighborhood Charities, Honan League, Lyft, Regina Pizzeria, Roche Brothers and Target.



As always, we appreciate the work of ABCD Director of Government and Industrial Relations Bob Elias and his event team for all the hard work they put into making Hoop Dreams happen each year.

ABCD accepting fuel assistance applications starting November 1st



Although fall is off to a relatively warm start, it is never too early to prepare for winter.

Starting on **Friday, November 1st** ABCD’s Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will be accepting new applications and starting authorization for fuel benefits. Fuel benefits include: emergency oil, propane or kerosene delivery, utility services termination prevention and active terminated utility services

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We encourage anybody who needs help with fuel assistance to come in and apply. Even if they think they don't qualify, they can still come in and check. There are 35 fuel assistance intake locations servicing neighborhoods such as Boston, Brookline, Newton, Malden, Medford, Everett, Melrose, Winchester, Woburn and Stoneham. Walk-ins are welcome **Monday - Friday 9AM - 5PM at 178 Tremont Street Boston, MA 02111.**

[LEARN MORE](#)

Program Spotlight

Celebrating Summer: Bank of America and ABCD SummerWorks



ABCD SummerWorks celebrated a successful summer of skill building and work experience on August 16th alongside the program's longstanding partner, Bank of America. Program participants from the ABCD Dorchester Neighborhood Service Center were hosted at the Bank of America Codman Square Financial Center. Judith Bailey, Manager of the Codman Square Financial Center,

greeted youth and parents with refreshments and a \$25,000 check symbolizing the Bank of America Foundation grant that helped make this summer a success. The youth were able to ask questions about careers in banking and finance, and learn how their summer jobs set them on the path to career success. The youth also shared how their experience in SummerWorks has impacted how they think about finances and spending.

SummerWorks not only provides necessary job readiness and work experience for hundreds of Boston youth, the program also provides support to non-profit worksites who depend on their SummerWorks youth staff to run summer programming. This summer some worksites included: the Salvation Army Kroc Center, Greater Four Corners Action Coalition, Grove Hall Residence Tech Center, Boston Youth Police Academy, Children's Learning Center Preschool, Grove Hall Library, Boston Rowing Center, Boston Youth Wrestling, Dorchester Art Collaborative Center, Jeremiah Burke High School, InnerCity Weightlifting, Swaby's Tae Kwon Do Academy, and UP Academy.

Bank of America has partnered with ABCD SummerWorks for 16 years, providing funding in excess of \$200,000 to make SummerWorks a reality for Boston's low-income youth. With support from Bank of America and other funders SummerWorks was able to provide 674 youth with summer employment.

On behalf of ABCD, the SummerWorks youth, and the city of Boston, thank you Bank of America!

Upcoming Events

Public Forum

Thursday, October 10th
6PM - 8PM
ABCD Mattapan FSC
535 River Street
Mattapan, MA 02126

ABCD invites you to a

PUBLIC FORUM

Thursday, October 10, 2019
 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

ABCD Mattapan
Family Service Center
 535 River Street | Mattapan, MA

The federal government's new "Public Charge" rule increases the emphasis on factors that could affect your ability to obtain a green card including:

- Family income
- The use of some but not all public assistance programs.

WILL YOU BE AFFECTED?

What resources are available to help you navigate this policy?

FEATURED PANELISTS

Sarang Sekhavat, *Federal Policy Director*
 MIRA Coalition

Mario Paredes, *Law Fellow*
 Massachusetts Law Reform Institute

Kristen Tully, *Legal Intern*
 Massachusetts Law Reform Institute

FOR INFORMATION, CONTACT

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 617.348.6518

Community Heroes Celebration

Friday, November 8th



Join us in honoring this year's extraordinary ABCD heroes at our 45th annual celebration!

Featuring **Tony®**, **Grammy®** & **Emmy®** Award winner **Audra McDonald** in performance.

For ticket & sponsorship information, contact **Liz Gillis** at **617.348.6244** or elizabeth.gillis@bostonabcd.org

HELP A CHILD FIND THEIR LOVE FOR LEARNING

Become a volunteer with the **ABCD Foster Grandparents program**

Are you 55 or older and retired?

Do you have the time and desire to give more to the children in your community?

Can you dedicate a minimum of 15 hours per week and become a mentor to a young child?



Volunteer Today!

Stipends are awarded to those who qualify. Training and monthly peer support opportunities provided.

To learn more, visit bostonabcd.org/foster-grandparents or call **617.348.6784**

abcd ACTION FOR BOSTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT | bostonabcd.org



Give Today.

Your gift supports ABCD in its mission to empower low-income people by providing them with the tools to overcome poverty, live with dignity, and achieve their full potential. Interested in other ways of giving? Please contact the Planning and Grants Department at 617-348-6559.

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