Community Connections Breakfast 2016 – Community Partner Contacts

**Bartlett Community Partnership School**
Contact: Peter Holtz, Principal
pholtz@lowell.k12.ma.us 78-937-8968

**Boys and Girls Club of Greater Lowell**
"To inspire and enable young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens through dedicated staff and innovative programs, provided in a safe environment."

Contact: Kate Thoene, Volunteer Coordinator
kthoene@lbgc.org 978-458-4526 ext. 20

**Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association of Greater Lowell, Inc.**
CMAA’s mission is to improve the quality of life for Cambodian Americans and other minorities and economically disadvantaged persons in Lowell through educational, cultural, economic and social programs.


Contact: Sovanna Pouv, Executive Director
spouv@cmaalowell.org 978-454-6200

**Coalition for a Better Acre**
The Coalition for a Better Acre is a membership based community development corporation dedicated to resident empowerment and sustainable community revitalization for current and future residents of the Merrimack Valley. We promote healthy, vibrant neighborhoods by developing resident leaders, affordable housing and economic opportunities, and by responding to community needs through collective action.

Needs: CBA would like to have student volunteers for our programs and advocacy work. Seeking partnerships related to developing more and better community planning, developing efforts and workforce development training program.

Contact: Yun-Ju Choi, Executive Director, yun-ju.choi@cbacre.org 978-452-7523; Ken Berard, Director, CBA’s Opportunity Center, ken.berard@cbacre.org 978-970-0600 ext. 1; Marc Horne, Project Manager, marc.horne@cbacre.org 978-452-7523

**Friends of LCCPS**
Contact: Suzanne Frechette, Board Vice Chair
suzanne.frechette@comcast.net 978-376-1356
GEAR UP Massachusetts Lowell High School
A federally funded program to assist low income, first generation students successfully prepare to obtain a college degree beginning in grade 7 throughout Massachusetts. We work with students in college who are awarded the GEAR UP Scholarship for 4 years at UML, WSU, UMA and Suffolk University to ensure success on campus. We have approximately 150 GEAR UP students at UML.
www.gearup.mass.edu

Needs: Partnership with focus on retention efforts of low income and first generation students at UML and partnerships that will assist high school students to prepare academically, career focus or provide opportunities for early college awareness/experiences.

Contact: Tiffany Currie, Academic Coordinator
curriet@middlesex.mass.edu 978-970-5474

Generation Citizen
GC works to ensure that every student in the United States receives an effective action civics education, which provides them with the knowledge and skills necessary to participate in our democracy as active citizens. We envision a country of young people working as active and effective citizens to collectively rebuild our American democracy. GC teaches teenagers how to take effective political action. Through an innovative in-class curriculum, students work with local leaders to fix local problems. Through this real-world experience, our teens are building an active democracy. Our innovative, action-based program will revolutionize civics education in this country. Generation Citizen is building a new generation of youth activists and leaders; a generation inspired and equipped to make change.

Needs: Service-Learning partnerships in the Education Department, Political Science Department, History Department, and related department. Civic-engagement and volunteerism partnerships.

Contact: Arielle Jennings, Program Manager, ajenings@generationcitizen.org 978-302-9281; Ellie Sanchez, Program Associate, esanchez@generationcitizen.org 626-315-2450

Gique
Gique is an educational nonprofit dedicated to inspiring & empowering youth through hands-on learning in science, tech, engineering, art & math (STEAM). We design & teach educational programs that engage students in creative ArtScience learning through building things in the real world. Over time, we hope to build a STEAM-Powered community - full of the next great thinkers, leaders, and makers.

Needs: We are looking to expand our educational workshops to the City of Lowell. Seeking dedicated program mentors and teachers to run a STEAM program in Lowell. Also seeking experienced grant writers.

Contact: Ashli Polanco, Executive Director
ashli@gique.me 978-328-8836
**Girls Incorporated of Greater Lowell**
Girls Incorporated of Greater Lowell inspires all girls to be strong, smart and bold. Through creative programs in a safe and nurturing environment, we strive to teach the independence and personal responsibility girls need to succeed.

Needs: Partnering with various departments for interns/service learning students, educational presentations, campus/department tours, and volunteers.

Contact: Tracy Ingersoll, Executive Director, tingersoll@girlsinclowell.org 978-458-6529; Katelyn Adams, Program Coordinator, kadams@girlsinclowell.org 978-458-6529

**Greater Lowell Community Foundation**
The mission of the Greater Lowell Community Foundation is to foster community growth and development through funding, leadership, and collaboration to transform the lives of the individuals and organizations we serve.

Contact: Jay Linnehan, Executive Director jay@glcfoundation.org 978-970-1600

**International Institute of Lowell**
The International Institute of New England is a non-profit organization based in Boston, Massachusetts with site offices located in Boston, Lowell, Massachusetts and Manchester, New Hampshire. The Institute's mission is to invest in the future of our cities and towns by helping refugees and immigrants become active participants in the social, political, and economic richness of American life.

Needs: IINE seeks partnership to support direct services activities, as well as research and public education.

Contact: Cheryl Hamilton, Director of Partner Engagement chamilton@iine.org 978-459-9031

**International Institute of New England**
International Institute of New England's mission statement: the Institute's mission is to invest in the future of our cities and towns by helping refugees and immigrants become active participants in the social, political, and economic richness of American life.

Needs: Seeking: local partners who are interested in helping support and advocate for refugees and immigrants in our communities.

Contact: Vannak Khin, Commonwealth Corps Member vkhin@iilowell.org 978-459-9031
**Jumpstart**

Jumpstart is working toward the day every child in America enters kindergarten prepared to succeed. Our mission is to provide high quality early education to low income preschoolers in the community.

Needs: Faculty that support our mission and/or provide more opportunities for more students to learn about Jumpstart.

Contact: Cassandra Hopkins, UML Site Manager, cassandra_hopkins@uml.edu 978-934-4621; Melissa Chandonnet, City Program Manager, melissa.chandonnet@jstart.org 978-656-3404

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**Lowell Association for the Blind**

LAB's mission is to support, educate, and nurture the blind and visually impaired residents of the Greater Merrimack Valley by helping them enrich their lives and gain independence. Its further mission is to stimulate the interest of the general public in the problems and issues facing the blind and visually impaired and to educate them to understand that the blind and visually impaired are productive members of society, seeking fulfillment of their human potential.

Contact: Elizabeth Cannon, Executive Director ecannon@lowellassociationfortheblind.org 978-454-5704

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**Lowell Humane Society**

The purpose of the Society shall be to provide shelter, prevent cruelty to animals, and advocate for their welfare. Through humane education, the Society strives to enlighten the public with the goal of improving the quality of life for animals and people.

Contact: Marie Baillargeon, Volunteer Coordinator marie@lowellhumanesociety.org 978-888-3614

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**Lowell Middlesex Academy Charter School**

The mission of Lowell Middlesex academy Charter School is to enable all students to achieve academic, social and career success. Our supportive school community identifies, encourages, and develops interests and abilities while acknowledging and respecting each students' personal and cultural identity.

Needs: We are interested in any partnerships that would help our students succeed academically, socially and any that might prepare them for a career.

Contact: Helaine Clegg, Teacher cleggh@middlesex.mass.edu 978-656-3414
Lowell Public Schools
Excellence in teaching and learning is the essential element necessary to render academic results that allow children to attain their academic goals, be prepared for college and beyond to compete in the global market, and live satisfying lives. Lowell Public Schools is working to develop a 5 Year Strategic Plan that includes community partners such as UMASS Lowell. We feel strong connections to the university and other higher education partners are key component in our student's education and career goals.

Needs: The Lowell Public Schools is eager to partner with UML faculty and students who may be interested in working with youth. Lowell Public Schools can provide opportunities to work in an educational setting with students during the school day or in one of our many after school and summer programs. We are also interested in visiting UML with students to strengthen the college to career pathway as well as to tour the facilities and labs. As an approved work study site, Lowell Public Schools seeks students that would like to assist with academic tutoring or work in a variety of academic settings. We want to continue our connection with UTEACH as we develop a workforce that is invested in our schools and is well prepared for the challenges of urban education.

Contact: Carolyn Rocheleau, Coordinator of Special Programs
crocheleau@lowell.k12.ma.us 978-674-2053; Martha Cohn, Coordinator of Science and Social Studies, PreK-12, mcohn@lowell.k12.ma.us 978-674-2115; Paula Bransfield, District STEM Specialist, pbransfield@lowell.k12.ma.us 978-674-2057

Lowell Telecommunications Corp.
LTC fosters open access to information and communication technologies for the distribution of free ideas, community development and personal empowerment.

Needs: We are interested in partnerships with a wide variety of non-profit organizations and agencies on promotional videos, TV shows, and event coverage. We provide media production for adults and youth. We would like to partner with youth-serving organizations on youth video workshops. We appreciate our UMass interns who help produce shows, promotions, and public service announcements.

Contact: Wendy Blom, Executive Director
wblom@LTC.org 978-364-5141

Lowell Transitional Living Center
The Lowell Transitional Living Center (LTLC) is a client-centered shelter for homeless adults, which for 30 years has offered short-term housing, food, and support services to those on a journey to permanent housing. We provide the assistance and expertise our clients need to find housing and gain the know-how to stay housed. To do this, we help our clients increase their skills and income potential through education to encourage greater self-determination.

Needs: LTLC is interested in partnerships to expand the services we provide to clients, including our donation center, community meal program, and skill-building workshops.
McAvinnue School
Mission: McAvinnue Elementary School is committed to creating an environment of respect, responsibility, safety and high achievement. We embrace what's best for kids and strive for academic excellence resulting in high gains in student growth and achievement.

Needs: Seeking: We are seeking partners to support and enrich the learning of our wonderfully diverse student body. Volunteers perform a range of activities, including reading with students, helping them with their writing and math, and providing challenges for those who are ready for more.

Contact: Nili Pearlmutter, Math Resource Teacher
npearlmutter@lowell.k12.ma.us 978-937-2871

Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership
The mission of the Merrimack Valley Housing Partnership is to promote responsible and sustainable home ownership opportunities for low and moderate income earners by producing comprehensive training and counseling as well as promoting the use of special mortgage products and down payment assistance programs.

Needs: We have had several UMass interns work in our office as well as students engaged in service learning. We are always open to new people and opportunities.

Contact: Jim Wilde, Executive Director
jim@mvhp.org 978-459-8490

PALS mentoring program at Lowell High School
PALS is a non-profit after school mentoring program available to support high school students towards graduation and/or a career. PALS pairs up college students with high school students for tutoring, early exposure to college and enthusiastic motivation in a peer to peer structured program. We are looking for college students in a big brother/big sister type partnership. We offer supervision, training and other resources.

Needs: Service learning site classes, and/or clubs

Contact: Carla Correa, Director, Founder
ccorrea@lowell.k12.ma.us 978-446-7480

Raising A Reader MA
Raising A Reader MA is an evidence-based early literacy program that helps families of young children (birth through age six) develop, practice, and maintain habits of reading together at home. Our core program model, which both increases access to books and offers support for strengthening the culture
of reading at home, is driven by more than 25 years of research that show the most significant factor impacting a child's academic success is being regularly read to by a parent or other primary adult caregiver before starting kindergarten.

Needs: Primarily seek partnerships related to our mission and/or any administrative or communications support. We have also establish off-the-grid partnerships with community resources that have access to families of young children. Example: adult learning centers, housing complex, teen parent programs, churches, etc. These partners distribute our books and invite their families to our workshops where we share strategies for supporting their children even if the parents are not comfortable with English or reading.

Contact: Tasha Espendez, Merrimack Valley Senior Program Manager
tasha@raisingareaderma.org 978-620-3725

Seven Hills Foundation
To promote and encourage the empowerment of people with significant challenges so that each may pursue their highest possible degree of personal well-being and independence. The vision of the Assistive Technology Department at Seven Hills Foundation is to provide all participants the information and decision making supports necessary to obtain and utilize AT to sustain the highest level of independence in every aspect of their lives.

Needs: Partnerships related to supporting our participants including the the areas of speech and language pathology, occupational therapy, assistive technology, physical therapy, grant writing, and behavioral sciences

Contact: Jean DesRoches, AT Program Director
jdesroches@sevenhills.org 774-633-5887

Solid Waste & Recycling Office, DPW, Lowell
Contact: Gunther Wellenstein, SW&R Manager
gwellenstein@lowellma.gov 978-674-4309

Tsongas Industrial History Center
The Tsongas Industrial History Center is an education partnership between the University of Massachusetts Lowell Graduate School of Education and the National Park Service at Lowell National Historical Park. The mission of the Tsongas Industrial History Center is to inspire connections with and understandings about America's industrial past, present, and future through experiential learning using Lowell's unique resources.

Needs: TIHC seeks to link UMass Lowell faculty and students with the resources of Lowell National Historical Park in ways that serve mutual learning and research needs in areas such as engineering, science, technology, history education, science education, cultural studies, environmental studies, and more. For more information about partnerships: www.uml.edu/UML-LNHP-Partnership.
Western Avenue Studios Artist Association (WASAA)

To use art to engage and improve all of the communities in which WASAA members live and work. To promote community interest in, and support for, Western Avenue Studios. To educate the public as to the importance of art in the community, and in public discourse. To build and maintain an organization of artists, which will provide input into the development of the artist community and facilities, logistical support, and overall assistance with the general activities of the studio.

Needs: Art students, Marketing students, Graphic Design

Contact: Denise Rainis, Chair
deniserainis@gmail.com 978-302-3695