



## Mosaico News February 2010

Happy New Year! It has been a thrilling six months since I took on the role of Executive Director for Mosaico. It has been a real pleasure to meet and work with so many people who are doing so much for the Mosaico community. As I get more comfortable with the many projects and programs that Mosaico sponsors, I am finding my own path and some of the ways that I can make a positive contribution. Many of you may have already seen my letter I sent to introduce myself and to outline my short-term goals for Mosaico (see attached). I will continue to keep you apprised of our progress and achievements. To that end, and to keep costs down, I will use email to send our periodic updates. This is the first of those updates.

### **Board of Directors**

In December, the Mosaico Board of Directors is pleased to announce its newest board member, Tony Teixeira. Tony, recently retired from his position as Assistant Principal at Mt Hope High School, has been an active participant in the Mosaico community for many years. His enthusiasm and dedication to the community is a welcome addition to Board.

### **Sense of Pride**

Lane Sparkman has joined the Mosaico team as coordinator of the popular **Sense of Pride** program where students learn about their local history, unique architecture and about participating in and protecting their community. Some of you may remember Lane as one of the parents who was behind the playground project at Guiteras School. Lane has embraced the goals of Sense of Pride and is working to expand the program to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade in the Town of Warren, working in collaboration with the Warren Preservation Society and the Kickemuit River Council.

In addition to writing a Student Activity Book and Walking Tour Guide for the Warren 4<sup>th</sup> graders, Lane is also raising funds and soliciting sponsorships for this expansion. We are still in need of about \$2500 to fully fund the program materials and student transportation. Sponsors are acknowledged with their name on the back of the neon shirts that the students are given to wear on their tour day and on the back cover of the student books. If you would like to be a volunteer, a sponsor, or make a donation, please send an email to Lane Sparkman, [lanesparkman@cox.net](mailto:lanesparkman@cox.net).

### **Mentoring**

Mosaico is pleased to announce that we have received several grants to support the Mentoring program, including a \$5000 grant from Bank Newport, a \$2000 grant from the Billy Andrade - Brad Faxon Charities for Children Foundation, a \$1000 Legislative Grant from Senator Charles J. Levesque, and a \$500 grant from CVS Caremark Charitable Trust. In addition to these grants, we have also had generous donations from the Town of Bristol, the Bristol Warren Regional School District, the Bristol Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, and the Warren Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force. Without these generous contributions and grants, we would not be able to fund this very important program. Our thanks and appreciation goes out to all of our sponsors.

This year the Kickemuit Middle School Mentoring Program is well underway. But as always, the need for services outweighs the resources available. Currently we have more children in need of mentoring than mentors. Also, program evaluations have demonstrated that the model that is effective with the Middle School youth is

not meeting the needs of the High School youth. This year Mosaico is actively working to develop a “group mentoring model” that will better serve the unique needs of High School Students. This new program development and implementation will require further funding. If you would like to contribute to the Mentoring Program, please contact Mosaico. Every gift is meaningful and will be spent responsibly.

At Mt Hope High School, we have welcomed a new Mentor coordinator, Linda Castigliero, and look forward to working with her. Dale Aubrey and Ed Carusi have been working hard to recruit new mentors to join the program. If you, or someone you know, have an hour a week to share with a child who desperately needs some TLC, please contact us. Thank you for your continued commitment and interest in Mosaico and our Programs.

**Workforce Planning**

Roger Morris and Cathy Goulart are working with Mosaico, the Town of Bristol and the Town of Warren, to create a comprehensive plan that identifies the job opportunities in the areas of green technology, marine trades, and health care, the skills needed to qualify for those jobs and the sources of training for those skills. The plan will be used to help people in the community to acquire those skills and apply for those jobs. Mosaico, with its CDBG grant, will be able to provide some financial assistance in the form of scholarships for people of low to moderate income. If you know of anyone who may be interested in career training in the areas of green technology, marine trades or health care, they can call us at Mosaico, 401 253-4627

**Census Complete Count Committee**

Year 2010 is the year of the Census. This year Mosaico has committed to helping the Town to achieve a complete count. Census data is used by the government when determining funding, grants, and representation. To help with the effort, we have set up a committee of volunteers from the Mosaico community. The Census questionnaires will be arriving in the mail in the middle of March. Mosaico and the Town of Bristol will be coordinating Questionnaire Assistance Centers where citizens can receive help in filling out their forms:

**Questionnaire Assistance Center**

**Schedule: March 22 – April 16**

SITE	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
Mosaico @ the Statehouse	9am -12 noon	9am -12 noon	1-4 pm	4-7pm		9am -12 noon	
St Elizabeth’s auditorium							March 21 8am – 3pm
Benjamin Church Comm. Ctr.				1-3 pm			
EB Food Pantry			3/24 & 3/31 11am to 3pm				

**Miscellaneous News**

Mosaico CDC is taking on an additional role as Statehouse building manager, responsible for the daily management of the physical building and its calendar, booking organizations that may want to use the space for meetings and events.

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