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Community Gathers to Launch MVES' 50th Year

Mystic Valley Elder Services Celebrates 50 Years of Independence for Older Adults and People With Disabilities

Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) kicked off its Golden Anniversary on June 24, launching a yearlong commemoration of five decades of service to older adults, people with disabilities and their caregivers.

To mark this milestone, MVES welcomed community leaders, partner organizations and supporters to Rivers Edge in Medford. The gathering honored the strong partnerships and shared commitment that have made MVES' mission possible. MVES serves Malden, Everett, Revere and eight other communities north of Boston.

Over the past 50 years, MVES has grown from a handful of staff to a team of several hundred, added a team of dedicated volunteers, and expanded the agency's scope of services far beyond its initial Home Care offerings. The nonprofit has provided many thousands of meals, rides, in-home supports, referrals, and more.

"What began in 1975 as a small grassroots effort has become a cornerstone of our community. All of this was possible thanks to our connections and collaborations with the cities and towns we serve, state and local leaders, our community board members, business supporters, nonprofit partners and fellow aging services professionals," explains Lisa Gurgone, MVES Chief Executive Officer. "It was an honor to kick off our 50th celebrations with the people who helped us reach this milestone."

The event included Keynote Speaker Edward Alan Miller, Professor of Gerontology and Chair of Gerontology at UMass Boston, who is also a Melrose resident. Dr. Miller discussed the growing need for long-term support services, both locally and nationwide, and explained how sustained investment and innovation are necessary to meet this challenge.

MA Senator Jason Lewis also addressed the audience. He presented MVES with a Resolution from the Massachusetts Legislature recognizing the agency's history and role in the community.

The MVES executive team and Board of Directors offer their thanks to all who attended, with special recognition for Dr. Miller and Senator Lewis, as well as event sponsors Agero, the Cross Country Group and Preotle, Lane & Associates.

Mystic Valley Elder Services is also celebrating its 50th in several other ways. Visit www.mves.org/mves50 to learn about a series of events in each community MVES serves, nominating an outstanding individual for the MVES Community All-Stars Award, and special upcoming event with a nationally recognized anti-ageism leader. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Questions may also be directed to the MVES Development Department at 781-388-4802 or development@mves.org.