"TESTIMONY for March 3rd, 5P.M. for the Appropriations Secondary Education Sub-Committee"

Submitted By: Bloomfield Intergenerational Senior Volunteers

February 25th, 2015

Dear Senator Bye, Representative Walker, Senator Slossberg, Representative Fleischmann and Members of the Secondary Education Sub-Committee:

We are writing as concerned citizens and volunteer "Grand Pals" in the Town of Bloomfield. Intergenerational groups and activities for senior citizens and youth have been offered for the past 15 years. **We are opposed to the proposed 1.3 million dollar budget cut to Youth Service Bureaus which includes the entire Enhancement Grant Line Item currently in the budget at $620,000 and an approximately $700,000 cut in the Cost Sharing grant that YSBs receive for being a YSB. We oppose the proposed move of the YSB system from SDE to the Department of Children and Families. The move would compromise if not dismantle the data system that uses school outcomes as a measure of success for the youth served by YSBs. The system has been in place for years and significant financial and people hours have been invested in the Results Based Accountability Framework.**

Intergenerational programs that we are involved with include after-school intergenerational clubs, educational/cultural/recreational field trips, and special events such as our Intergenerational Black History Brunch. We support the healthy growth and development of children and families. We volunteer our time and services to strengthen the youth and build a stronger community. We coach, counsel, share our life experiences, motivate and encourage the youth we work with in elementary through high school. We love the kids, the time we spend together and especially the opportunity to be part of their lives. We believe we make a positive impact with every youth that we encounter. We have witnessed firsthand, the changes in their personal maturity. The youth involved in these programs look forward to being with us, they show us their respect and concern for our well-being, and have expressed their love and joy in our lives.

We hope after reading this letter that you recognize how important intergenerational programs and services are in the Town of Bloomfield. We are committed and dedicated to the youth in our community, and we want to continue to fully participate in these programs. Please restore and fully fund the Enhancement Grant and Cost Sharing Grant line items in the CT Department of Education budget, so that Bloomfield and every other community in our state may support and serve the youth and families of Connecticut.

Yours sincerely,

Signature	Printed Name	Address
Dorothy Walker	Dorothy Walker	594 Pk AVE

Comment: please dont cut the budget. We all need the support of the programs. - We love this program!!!

Signature	Printed Name	Address
Willie Mae Dillard	WILLIE MAE DILLARD	12 FERN DRIVE

Comment: We love the Program and Kids

(Page 2 Appropriations Committee Testimony – Bloomfield "Grand Pals")

Leslie Ellis | Leslie Ellis | 8 Bestor LA BL ¢
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: I enjoy the program

Druscilla Williams | Druscilla Williams | 5 Bestor Lane Apt. 61 Bloomfield
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: We want to keep our program - we and the children need it.

Alix Moore | Alix Moore | 7 Kelsey Pl Bloomfield Ct
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: Please dont stop the program keep it alive dont cut

Rae Williams | Rae Williams | 5 S. Barn Hill Rd. Bloomfield, CT 06002
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: Keep program going, please - - too good for everyone

Violet Baccari | Violet Baccari | 115 Tuna Ave
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: Please dont Stop Thank you

Theresa Roussieu | THERESA ROUSSEAU | 6 DOROTHY DRIVE
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: We love the program - Please Dont Cut

Albert Fillmore | ALBERT FILLMORE | 4 BESTER LANE
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: Program is very important to our Senior Group

Henry F. Guilmette | Henry F. Guilmette | 899 Mtn Rd Blyfs Ct.
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment:

Gloria B. Goodman | GLORIA B. GOODMAN | 7 Bestor Lane Apt 50 BLOOMFIELD, CT 06002
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: Seeing the respect from the kids and how they have learned to follow rules and be kind to each other takes them on the path to a better life for all.

(Page 3 Appropriations Committee Testimony – Bloomfield "Grand Pals")

Jimmie Hogan | Jimmie Hogan | 6 Dorothy DR
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment:

Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: Catherine Morris CATHY MORRIS 20 May Lane

Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: DOE NOT CUT the Programs Keepe The Budget ALIVEE

Elizabeth Griggs | Elizabeth Griggs | 20 May Lane
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: Do Not Cut the ~~fed~~ Program, Keep the budget Alive

Margaret Hacia | Margaret Hacia | 250 Woodland Ave
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: We need to Keep our children busy!

Betty Battles | Betty Battles | 4m Dorothy Drive Blmn.
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: Please help us To Keep our children Happy with no Budget cut. Please keep the program going, no budgets cut.

Dorret McLachlan | DORRET McLachlan | 22 Woodford DR, BLFd. CT
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: Evelyn Babella | Evelyn Babella | 14 Barn Hill Rd BLFd CT
Please don't cut the budget. It's a Helps our children

Lawrence McLachlan | LAWRENCE McLachlan | 22 Woodford DR, BLFd. CT
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: Please Keep the program alive And don't cut the Budget.

Carolyn Love | CARolyn Love | 1087 Bluehills Ave BLFD CT 06002
Signature | Printed Name | Address
Comment: Please Keep the program alive For our Children and the Adult This is they Future as well as our We opose to the cut of the Budget. Thank you.

(Page 4 Appropriations Committee Testimony – Bloomfield "Grand Pals")

Luz Bodner — Luz Bodner — 69 Daniel Blvd. Bloomfield, CT
Signature — Printed Name — Address
Comment:

Robert Harris — ROBERT HARRIS — 4 PACKARD ST BLOOMFIELD CT
Signature — Printed Name — Address
Comment:

Florine Harris — Florine Harris — 4 Packard St. Blmfld, CT
Signature — Printed Name — Address
Comment:

Elizabeth A. Washington — Elizabeth A. Washington — 8 Bestor Lane
Signature — Printed Name — Address
Comment:

Alden Baskerville — ALDEN BASKERVILLE — 5 Bestor Ln apt 71
Signature — Printed Name — Address
Comment:

Colleen Middleton - COLLEEN MIDDLETON - 35 WOODLAND AVE