

EV's Annual Community Event: Putting the "Unity" into CommUnity

EVfamilies bring the food. EVkids and their EVcorps tutor/mentors put on the entertainment. It's a winning combination, as the EV Community gathers together to celebrate another year of relationship-building!



EVfamilies helped put the "Unity" into CommUnity



EV Guidance Counselor Marc Montesano joins EVkids on stage



EVcorps tutors from Boston College put on a skit



Senior EVkid Yuliza with her proud mom



EVboard President George Bard and Fr. George Carrigg, pastor of St. Christopher Church, enjoy the show



EV Program Director Lauren Ravello gets some help from EVkids Amara and Andy

EV Giving

- Go to evkids.org to **DONATE** securely. **Monthly or annual pledges** of any amount are welcome and will help us immensely in our planning. All donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law (tax ID 04-2702655).
- Send checks to **Earthen Vessels**, P.O. Box 220502, Dorchester MA 02122.
- We welcome referrals of companies, institutions or other entities who need to recycle computers or electronics with *total* data security. Our **green** partner, Computer Recycling USA, will share ensuing revenues with us for years to come.
- Contact us at info@evkids.org

EV on the Web
evkids.org



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EV News

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"Transforming lives from the university to the inner city"

EVkid Andy Accepted at Northeastern University!

Thanks to you, EVcorps tutor/mentor Jerry Baldino (BC '15) and the EV family celebrated as his senior EVkid match Andy received his acceptance letter to Northeastern University! Andy credits EV with keeping him in school and on track despite many obstacles. Because of your support, he will graduate this Spring from the John D. O'Bryant High School in Roxbury, a Boston exam school, and is excited about starting in Northeastern's Foundation Year program in August.



Jerry Baldino (BC '15) and senior EVkid Andy

Andy's success is all the more impressive in light of the obstacles he has overcome, including homelessness, foster care, and extended absences from school as a result. He now lives with his non-English-speaking grandmother and has taken on a parental role towards his younger siblings. Neighborhood violence is also a constant threat. Just this year, he was assaulted for his sneakers and book bag and had to walk home barefoot, having also lost all his school books, notes, and supplies. Andy credits such adversity as one of his key motivators for pursuing a college education.

Andy has persevered, overcoming many obstacles

Andy has become a mentor too

During his seven years in EV, Andy has blossomed into a young man with natural charisma, leadership, and an enthusiasm for life that is contagious. At every chance, Andy talks with our younger EVkids about grades, school, sports, and life, naturally mentoring them by sharing his experiences. He communicates to them the importance of education and the hard work that is both needed and possible.

EV Guidance Counselor Marc Montesano describes Andy as a determined young man with unlimited potential, who has, and continues to, overcome major life challenges. Please join us in celebrating this remarkable young man's accomplishments and wishing him much success in college and beyond!



Kathleen Koenigs (Harvard '15) and EVkid Ta-Janae are wrapping up four years together



Senior EVkid Moise took center stage for the play at the annual Community Event



Senior EVkid Sarah and Claire Looney (Boston College '15) have been together for two years

Honor Founder Marie-Claude Thompson's 80th Birthday!

In case you needed another little nudge, your **EVcamp Rebuild** donation this month will honor Marie-Claude's 80th birthday on **May 23rd!**

Since 1980, when Marie-Claude and Brian Thompson founded Earthen Vessels to offer a family-style camp experience in rural Vermont to Boston inner-city youth, **EV** and the Thompsons have been hosting **EVkids** for one and two-week camp sessions in rural Vermont every summer. Up until just a year ago when Marie-Claude retired from leading camp at age 79, she was still personally introducing **EVkids** to the feeling of accomplishment derived from hiking up Vermont's highest mountains. **EVstaff** has now taken over camp leadership and the **EV Board** has spearheaded the rebuild of the old camp farmhouse to ensure that **EVcamp** will continue for another 35 years. Help us honor Marie-Claude's three decades-plus of camp leadership providing a safe and nurturing camp experience in the Green Mountains of Vermont to new generations of **EVkids**.

Let's finish the rebuild!



EVkid Deborah gets a goodbye hug at the end of camp

Whether you have experienced it yourself or seen the transformational impact of a camp experience on a young person, please consider marking the occasion of Marie-Claude's 80th birthday with a special donation towards completing the **EVcamp** farmhouse rebuild. It will be meaningful to her, but even more importantly, it will allow the next generation of **EVkids** to experience her vision for nurturing and growth through a challenging rural summer camp experience at **EVcamp** in Granville, Vermont. All donations will be matched (see Rebuild update above). Thank you!

**SAVE THE DATE ! November 7, 2015 at the Charles Hotel
EV's 35th Anniversary Expanding Horizons Gala**



Marie-Claude organizing morning workshops



A spirited game of "St. Pete - St. Paul," a camp favorite

EVcamp Rebuild Nears Completion!

Thanks to you, the **EVcamp Rebuild** is almost complete, spearheaded by Board President George Bard's challenge grant of \$250,000 (half of the rebuild budget). We only have \$34,000 to go for **EVcamp** to open on schedule this summer!

Dozens of **EVkids** have already signed up for this summer's camp sessions. **EVstaff** and camp counselors are ready, too. Please join our final push to make this happen!



Join us for EV's Moving On Celebration!

Saturday May 16, 2015, 10:00-11:30am, Cristo Rey High School, 100 Savin Hill Ave., Dorchester. Refreshments will be served.

Join our **EVkid** graduates moving on from middle and high school, along with our graduating **EVcorps** tutors. Come share in their excitement and accomplishments!

Former **EVkid** Franchesca Caceres (UMassDartmouth '18) will return as alumni speaker.



EV Wins Federal VISTA Grant!

EV will be hosting a full-time Alumni Engagement Advocate starting this summer thanks to the VISTA AmeriCorps service program. Anyone interested in serving for a year with **EV**, reaching out to our **EVkid** and **EVcorps** alumni to garner their input and support, can find the position listing by searching for "EV" at www.my.americorps.gov.