

Men & Boys Fund is celebrating their 5-year anniversary

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BRISTOL – The Men & Boys Fund at Main Street Community Foundation is celebrating their 5-year anniversary with a breakfast event Thursday, June 9 at DoubleTree by Hilton.

Registration and breakfast will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the Hotel at 42 Century Drive, followed by the program starting at 8 a.m. The event will feature two guest speakers, local author, TV host and President of the Bristol Chapter of the NAACP Eric Clemons and Vanessa L. Dorantes, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Children and Families.

Rich Carmelich, chair of the Men & Boys' Fund's Advisory Board, said that Clemons will address how boys can achieve success. He will also share his personal story. Dorantes, Carmelich said, will provide an overview of the specific needs and challenges men and boys in Connecticut face.

"This is sure to be a morning of motivation and inspiration," said Carmelich. "We are so excited for Eric, Vanessa and everyone to join us in celebration of the Fund's first five years as we aim to build an even greater future together."

Proceeds from this event will support grants for programs that improve the quality of life and increase self-sufficiency for men and boys in Bristol, Burlington, Plainville Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott.

"Because of the community's generosity, the Men & Boys' Fund has awarded more than \$36,000 in grants and immediate response funds since its establishment in 2016 as a community-based endowment at Main Street Community Foundation," said Carmelich.

Tickets to the event are \$25 and are now available.

To purchase tickets, send payment to Main Street Community Foundation, P.O. Box 2702, Bristol, CT 06010.

For additional information, call Samantha Rajotte, Scholarship & Program Officer at the Main Street Community Foundation, at 860-583-6363 or email her at samantha@mainstreetfoundation.org.

The 5th Year Anniversary Celebration is sponsored by Barnes Group Foundation as the Platinum Sponsor as well as the generous contributions of many other businesses, organizations and individuals.



Eric Clemons, president for the Bristol chapter of the NAACP. -FILE PHOTO

"We have been able secure more than \$15,000 in sponsorships including the Barnes Group, D'Amato Construction, and Merrill Lynch," said Chris Amorosino, member of the Men & Boys' Fund Advisory Board.

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