

April 30, 2025

Dear Honorable Town Council Members,

I am thrilled to announce the launch of the Bristol-Warren Village (BWV), a membership-driven, volunteer staffed community organization working collaboratively to help member residents stay in the Bristol and Warren communities as they age. BWV does this by offering activities and services that minimize isolation and support independent living, such as providing rides to appointments/ events, assistance with errands, in home technology assistance, handy help at home, and friendly calls/visits. As a dues-paying membership organization, we work collaboratively with existing services to supplement programs already in place in town.

BWV is one of 12 local villages across Rhode Island, all of which are supported by The Village Common of Rhode Island (TVCRI), a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation that provides support, guidance, infrastructure, and system access to local Villages.

The BWV Steering Committee, consisting of local Bristol and Warren volunteers, has been working hard this past year to make this happen, and the time and effort invested by a dedicated group of resident volunteers to get things ready for this launch has been amazing. Now with over 50 volunteers and over a dozen members, our new organization is ready to begin making a difference.

Now that we have launched our village, of our top priorities is to inform the community of both who we are and of how we leverage our neighbors-helping-neighbors approach in helping seniors. It's in that spirit that we are reaching out to you, to make you aware of this new initiative.

Membership enrollment has begun, with a team of "Ambassadors" handling all the inquiries that are starting to come in either by email at bristol-warren@villagecommonri.org or by phone (401-206-5939). We are beginning to schedule informational sessions highlighting the Villages' services at a variety of public venues as well as private neighborhood get togethers. Social media sites popular among Bristol and Warren residents are starting to cover BWV news/updates.

Things are starting to happen. Our goal was to launch by summer but with the level of volunteer interest and enthusiasm we have had, we are starting now!

Anyone who knows a Bristol or Warren senior who could benefit from membership should inquire at the phone number or email address above.

Anyone interested in having an informational presentation scheduled for a group/organization, please email Craig Evans at craigharveyevans@gmail.com.

With thanks,

Craig Evans

80 Aaron Avenue, Bristol RI



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