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The Bristol Public Library and Bristol Senior Center Receive Life-Saving Devices to Protect the Community

(BRISTOL, CT: July 29, 2020) – The Bristol Public Library and the Bristol Senior Center were the recent recipients of Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) funded by a grant awarded to the City of Bristol from the Main Street Community Foundation. The grant helped to fund the purchase of three AEDs to help protect the welfare of the libraries’ patrons and the Senior Center community. The grant was made possible through the Bristol Brass General Grant Fund, the Ronald & Emile P. Duhaime Family Fund and the Tedesco-Gallant Charitable Fund at Main Street Community Foundation.

When Harley Graime, Director of Emergency Management for the City of Bristol was made aware that the Bristol Public Library, which has two locations: the Main Library, located on High Street and the F.N. Manross Memorial Library, located on Central Street did not have life-saving equipment at either location he applied for a grant through the Main Street Community Foundation’s general grant cycle. In addition, it was noted that the Bristol Senior Center only had one AED. It was imperative that each of these public locations, which serves a large population of the community and senior citizens, have AEDs in order to save lives if the need should ever arise.

AED devices are designed to provide defibrillation to persons suffering from sudden cardiac arrest. They are easy to use and can be very effective in saving lives.

“We noted that neither of the Bristol libraries had an AED device and that the Senior Center, which caters to a large senior population, had only one,” stated Harley Graime, Director of Emergency Management for the City of Bristol. “This was an ideal opportunity to provide this life-saving equipment and serve the Bristol community.”

“We are grateful to the Main Street Community Foundation for awarding this grant to the City of Bristol in order to receive an AED for each of our library locations,” stated Deborah Prozzo, Library Director. “Having these life-saving devices in our libraries will give our patrons the peace of mind knowing that we can help save a life if the need should ever arise.”

“As we continue to serve a larger senior population it was imperative we obtain an additional AED to ensure the safety of everyone who attends the many activities and events at the Senior Center,” stated Patricia Tomascak, Senior Center Executive Director. “We are grateful to Harley for recognizing this need and to the Main Street Community Foundation for providing the grant to fund the purchase for this additional AED.”

Photo Attached



Photo Caption: *Deborah Prozzo, Bristol Public Library Director (on the right) along with Senior Center Assistant Director Jason Krueger accept the grant check with Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu (center). Also in attendance in back from left to right: Harley Graime, Emergency Management Director for the City of Bristol; Samantha Rajotte of the Main Street Community Foundation; and Scott Stanton, Bristol Public Library Assistant Director.*

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