



## PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### September 18<sup>th</sup> Family Camp Out Provides Residents with Opportunity to Stay Overnight at Muzzy Field

Bristol, CT – On Saturday, September 18, 2021, the City of Bristol Department of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services (BPRYCS) is hosting the first ever Family Camp Out at Muzzy Field.

As part of the All Heart Pop Up Parks series, residents and local youth are invited to enjoy a night sleeping under the stars at Muzzy Field while enjoying lawn games, family activities, and a PG rated movie when it's dark! BPRYCS staff will lead activities, such as crafts, scavenger hunts, and giant games. Following the evening's movie, the facility will be locked down for the evening from lights out until the morning. There will be light refreshments at the Farewell Breakfast beginning at 6:00 am prior to guest departure from Muzzy Field by 7:00 am.

The Department's Deputy Superintendent, Sarah Larson, shared her excitement, "I've been looking forward to this all summer. As the culminating event in the Pop-Up Parks series, we're looking to cap the it off in a really fun way with a few special surprises."

Tents are available at no cost for interested residents and community members and can be reserved when registering for the All Heart Pop-Up Parks' event at [www.BristolRec.com](http://www.BristolRec.com). Participants also have the option to supply their own tents. Staff encourage interested families to bring blankets, pajamas, flashlights and lanterns and get ready for a great time in the outdoors with family and friends. Space is limited and interested participants are asked to register early. Each household/registrant will receive an assigned space following registration.

"This will be our first time doing an overnight event and I'm excited to see how it's received," stated Community Engagement Coordinator, Erica Benoit. "As part of the larger Pop-Up Parks series, this may only be offered once, but if community members and the youth enjoy the experience it would be awesome to see it grow into an annual event," continued Benoit.

Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services has partnered with the Main Street Community Foundation's Broad View Fund in order to bring free "Pop-Up" events to neighborhood parks in order to strengthen families and neighbors, engage underutilized spaces to enhance visibility and safety, and strengthen the sense of community for all residents - regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.

Larson explained, "The funding from the All Heart Pop-Up Parks series has allowed us to invest in supplies and resources that we can further utilize for programs and events moving forward. We'll be bringing back a lot of the elements from the other Pop-Up events to help us close out the series."

Registration, Camp Out information, and Camp Out FAQs are available at [www.BristolRec.com](http://www.BristolRec.com). The cutoff date to register is Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00 pm.