

For immediate release: June 21, 2021  
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**LUTHERAN JAMESTOWN HOLDS AMERICORPS SENIOR RECOGNITION EVENT**  
***Foster Grandparent Volunteers Recognized for Giving Back***

The Lutheran Foster Grandparent Program recently hosted its annual volunteer appreciation luncheon – *Nifty and the Fifties* – classic sock hop, milkshake and burger soiree to thank the commitment of its volunteers at the close of the school year.

It serves over 150 children each year in classrooms throughout Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties. From June 2022 through July 2023 a total of 45 Foster Grandparents dedicated close to 20,000 volunteer hours to 16 local sites including elementary school up to third grade, Head Start and day care centers.

“AmeriCorps Seniors offers special opportunities for individuals of all backgrounds to be a part of our volunteer community, grow personally and professionally, and receive benefits for their service,” said Kevin Saff, Lutheran Jamestown Director, RSVP and Foster Grandparents Program. “We are collectively helping to improve the lives of our children with role models and friends helping with tutoring, social development and mentoring. None of this happens without the commitment of these dedicated volunteer leaders.”

The Lutheran Foster Grandparent Program provides a way for volunteers to stay active by serving children and youth in their communities. South Chautauqua County elementary school locations include Bush, Love, Paul BD Temple, Ring, Robert H Jackson and Southwestern. North Chautauqua County locations include Campus & Community Children’s Center and Connections North.

AmeriCorps, is the federal agency for national service and volunteerism. Each year, the agency places more than 140,000 AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers, age 55 and over, in service roles within community organizations dedicated to helping others. Learn more at [AmeriCorps.gov](http://AmeriCorps.gov) or visiting [Lutheran-jamestown.org](http://Lutheran-jamestown.org).

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Beth Pearson, Lutheran FGP Project Support Staff, Lutheran Chaplain Pastor Laura Csellak and Michael Zanghi, Lutheran FGP Project Support Staff enjoyed creating the *Nifty in the Fifties* Recognition Event.