

Rotary District 6900 – Grant ID 676

Project Accomplishments and Continuing Impact Narrative

Vinings Cumberland Rotary Club

Project Title

Breaking Down Intergenerational Loneliness by Creating Connections (Grant ID 676)

Purpose and Community Need

Vinings Cumberland Rotary Club launched this initiative to reduce intergenerational loneliness by building meaningful, structured connections between students and older adults. The project is designed to strengthen community well-being by creating consistent opportunities for participants to engage, learn from one another, and form relationships that increase connection and decrease isolation.

What We Have Done (Progress to Date)

1) Established the partnership framework and execution plan.

Our club completed the planning and coordination needed to execute the project in an organized and sustainable manner. This included stakeholder alignment, scheduling, logistics, documentation, and ongoing coordination across Rotary members and our partner organizations to ensure the program experience was well-supported.

2) Delivered technology enablement to make connection possible.

Grant funds were used to secure devices that allow LifeSpan participants to join virtual sessions and remain connected across the series. The original estimate was \$1,600 for devices, and Mobile Finity Inc. accommodated our needs by providing **nine devices** for the same previously estimated price of **\$1,600**, which increased the number of participants who can reliably engage without increasing cost.

3) Initiated the engagement series and demonstrated early momentum.

We began the collaboration series on **Sunday, March 28**, launching with a session focused on **Technology**. This kickoff established the cadence and confirmed readiness across the participants and partners. The March 28 start also reflects that this work is active, visible, and already underway.

4) Documented meaningful volunteer investment and broad member participation.

Our club has recorded **64 total volunteer hours** to date, reflecting planning, coordination, logistics,

documentation, and partner engagement. The hours log also shows participation from a diverse mix of club members, which is a key strength of this initiative and will remain central to sustainability going forward.

5) Ensured Rotary visibility and public image alignment.

Rotary-branded materials and signage have been prepared and used in sessions to date and will continue to be used in future meetings. This supports recognition of Rotary's leadership and reinforces the Rotary public image component of the project as it grows.

Program Focus Areas (What Participants Will Experience)

This initiative will focus on **Careers, Education, Technology, Goal Setting, Self-Confidence, Gratitude, and Resilience**. The groups will blossom through mutual **Connection, Laughter, and Learning**. These topics create a structured, repeatable format that supports both intergenerational relationship-building and personal development outcomes across the series.

How This Will Continue in the Future (Sustainability and Ongoing Commitment)

This project is designed as an ongoing relationship and program model, not a one-time activity. Vinings Cumberland Rotary Club will continue to provide:

- **Devices and guidance** that enable LifeSpan participants to participate consistently and confidently
- **Ongoing volunteers from our club** to support both the series sessions and LifeSpan events, ensuring continuity of relationship-building
- **A diverse set of Rotarians**, similar to what is already demonstrated in the volunteer hours log, to sustain capacity, rotate participation, and strengthen long-term engagement
- **Consistent Rotary presence and visibility** through continued use of Rotary-branded materials and communications

This approach ensures that impact grows over time through repetition, shared experiences, and continued volunteer involvement, with the program structure expanding as participation deepens.

Kennrod Participation Note (Original Plan and Future Opportunity)

In the original grant concept, the Kennrod group expressed interest in joining the collaboration. While the timing did not work for Kennrod to participate during this phase, we did communicate with them, including engagement with **Kelley Gacutum**, and Kennrod participation remains a strong possibility for future cycles as schedules align and the program expands.

Key Participants and Partners

Vinings Cumberland Rotary Club key participants:

Jolene Northrop, Jennifer Humphrey, Brant Campbell, Kelly Gacutum, Shawn Bendig, Tony Lazzaro, Ann Hudgins, Chanel Reid, Donnell Johnson, and Jamie Clark

LifeSpan partnership and planning:

In-depth planning and coordination with LifeSpan's **Kerry Thomas** has supported the structure, scheduling, and execution of the program.

Technology and device partner:

Mobile Finity Inc. supported the project from a technology and device perspective and accommodated our needs by enabling nine devices within the originally estimated \$1,600 device budget.