

NFLL Communications Report

September 2024

- We continue to submit posts for MCC's intranet site.
 - October – Open House
 - November – another of the classes
 - December – holiday party
- Dan Taylor is going to see if we can give a presentation to the retiree group in Las Sendas. There was an recent article in their paper which highlighted NFLL.
- Will be contacting the TBird Times (MCCs newspaper) to talk about an article in their paper (this will happen when students are back at school in the fall).
- Aster Center has agreed to have some of our brochures, newsletters at their table at the Healthy Living Event in November. We did not pursue this event because the cost of a table was \$700.
- We have been invited to make a presentation about NFLL to the Mesa Regal Technology User group (55+ folks who are interested in technology). The date is February 18, 1:30 pm.

Friendship Village (FV) meeting

The meeting was arranged because Cole Marvin, FV Exec Director contacted Kathleen Perales. His email:

My name is Cole Marvin and I am the Executive Director at Friendship Village Tempe, your neighbor on the West side of the canal that divides Mesa/Tempe. I have been here at the Village for about 17 years and not sure how familiar you might be and or not familiar at all. We are a senior living community with about 800 residents living on our 50 acre campus. We are home to more than 70 people who are retired from being university professors and even more educators that taught at the K through 12 level. We have about 560 staff members and many of which are attending MCC, ASU and other local community colleges. Our Foundation has a scholarship program which allows many of our employees to get an education without being saddled with debt upon graduation. In addition, we have lifelong learner residents that attend classes that support their passion for learning.

I was talking to our Residents Council President who attended MCC for a performing arts program that he points towards as it relates to his incredible public speaking skills. He was telling about the incredible programs you folks put on, the most recent being the Hunchback of Notre Dame. All of that to say that I would really like to reach out in hopes of building a strong working relationship with MCC as our neighbor and partner. I believe we are missing out on many opportunities and would like to see if I could make contact and ultimately host some of MCC's leaders here at the Village for lunch and get to know one another better. Prior to COVID I had hosted a previous

President for lunch secondary to a close relationship that one of our residents have. That has since come to pass and thought making contact with you might be my best chance to building the bridge. Please let me know what you think and we can proceed accordingly.

A meeting was held Sept. 24 (11:00-1:00) at Friendship Village. Jennifer Fay (MCC) was invited as she is in the process of establishing a program partnership with Friendship Village. Cindy Schrantz was invited to represent New Frontiers for Lifelong Learning and possible community engagement via active adult education, and Christos Chronos (MCC) represented the MCC administration.

Christos sent the following to Cole regarding our conversation:

Hi Cole, it was so nice to be with you earlier this week. Jen, Cindy, and I appreciated your hospitality, brief tour, and the fantastic lunch we shared at Friendship Village.

We also enjoyed the opportunity to share some of our common backgrounds and interests, as well as discuss the short- and long-term partnership possibilities for Friendship Village and Mesa Community College.

As we discussed, there are many ways to foster this relationship including, but not limited to, providing employee development opportunities and creating meaningful engagement experiences between Friendship Village residents, MCC students, staff, and faculty.

Based on our discussion it is our understanding that you would be unpacking our meeting with your team and would be reaching out regarding the next steps.

Cindy's overview of the three areas we collectively determined we would focus on:

1) Friendship Village employees - helping them see the value of a college degree and assisting with getting them enrolled in a program that's right for the employee. Many would be first generation students.

2) MCC students - defining opportunities for students to be at Friendship Village as part of their education. Jen already has started this with the health care.

3) Friendship Village residents - education opportunities and ways to support the college through New Frontiers, since this program has a long-time established connections within MCC.

At this time we are waiting for Cole to schedule the next meeting with some of the Friendship Village staff.