

Bridgewell shares \$1.8M grant with North Shore groups

LYNNFIELD

By DAVID LISCIO

THE DAILY ITEM

Three non-profit organizations on the North Shore, including Lynnfield-based Bridgewell, Inc., will share a \$1.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to help buy or renovate rental housing units.

The grant was announced Wednesday by U.S. Rep. John F. Tierney, a Salem Democrat, who noted the funds were made available to ensure that housing



Tierney

in towns and cities across the North Shore remains accessible to low-income people with disabilities for at least 40 years.

"Making sure that disabled individuals have housing that meets their needs and allows them to live independently is a vitally important job," Tierney said. "This grant will allow these organizations to assist those citizens that need help."

The other organizations sharing the grant are American Training, Inc. and North

Shore Arc Inc.

Bridgewell is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and helping individuals with disabilities to direct their own lives, achieve personal and professional success and remain active participants in society. It provides services to individuals each day throughout the North Shore and Merrimack Valley.

"Bridgewell is pleased to have the opportunity to develop new, fully-accessible housing units for individuals with developmental disabilities," said Robert S. Stearns, the chief executive officer.

American Training Inc. offers education, training and support services at 15 sites in nine towns on the North Shore. Started in Lawrence, it has been expanding across the region ever since.

North Shore Arc Inc. was founded in the 1950s as a small group of dedicated parents and siblings of individuals with disabilities and has grown to provide services statewide. It offers personal assistance and early intervention services to individuals in need.

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