



2025 IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES CALA

DIGITAL PROGRAM BOOK

Welcome from the President & CEO

Dear Friends,

We appreciate you being here with us tonight and we are grateful for your ongoing support of Bridgewell.

Thank you to Bridgewell's Board of Directors and our staff for their commitment and tireless efforts each day, our valued sponsors and donors who help make this night possible, and the Gala Planning Committee



volunteers and staff who have worked so hard to make tonight a special celebration.

This evening, we will be sharing stories of our team's commitment to caring, and celebrating the important work they do each day. They help **inspire and empower the people in our care** to set goals and work toward them with support, guidance, and resources. They help people aspire to achieve more than they may have ever imagined could be possible.

I am so proud to lead this organization and our caring, dedicated team, but what inspires me most is the progress made – and the milestones achieved – by people in our services each day. Each year, Bridgewell's team serves **more than 7,200 people** facing life challenges, from autism to substance use disorder, across eastern Massachusetts.

Without you and other supporters of our vital mission, the people we serve would not be able to accomplish all they do. Enjoy yourselves tonight and know that your generous donations are appreciated and will be put to very good use, directly benefiting people in our services.

Thank you for your partnership and support. Thank you for caring.

Christopher Tuttle President & CEO

Evening Program

Cocktail Reception, Raffle & Silent Auction

Welcome: Emcee Katie Thompson, WCVB

Introduction: President & CEO Christopher Tuttle

Excellence in Service Award Presentation

8:15 pm – Online Auction Closing!

Keynote Speaker:

Geoff Knowlton, Clinician, Bridgewell Counseling Services

2025 Gala Video: A Commitment to Caring

Fund a Need Auction: Katie Thompson & Chris Tuttle

2025 Chart Your Course Raffle Drawing: Katie Thompson

Closing Remarks: Board Chair Kerry Ann Hayon

Fund a Need and Online Auction Check Out



We are honored to support Bridgewell and their commitment to helping individuals in need. We wish you the best in your continued efforts to strengthen our community.

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Congratulations to Bridgewell for over 60 years of providing essential high-quality services and connecting people with possibilities!

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About Bridgewell

Bridgewell delivers support through community housing, day programs, outpatient behavioral health treatment, recovery services, education and employment training and transportation services.

We're committed to helping people in need, from those with autism to people with substance use disorders, become engaged members of their communities. Bridgewell is also the industry leader in developing innovative offerings in response to unmet or emerging needs.





Support Bridgewell by purchasing a raffle ticket for the Chart Your Course raffle!

Win a luxurious five-star cruise for two of up to 7 days through Holland American Cruiselines, in an ocean view stateroom, to Alaska, the Caribbean, Mexico or New England/Canada, including extraordinary dining, spacious staterooms, elegant surroundings and days filled with new discoveries and pampering by an award-winning crew.

Purchase a raffle ticket for \$100 for your chance to win. Only 100 tickets will be sold, increasing your odds – and your donation will help support connecting people with possibilities at Bridgewell! Buy your tickets today!

Buy your ticket before dinner! Find a raffle volunteer or visit the registration table.

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Christopher Tuttle, President & CEO

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Emcee Katie Thompson

Katie Thompson is the Traffic Anchor and Transportation Specialist for WCVB NewsCenter 5's top-rated EyeOpener weekday newscasts, covering the region's critical transportation and commuter news including breaking stories on travel and infrastructure.

Katie is a New England native who was born and raised in Kennebunk, Maine. She began her career in Boston more than a decade ago as a production assistant and is proud to work in a city she calls her second home.



Katie is a graduate of Hofstra University where she studied broadcast journalism. In her spare time, Katie loves to spend time with her family in Maine and her extended family in Massachusetts.



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Excellence in Service Award

Bridgewell is pleased to honor Bob MacDonald and Frank DiTucci of MacDonald & Vaccaro Insurance Agency with the *Excellence in Service* Award for their longstanding support of Bridgewell's mission and partnership over the past 20 years.

"It is such a pleasure to honor Bob and Frank for their unwavering integrity, commitment and service to the Bridgewell community for over two



decades," said Bridgewell President and CEO Christopher Tuttle.
"Their service to the organization has gone well beyond ensuring that we have insurance coverage for our programs. We have worked together for so many years because Bob and Frank have proven that they are invested in our mission, and they've worked to earn our trust."

The Excellence in Service Award recognizes individuals or organizations for their outstanding support of Bridgewell, a community or a social cause. The award is intended to honor those making a positive difference in their communities and inspiring others to do the same.

MacDonald & Vaccaro

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Keynote Speaker: Geoffrey Knowlton, Bridgewell Counseling Services

Geoffrey Knowlton has worked for Bridgewell as a Staff Clinician for 18 years, currently based at our Bridgewell Counseling Services clinic in Lowell.

Geoff works with clients of all ages, but he specializes in psychotherapy with traumatized children in the foster care system. He started his career as a mental health counselor, then became an ordained pastor, and he served as



a Congregational Pastor for more than 20 years before returning to behavioral health as a clinician with Bridgewell.

In 2019, Geoff was honored with a *Rodger Hebert Quality of Care* Award, named after a loyal and devoted Bridgewell employee who had spent his career supporting people with disabilities. The award is presented to an employee who demonstrates the qualities that most defined Rodger's commitment to people with disabilities.

In the nomination, it read "Geoff believes strongly in helping clients empower themselves, and works with them to find the tools to help them achieve their goals." Geoff grew up in Vermont and has spent most of his life in northern New England. He is a published poet and author.



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We're bringing person-focused organizations together to solve our most pressing challenges and building the network that will propel the provider community forward.

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2025 Fund a Need

Education & Technology - \$2,500

Technology devices are important aids for many people with autism and other disabilities in our day and residential programs. We have a need for adaptive equipment, sensory tools, laptops and tablet computers, software and curriculum materials to help build communication and life skills to help those we serve make connections and live more independent lives.

Health & Wellness - \$1,000

Taking care of the body, mind and spirit is a priority in our Bridgewell programs. This can take many forms, such as art, animal or music therapy; exercise equipment for our day programs, fitness classes and gym memberships, sports leagues and other recreational activities and games; and therapy tools such as sketch books, journals, yoga and meditation classes.

A Sense of Home – \$500

Many people in our care have very limited resources, so basic items such as toiletries, linens, towels, diapers, formula, clothing and groceries are often considered luxuries. Necessities like transportation to therapy or a job can be out of reach. Donating to the A Sense of Home package provides items that people in our therapy, recovery and affordable housing programs need to help them get started on a new path in life.



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2025 Fund a Need

Enriching Experiences – \$250

People in our services have dreams and aspirations, and goals they are striving to reach. Enrichment at Bridgewell could be tickets to a show or a game, an aquarium or museum membership; a party with friends and family to celebrate a milestone; pottery, music or art sessions. This category will also help fund our annual Bridgewell Formal – a dinner and dancing event that we started last year for people in our services.

Care & Connection - \$100

Show your commitment to caring by giving a gift of \$100 to support Bridgewell's vital programming, connecting more people with possibilities! Help our team continue to inspire and empower the people in our services.

Bridgewell Mission

Bridgewell inspires hope and empowers people experiencing life challenges to achieve their fullest potential.

Bridgewell Vision

To be unwavering in the pursuit of dignity and opportunity for all who face life challenges.

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Programs and Services

Autism and Disability Services: Community Housing, Day Programs and Employment Supporting people with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities through community housing, day programs, employment services and other offerings aimed at empowering them to live safe, self-directed and productive lives.

Behavioral Health Services

Comprehensive treatment for children and adults challenged with psychiatric and sometimes developmental disabilities. Services include outpatient treatment, medication management, counseling, education, evaluation, along with other support.

Professional Development

Through Bridgewell's Center for Professional Development, we offer continuing education for mental health and healthcare professionals and educators through workshops and conferences on a variety of clinical and management topics.







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Programs and Services

Homelessness and Housing Services

Housing programs include counseling focused on supporting people who are homeless and starting a new path in life. Bridgewell provides safe, affordable housing options for very-low income people and families.

Recovery Services

Each person with a substance use disorder requires a different mix of services: counseling, community and recovery housing, and job placement. We work in coordination with area hospitals, the criminal justice system, and community agencies to identify people in need and put them on the path to recovery.







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