

VOICES OF **Social Call**

*A "zine" by you and your friends in
the Social Call Community*




THANK YOU for being a part of the Social Call Community!

Social Call fosters a sense of belonging by thoughtfully matching volunteers and older adults for weekly phone or video visits full of exploration, perspective shifts, and caring conversation. Matches are made through a careful onboarding process, ensuring the opportunity for a meaningful relationship to form.

In early 2020, we worked on a project with an advisory group of Social Call volunteers and participants. During these conversations, an idea rose to the top – how could we imaginatively map our Social Call community, to see matches outside of our own? What if we had some type of collaborative, creative newspaper? In 2021, we invited all participants and volunteers to join us in this creative journey. Together, we've created this 'zine' (pronounced like magazine) – an artistic medium that functions like a self-published, do-it-yourself magazine with visual artwork, poems, stories, etc.

To create beautiful conversations and fodder for the 'zine, we partnered with another Front Porch program, Creative Spark.



They provided us with creative prompts that guided us all to make engaging, exploratory art and conversations around identity.

We hope you enjoy these fabulous submissions from your peers in Social Call & can see that you are a part of something larger - a beautiful, vibrant community!

Please let us know what you think of the 'zine! We always welcome your feedback, and if we have support to do this again in the future, we hope you and your Social Call partner will feel inspired to contribute.

In Gratitude & Celebration,
Katie, Casey, Karen, Michelle, Amber, & Richard, Social Call staff

Please send thoughts, praise, and feedback to your manager:

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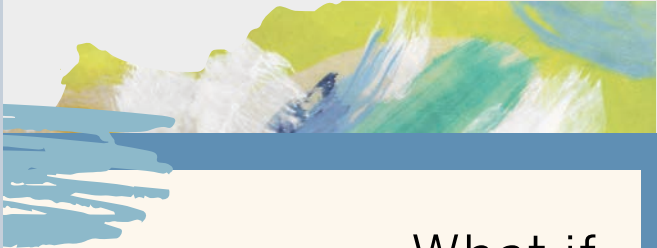
Amber Dean
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What If?

What if the courtyard
could bring you
singing?

What if the sounds
of the Pacific Ocean
could take you to the
sky?

-Dina, Participant



What if
the rose bushes
could bring you
living in the moment?

What if
the sounds of traffic
could take you to your
love?

Elyse, Volunteer

My Many Selves



Amber, Staff

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What is a Friend?

To me, a friend is one
who accepts you for what you are
And not for what you have
One who will not try to change you
in any way

One you can turn to
when you are in need
And will not accept pay
But his reward is a nice
thank you very much.

Sidney, Participant

A Window Into Your World!



Mila shopping at one of her favorite Russian stores. She usually buys me piroshkis.

"I am passionate about animals, because they are very loyal. I prefer dogs."



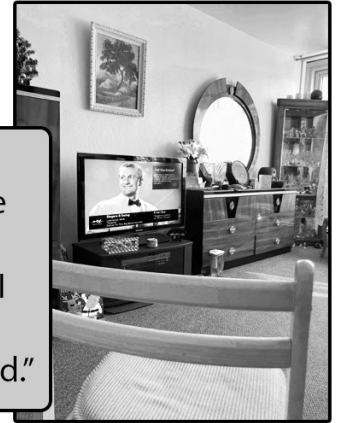
The chair I sit in while we watch Lifetime movies.



The front door I see every week that I have the pleasure of seeing Mila.

"Friends bring me joy because when I communicate with friends, it boosts my mood."

"I can't live without music. I listen to it every day, from the morning until the evening. My favorite is Big Band music; I love Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, and Jimmie Lunceford."



The music channel playing on her television

**Mila & Roslyn,
Matched since 2019 - when we
used to do in-person matches!**

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Portraits of Friendship, Community & Sisterhood



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**Beverly,
Participant**



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How About a Limerick?

There once was a guy with a torch
Not careless, not even a scorch
With reverence to living things all
Especially Covia Social Call
Also known to many as Front Porch!

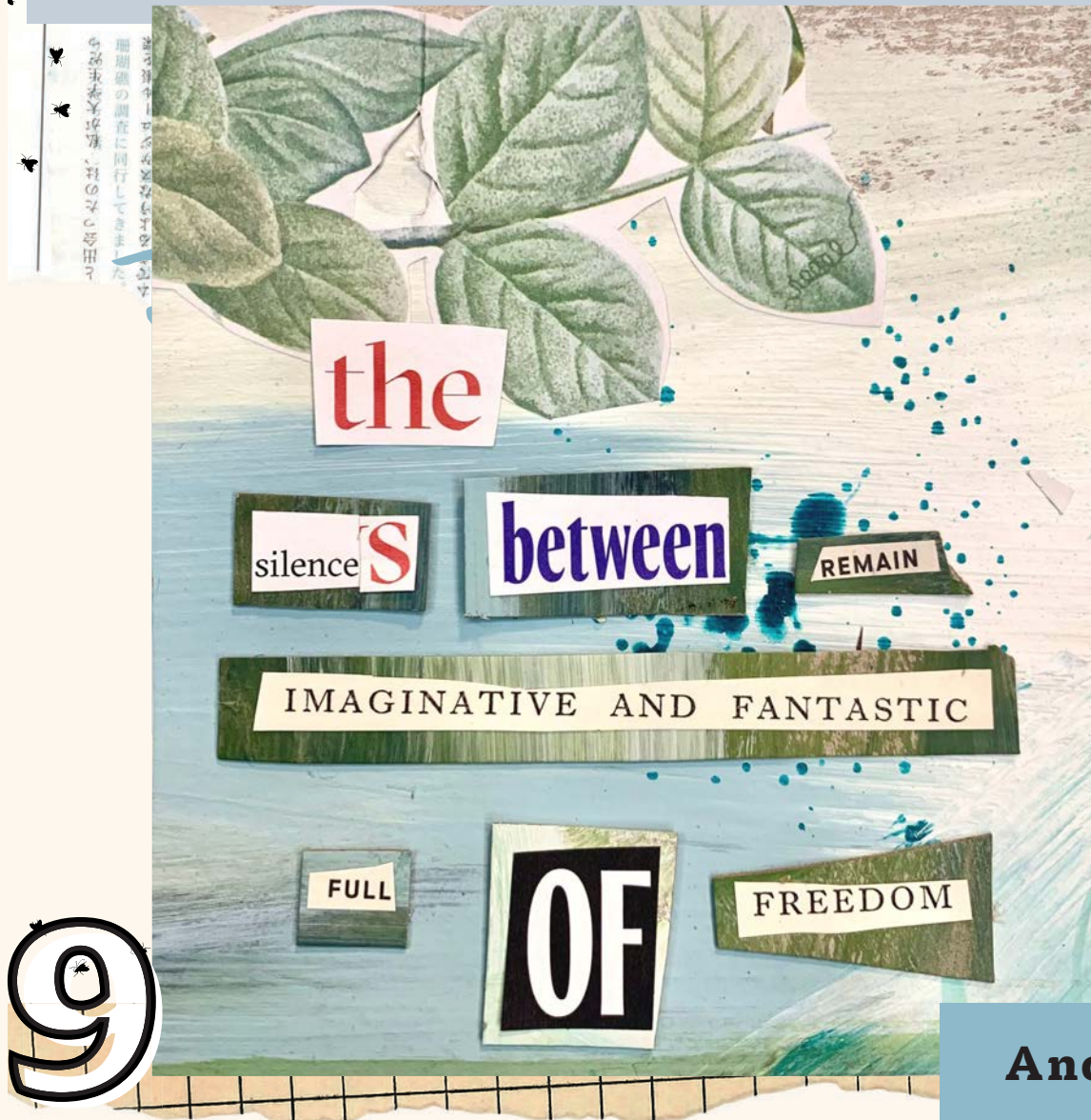


**David,
Participant**

There once was a person so bright
So witty and full of delight
His name was David
All the factoids he save -ed
And filled his friends hearts up like
Sprite

**Amber,
Staff**

What is your message to the world?



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Anonymou

What does community mean to you?

“Just as I wish to, may you be safe, may you be healthy, may you live with ease and happiness.”

I keep coming back to this thought that I am not alone in this Universe. We all share similar stressors, anxieties, fears, joys, and hope in this life. You are me and I am you. This awareness of connection creates comfort and a wondrous flow of peace.

How beautiful that all walks of life are coming together as one voice to celebrate transformation, truth, and authentic connection. The awakening of “Loving Kindness” is prevalent. It may appear naïve, however, there is great empowerment in being kind. To wish another to be safe, to be healthy and to live with ease and happiness is truly selfless.

How significant it is for all of us to love ourselves and each other so much that we only want the best in life for each other.

When we hear community, it takes on a new meaning entirely. Community is loving kindness. Community is the action of love. Community is giving. Community is egoless. Community is you and me simply.

Next time you witness your neighbor struggling, quietly whisper...

“Just as I wish to, may you be safe, may you be healthy, may you live with ease and happiness.”

Kim & Lawrence, SC Match

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Word Play

Lost at Sea

I fell into the sea
And hear waves
From the lighthouse
I see pearls
Because smiling
Was once as challenging
As swimming

Laughing & Chirping

For me, birds
are promises of
sunshine.
For me, laughter
lay the path
to wisdom.

Indy, Participant

A word cloud of 100 words related to childhood, arranged in a circular pattern. The words are in various colors and orientations, creating a vibrant and nostalgic visual. The words include:


- LOVE
- PEACE
- REFLECTING
- SCENT OF FRESH RAIN
- LIGHTNING BUGS
- HUGS
- SWEET CORN
- LAUGHS
- ROADS
- GIFTING
- BUBBLES
- BASEBALL
- THE COUNTRY
- SMILES
- SLEEP
- ADVENTURES
- STREAMS
- FRIENDS
- TURTLES
- FAMILY
- PRAYER
- WHISKEY
- DRIVE IN
- WIDE OPEN SPACES
- SHENANIGANS
- COFFEE
- COLOR
- JESUS
- SUNSHINE
- RENDERS
- TIME
- KENNEL
- NORKE
- GRACE
- DANCING
- PUDDLES
- COMEDIES
- RAIN
- KINDNESS
- UNUSUAL
- FLOWERS
- AT
- POPPERS
- IRIS
- WINTER
- HUNTER
- BAY
- PUDDLES
- COMEDIES
- RAIN
- KINDNESS
- UNUSUAL
- FLOWERS
- AT
- POPPERS
- IRIS
- WINTER
- HUNTER
- BAY

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What does Social Call mean to you?

First and foremost, my favorite thing about Social Call is all the warm and friendly people who call me up and wish me well! It is so refreshing to hear a caring and gracious person on the other end of the line - instead of some nagging telemarketer or other scam artist, who often ring my phone off the hook and run me around ever since I reached Retirement age. I mean, it seems like someone's declared "Open Season" on us Seniors ...





...So, it's a great relief to hear from a person who wants to engage me in neighborly conversation, a rare bird, nowadays, who's not trying to buy and sell me, but is genuinely interested in my well-being.

The Social Call folks have helped me bring my life full circle and reminded me of being part of a nurturing community, again!

Eric, Participant

"Beautiful Question" Prompts

If your feet could talk, what would they say?

Help me

Good thing I have no
nose

What is the greatest gift you have received?

Love

A jacket
my friend made for me

How do you celebrate who you are?

By being happy &
sharing it

By being
myself

Lyndi, Participant

Sanya, Volunteer

What is peace?

It's a cat's tail, poking
out from underneath a
box

Where can we find joy?

In shoes that imbue
you with the confidence
of a rock star

Where in the world is Carmen San Diego?

In a soft, gentle cloud
of laughter

**Katie, Michelle, & Casey,
Staff**

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Linda, Participant

If I could fly,
I would fly over the land
and maybe end up near the sand.
Somewhere near the ocean and the sea
where the sounds of the waves
rock you to sleep.
And the water is very deep
just like my thoughts often creep.
Into my fantasy world
which seems very real to me.
But it is always near the sea
where I want to be.
I close my eyes
and I can see the beautiful
amazing sea.



Self Portraits



Casey,
Staff



Katie, Staff

What is Courage?

To me
courage is to try
and do things you're
afraid of,
to be brave.
Even if
things are dangerous
or scary
and just
do your best.

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**Linda,
Participant**

A Comedic Portrait



**Sydney, Participant &
Casey, Staff**

"Sidney and I visited via phone and fell right into the coolest creation. Sidney guided me through making a portrait using numbers and letters. We already had a good thing going when he said to use a 7 for a nose, for a nose like Jimmy Durante's. It was so much fun, and I learned about the comedian Jimmy Durante! We thought it best to name the piece after him."

-Casey, Staff

"Jimmy
Duranter

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**What is your message to
the world?**

F **O** **C** **U** **S**
O **N**
T **H** **e**
G **O** **O** **d**

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**Karen (staff) and her
granddaughter, Kira**



What do you like best about Social Call?

I like that I've been able to develop a real connection with someone that I would have never met prior. It has been rewarding to feel as though I bring a little bit of happiness into someone's day and it is nice to know there is another person out there who I can call a friend.

Jessica, Volunteer



It's nice to have a conversation to look forward to.

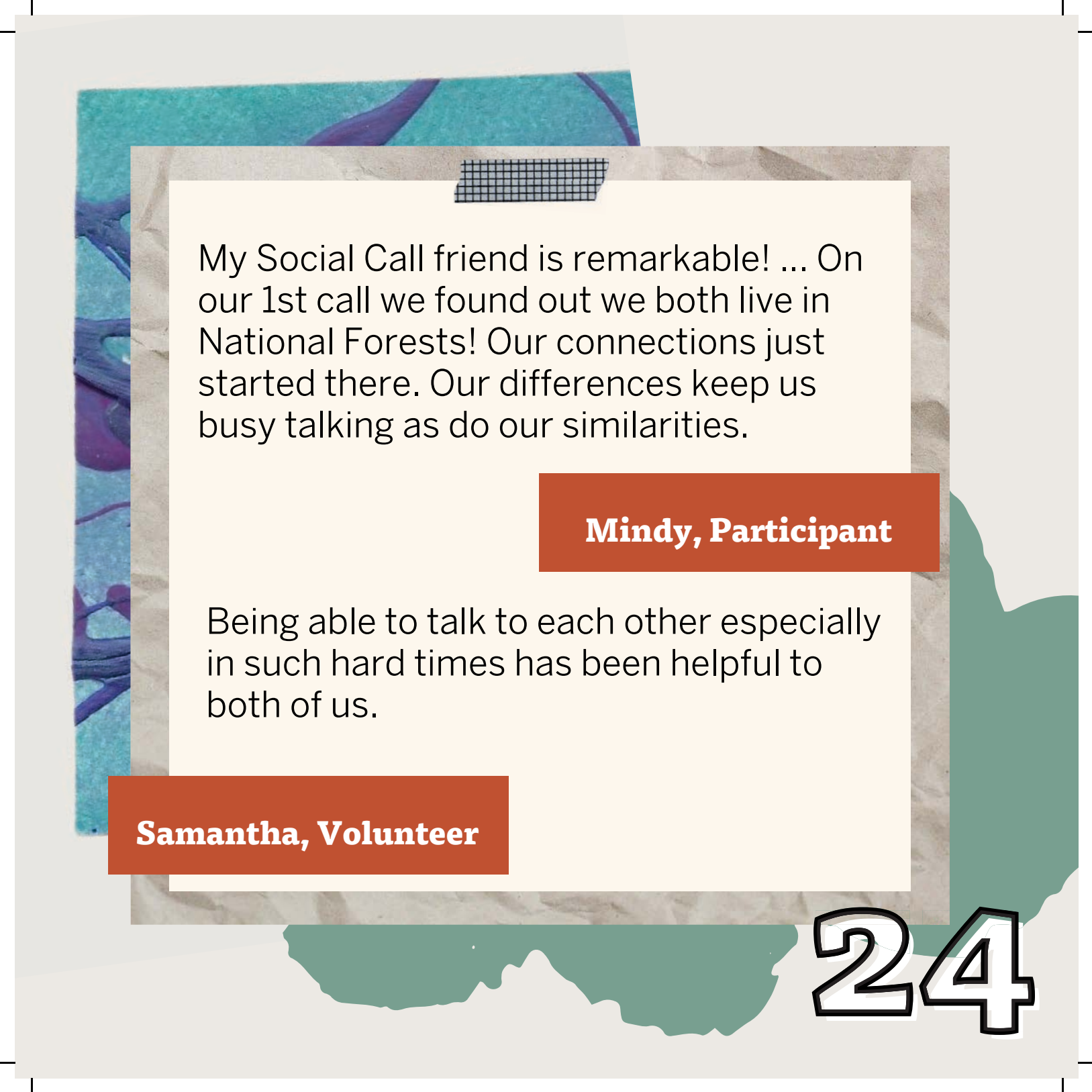
Julie, Volunteer

I like learning about their lives and learning new things from my partner. They have such a different perspective on life and it is so enjoyable to see life through their eyes.

Tracy, Volunteer

With each month, the bond between us grows.

Karen, Volunteer



My Social Call friend is remarkable! ... On our 1st call we found out we both live in National Forests! Our connections just started there. Our differences keep us busy talking as do our similarities.

Mindy, Participant

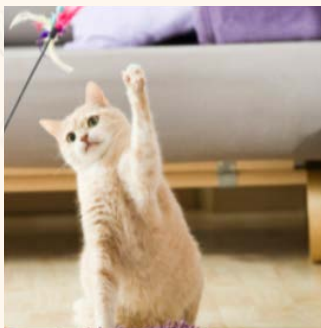
Being able to talk to each other especially in such hard times has been helpful to both of us.

Samantha, Volunteer

Map Your Identity



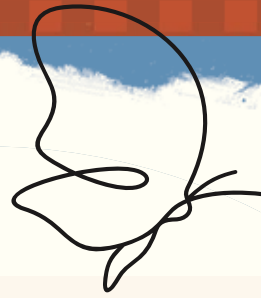
My hermit-self,
with things that
spark joy for me



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Richard, Staff

My Beloved Dances



my Beloved dances .

..

butterfly glides
to green milkweed,
rests sparingly,
then flutters toward
an ancient home.

my Beloved dances .

..

giant flukes
slam jarringly;
warm ocean waves
make moving
mountain shapes.

my Beloved dances .

..

otters play;
brown rivers flood;
gold lava steams,
turns black in sea;
wind moves the tree.
my Beloved dances ...

cheetahs hunt
to feed their young;
white horses run;
lovers kiss, larks soar
in these and more
my Beloved dances ...

and I am all of that.

Diane, Participant

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What is your message to the world?

Aging is a gift to us all. It is not only sailing into a still harbor. It is an opportunity to sail upon ancient and unvisited seas, with new depths, wisened currents, and unexpected countries. Expectancy is the way to embrace the unanticipated.

Lucky, Participant

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Spark a Conversation!

Here are a few ideas to spark fresh conversation with someone in your life:

How do you find the light in the darkness?

What are the sounds of your childhood?

What is the greatest gift you have received?

*These prompts are TimeSlips' Beautiful Questions
timeslips.org

Spark a Conversation!

What are you grateful for today?

What is the most delicious food?

What makes a really great friend?

Who has influenced you the most?

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(creativespark.org)

TimeSlips for the Beautiful Questions
(timeslips.org)

All our volunteers & participants, for your thoughtful
submissions & heartfelt friendships in this program.

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Thank you for the support, Front Porch!

Social Call

A FRONT PORCH COMMUNITY SERVICE

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