

A Dream Nearly a Decade in the Making

From one room to a creative commons, older adults in Bordeaux are stepping into the future.

Almost ten years ago, members of FiftyForward Bordeaux Senior Center began dreaming of a new kind of center. The vision was simple yet bold: a space large enough to hold an exercise class and an art class at the same time.

For more than two decades, FiftyForward Bordeaux Senior Center members called the old Bordeaux Library home. The one-room building carried fond memories and a rich history, but its walls could only stretch so far. Programs often competed for space, and large gatherings were a challenge. That's when members, Bordeaux residents, and community leaders came together to dream, research, and plan. Over time, the vision for a new space began to take shape.

That dream is about to become reality. **Forward Creative Commons at Bordeaux** is scheduled to open in early 2026 as the new home of the FiftyForward Bordeaux Senior Center. With 9,000 square feet of modern space, the new facility will offer members room to gather, socialize, and explore expanded programs.

Forward Creative Commons will also house Creative Girls Rock®, a nonprofit that empowers children, women, and families by nurturing creative talent. The new facility will offer intergenerational program opportunities and open its doors to other community groups, expanding resources for Bordeaux seniors and residents.

"I'm excited about the new building because it will provide modern amenities, expanded spaces for programming, and improved accessibility," says Bordeaux Senior Center Director, Melvin Fowler. "The most exciting thing is working with Creative Girls Rock to bring seniors and youth together to offer intergenerational programming."



BEFORE



AFTER

CEO Corner!

Dear Friends,

With fall just around the corner, FiftyForward is off to a strong start in Q1 and settling comfortably into the new fiscal year. Like many nonprofits, we had a few challenging months last year. Despite navigating changes in federal funding and environmental shifts, our commitment to delivering outstanding programs and services for older adults has remained unwavering. The steady rise in calls we receive each week for our supportive care programs underscores how vital connecting older adults directly to critical resources is today.



Our board and staff have navigated these unknowns and potential programmatic upheaval *thanks to you*. We are fortunate to have long-standing and faithful donors and foundation partners who continue to provide not only financial support but also guidance and encouragement. You can see a full list of our foundation and organizational supporters on our website.

Thank you for helping support food security for seniors, mental health support for caregivers and older adults, and physical activities that combat isolation. We'll keep seeking out new partners and new ways to serve the increasing number of older adults in our community.

I hope to see you soon at a center near you!

Sallie

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The project, designed by **Moody Nolan Architects** and being built by **Solomon Construction**, represents a \$7 million investment in the Bordeaux community. Its early success is thanks to extraordinary support led by **Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County Government**, with significant contributions from the **Frist Foundation**, **West End Home Foundation**, **HCA Foundation**, **Speer Foundation**, an **Anonymous Foundation**, **The Housing Fund**, and many individual donors.

With just over \$2 million left to raise, every financial gift matters. Help us reach the goal by sharing your stories and support of the project with others. To contribute, please visit fiftyforward.org/thebordeauxcollaborative.

Rising Food Insecurity Among Older Adults



Over the last five years, social service agencies, food providers, and foundation partners have witnessed a nationwide rise in food insecurity, including in Tennessee. Older adults, often living on fixed incomes, face additional challenges like caring for loved ones, managing health concerns, and coping with isolation. Due to rising food costs and statewide limits to resources like SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), older adults across our communities are facing hard choices.

At FiftyForward, we've seen this firsthand. In just one year, food and packaging costs for our Meals on Wheels program, [FiftyForward Fresh](#), rose by more than 30%. In a single quarter, calls to our resource line requesting food jumped nearly 40%. Too often, older adults skip meals so they can afford medication.

Every week, volunteers like Barry Coggins deliver meals to older adults, and are often the first to spot if a call or a check-in visit from a staff member is needed.

Barry has been part of this mission for 25 years, delivering meals and raising funds through his annual golf scramble to support FiftyForward Fresh. Thanks to Barry and generous funding partners like HCA Healthcare Foundation and West End Home Foundation, volunteers deliver over 28,000 meals each year. If you'd like to get involved, email Bonnie Brown at bbrown@fiftyforward.org.

Helping Older Adults Stay Safe at Home

Construction projects are part of home ownership. For older adults, making adjustments can be a key factor that allows them to remain independent and stay in the home they have loved for years. While some home upgrades, improvements, and repairs can be costly, there is help.

FiftyForward's [Living at Home Care Management](#) program frequently partners with Westminster Home Connection, a nonprofit construction agency, to provide much-needed home repairs for older adults. Westminster Home Connection helps older adults and people with disabilities resolve safety, mobility, and functionality issues in their homes. The goal of the partnership is to help older adults remain in their homes safely and live more independently.

Some of the most common repairs and modifications include step-in bathtubs, walk-in showers, wheelchair ramps, electrical issues, plumbing issues, and roof repair. Westminster Home Connection does this work at no cost to those who qualify. A FiftyForward care manager will work with seniors and provide support throughout the entire assessment, application, and repair process. To learn more or apply to the Westminster Home Connection repair program, please contact the [FiftyForward Resource Line](#) Monday through Wednesday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., at 615-743-3416.



174 Rains Avenue
Nashville, TN 37203

Upcoming Events

Now Enrolling Grandparents!
AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparents
Call (615) 743-3420

Annual Fall Health & Resources Fair
FiftyForward Madison Station
Wednesday, October 15, 2025
10:00 am - Noon

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Our Mission:

*FiftyForward supports,
champions, and
enhances life for those
50 and older.*

