

Foster Grandparents Program

CHNS 3102 Spring 2022

Our Role

ABCD's Foster Grandparents Program has given our class a special opportunity to meet virtually with Asian American elders to practice Chinese with and gain a deeper insight on Chinese culture. Students met weekly with these elders to provide company in the hopes of building meaningful relationships and bridging generational gaps.

"I feel more connected to the community outside Northeastern, specifically the Elder Chinese community of people I never would have interacted with before this service-learning."

- Manogya Chandar

Tech Support!

Students recognized matters like using technology were challenging for elders, and felt grateful in giving them technological lessons on devices like iPads and apps like Zoom. Elders in return were always enthusiastic and very eager to learn.



"It's insightful to see another generation's perspective on something so familiar to me. I've become more empathetic about the struggle many elders face during this very technological age."

- Ceara Zhang



"I enjoyed speaking with and learning the experiences of the Chinese elders."

- Mary Collier

Culture Exchange

Students fostered deep connections through language, gaining a better understanding of Chinese culture, traditions, and experiences through the eyes of Asian American elders.

"It has been very insightful to learn about what the elders recommend. During our health and activity unit, they recommended to go out and exercise but also take time for yourself and do some art sometimes to protect your mental health."

- Jasmine Der

Building Community

As a whole, students felt this service allowed them to be more engaged in the Chinese community of Boston, and become more civically aware of social topics, such as generational gaps and gender equality.



"I learned that although our thoughts on many topics are very different, we could still build connections and empathize by sharing our stories and accepting each others differences."

- Yunji Park