



Bristol Rotary Club

P.O. Box 1674

Bristol, CT 06011-1674

Laura Watson

Cellphone: (860) 881-5427

E-mail: rotarywatson@gmail.com

I joined Rotary in 2014 after being invited in as a guest -my topic on that cold January day was the importance of getting books into the hands of children. At the time I was on the Bristol School Readiness Council (a city board) - working at the United Way of West Central CT. When I was a child, I owned 1 book, The Giving Tree, by Shel Silverstein - In my formative years I lived in Peru, South America. Growing up not having many books or material things formed me into the person I am today. Literacy is not the only thing I am passionate about. Soon after I had my first child I learned about the importance of breastfeeding (bf). I belonged to and ran support groups to share the benefits of BF for ten years. It was because of these groups and my passion for literacy that the president of the United Way offered me a position as an outreach coordinator. I took every opportunity to learn more at parent leadership conferences, Parents Supporting Educational Excellence (PSEE), and the Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI), trained in facilitate leadership. I eventually wrote a grant for and organized 2 parent leadership classes. In 2011 I was named volunteer of the year from the Bristol Hospital Parent and Child Center. As I raised my 3 children, I joined PTA's, parent advisory councils, and stayed busy with the Family Resource Center (FRC). From there I had the opportunity of taking classes like People Empowering People (PEP). In 2016 I received FRC Outstanding Community Champion Award. Although working for the United Way of West Central CT was rewarding, I had dreams of going back to ESPN - shortly after graduation from Central CT State University. In 2019 I accepted a position in the remote department and work on processing invoices each day. I am very happy and thankful to have the ability of working from home. I don't know where the future will take me, but I love learning new things. I am currently enrolled in an online class through the Shaw Academy about how to

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buy and sell in the stock market. Opportunities out there are endless - you just have to look for them and be a willing participant! Email me at rotarywatson@gmail.com or call / text my cell at 860-881-5427 if you would like to chat :)

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