

MAPS Announces 2012 Gala Award Recipients

As the New Year begins, MAPS launches the countdown for its **2012 Awards Gala**, to take place **Saturday, April 28th**, at the **Cambridge Marriott Hotel** in Kendall Square. Building excitement for our largest annual fundraiser event, we are proud to announce four of the five Gala award recipients (the recipient of the MAPS Álvaro Lima Outstanding Business Award will be announced shortly):



MAPS Person of the Year Award: State Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz (left), the first Latina elected to the Mass. State Senate, now serving a 2nd term for the Second Suffolk District. Sen. Chang-Diaz is widely recognized as a strong advocate for public education, CORI reform, access and opportunities for low-income and immigrant communities, as well as for those affected by foreclosures, hate crimes, and youth violence.



MAPS Manuel N. Coutinho Outstanding Volunteer Award: Adalberto Teixeira (left), Deputy Director of Human Services for the City of Boston. A major leader in the Boston Cape Verdean community, he co-hosts the popular *Nha Terra* Cape Verdean radio show, celebrating its 25th Anniversary. He also has volunteered in the community in many other capacities, including working with youth through the St. Patrick's Youth Soccer Program, and partnered with MAPS and other organizations on the Portuguese-Speaking Complete Count Committee for the 2010 US Census;



MAPS Jorge Fidalgo Community Service Award: Dayanne Leal (left), Outreach Manager at Health Care for All, for helping tremendous numbers of low-income, immigrant and other community members to sign up for MassHealth and other health insurance programs so they can access health care. She also has organized the charity program *Tropical Angels* for eight years, helping out children and families in need in Brazil;



MAPS Mary & Manuel Rogers Lifetime Community Service Award: Eduardo "Eddie" Sousa (left), a long-time key volunteer in the Portuguese community and a driving force behind the feasts at St. Anthony's Church in Cambridge.

Apart from being an opportunity to honor distinguished individuals in our communities, the Awards Gala is MAPS' largest fundraising event, supporting a wide variety of services the agency has been offering for more than 40 years. The black-tie-optional event also features a banquet, Live and Silent Auctions, entertainment and more! Co-chairs for the 2012 Gala are Board member **Joseph J. Vasconcelos** and **Deolinda Daveiga**, MAPS Administrative Assistant. The event emcee will once again be WBZ Radio co-anchor **Anthony Silva** (right). Sponsorship and advertising opportunities as well as other news about the Gala will be announced shortly. For more information, please visit www.maps-inc.org or call (617) 864-7600.



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You can still donate to MAPS' Annual Appeal and support key community services this fiscal year! Please call (617) 864-7600 or visit www.maps-inc.org/participate/donate/ today. Thanks - Obrigado!

Please help MAPS go "green" and save resources! To receive only e-newsletters, email rleahy@maps-inc.org.

MAPS Board of Directors Elects New Officers



At its annual reorganizational meeting on Nov. 15, the **Board of Directors** elected new officers for the coming year. **Elizabeth Chaves** (left) was elected as **Board President**, and **Elisa Garibaldi** (right) as **Vice President**. **Mary Ann Lomba**, MBA, and **Stephen Pereira**, M.Ed., were respectively re-elected as **Treasurer** and **Secretary**. Chaves works as Director of Finances for the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy (MIRA) Coalition, and worked at MAPS for almost five years until 2005, as Director of Finances and Operations. She joined the Board in 2008. Garibaldi is a member of our Board since 2009, works at the Lowell Community Health Center and has been an active member of the community for many years. Lomba, an accounting and finance professional, has served on the Board since 1992. Pereira, who joined the Board in 1993, is an administrator with the Arlington Public Schools. Executive Director Paulo Pinto, MPA, and the Board also thanked outgoing President Sarah De Oliveira, Esq., of the S. De Oliveira Law Office in Framingham, and outgoing Vice-President Marcony Almeida, Organizing Director at MIRA Coalition, for their leadership and support over this past year.



MAPS Celebrates Accomplishments at Annual Meeting / Open House

More than 150 members and community partners toured MAPS' newly renovated Cambridge headquarters, browsed Brazilian and Portuguese art and photography, enjoyed food from the Portuguese-speaking cultures, and learned about MAPS services during our **Annual Meeting and Open House** on Oct. 25.

MAPS provided health promotion, disease prevention, educational programs, domestic violence and sexual assault services, immigrant and citizenship services, family support and other programs to more than **9,000** Brazilian, Cape Verdean, Portuguese and other community residents in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. Some of the agency's other accomplishments this past year included:



- Expanding **HIV/AIDS** services for high-risk men with a new multi-year federal grant from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention;
- Celebrating 10 years of providing critical services to the large Cape Verdean community at **MAPS' Dorchester Office** in Upham's Corner;
- Renovating the agency's **Cambridge office** to improve accessibility, energy efficiency and safety, by refinancing the building mortgage;
- Growing the **MAPS Endowment** by more than \$30,000, bringing the total to nearly \$190,000, with just \$60,000 more to go before the funds will start supporting agency services annually;
- Adding sexual assault services to MAPS' Domestic Violence Services Program with a new federal grant from the Dept. of Justice Office on Violence Against Women.

Agency staff used part of the meeting to raise community awareness about domestic violence, sexual assault and breast cancer. MAPS members also voted to re-elect Board members Marcony Almeida, Elizabeth Chaves, Sarah De Oliveira and Tina Silva to new three-year terms, and to make minor revisions to the agency By-Laws.

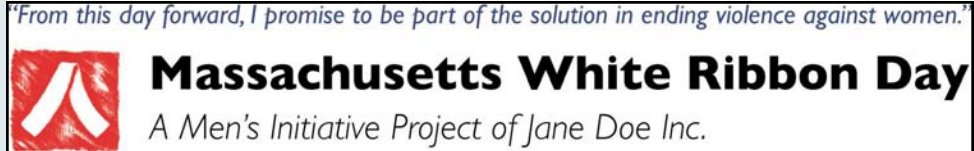
Executive Director Paulo Pinto and Board representatives also presented certificates of appreciation to Board and staff members for long service to MAPS, including Board Member **Victor Do Couto** (5 years), **Anabela Quelha**, DPEP Director (15 years), **Maria Gomes-Almeida**, Dorchester Office Manager, (5 years), **Donna Landry**, Dorchester Immigrant Social Services Case Worker (5 years).



Recent Funding Announcements

Many thanks to our funders for their ongoing support: **Cambridge Community Foundation** and the **Americo J. Francisco Charity Fund** for General Operating and Elder Services funds for Cambridge area residents; **TJX Foundation** and **VAWA-Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety** for Domestic Violence Services; **Bushrod H. Campbell and Adah F. Hall Charity Fund**, the **Charles H. Farnsworth Trust** and **Project Bread** for the Cambridge Senior Center; and **Elder Services of Merrimack Valley** for Immigrant & Elder Social Services in Lowell.

Paulo Pinto Co-Chairs 2012 White Ribbon Day Campaign



MAPS Executive Director Paulo Pinto and the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families (DCF), Angelo McClain, have been assigned with a key task: they are the two Co-Chairs of the 2012 Massachusetts White Ribbon Day (WRD) Campaign, an annual statewide effort to call on men to step up and be part of the solution in ending men's violence against women. The 5th Mass. WRD Campaign was launched by Jane Doe Inc. on Dec. 6, 2011, marking the 22nd anniversary of the massacre of 14 women in Montreal and the 20th anniversary of the international White Ribbon Campaign.

“As an immigrant, I am delighted to be connected with this international campaign because the devastation caused by domestic violence and sexual assault knows no boundaries,” said Pinto. “Freedom from violence is a human right, and each and every incident of sexual and domestic violence reminds us how important it is to fight for those rights, for equality and for the safety and liberty of survivors.”

Through the Massachusetts White Ribbon Day Campaign, men and boys are invited to take the White Ribbon Day Pledge and sign up as ambassadors. By taking a stand against violence, these men serve as positive role models for other men and boys. More information is available at MAPS or www.janedoe.org/whiteribbonday.

WRD at MAPS

MAPS' Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program is also planning WRD activities. On March 8th, staff will host a community event in our Lowell Office (11 Mill St.) with refreshments. There will be a short introduction explaining what WRD is all about and men will then take the pledge in Portuguese to end violence against women. They will also be able to enroll in a soccer tournament being planned later this year. For more information, please call MAPS DV Advocates at (978) 970-1250 (Lowell), (617) 864-7600 (Cambridge) or (617) 825-5897 (Dorchester.)

Become a MAPS Organizational Member!

MAPS is offering a **new opportunity** for organizations and businesses to build a closer relationship with the non-profit health and social service agency and help the Portuguese-speaking community: **Organizational Membership**.

We already have many individual members who provide tremendous support for our mission and programs. The new Organizational Membership category opens up membership to businesses and other community partners who would like to participate more in MAPS affairs and help us assist more clients in need throughout the year.

Businesses and other organizations can now become MAPS members with a variety of benefits such as voting rights at the agency's Annual Meeting, many publicity opportunities, and special discount rates for ads in our Annual Awards Gala program book. Organizations can choose from **four membership levels** ranging from \$50 to \$500 per year, with increasing benefits at each higher level. Membership will be for the current MAPS Fiscal Year: June 30, 2011 - July 1, 2012. For all the details, please visit <http://www.maps-inc.org/participate/organizational-membership>, call MAPS at (617) 864-7600, or write to sseger@maps-inc.org.

MAPS Raises More Than 3x Its Komen Race for the Cure Goal to Support Breast Cancer Research

A major snow storm forced the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Massachusetts Affiliate to call off its Race for the Cure last October 30th—but it didn't keep the *MAPS Cares* team for the 5K walk/run from raising \$1,625 to help breast cancer research - more than three times its \$500 goal! *MAPS Cares* was formed by MAPS Board members, staff, volunteers and other community members who enthusiastically collected donations and MAPS Executive Director Paulo Pinto, MPA (below), still walked the whole 5 kilometers.

This year, Anabela C. Quelha, MSC, Dir. Of MAPS' Disease Prevention & Education Programs, is being honored by being named a spokesperson for the launch of the Susan G. Komen Massachusetts Affiliate's 2011 Community Profile. MAPS offers breast cancer prevention, education and referrals in eastern Massachusetts, a program supported by the Komen MA Affiliate. To learn more, please contact Alesandra Lopes at (617) 864-7600 or email alopes@maps-inc.org.



Symposium Highlights Human Rights & Quality of Life Issues for Portuguese Speakers

A gathering of more than 120 professionals from across the US, Canada, Portugal, Brazil, Cape Verde and other parts of the world participated in the **International Symposium on Human Rights and Quality of Life of the Portuguese-speaking Communities of the United States of America and Canada**, which took place Nov. 9-10, 2011, in three different Cambridge locations: the Cambridge Marriott Courtyard Hotel on Memorial Drive, MAPS' Cambridge headquarters and Lesley University. The event was organized by the Government of the Azores (Portugal) and MAPS, in collaboration with several local universities.

Approximately 35 panelists, including keynote speaker **Prof. Craig Mello** (right), Ph.D.—recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for 2006, and a Professor at the UMass School of Medicine—presented and discussed a variety of topics around the issues of health, deportation, community advocacy, leadership and education for an audience of medical doctors, psychologists, social workers, educators, community leaders, students and others. The Symposium also featured two book launches—one by Gilberta Rocha, PhD, Professor at the University of the Azores, on domestic violence in the Azores; and another from the Luso-American Foundation, presented by book coordinator Mário Mesquita, entitled **Landmarks in Transatlantic Strategy From Roosevelt to Obama**.



Following the last panel at Lesley University, many participants signed a Protocol of the International Network of Social Service Organizations, focused on exchanging ideas and initiatives to support the Portuguese-speaking communities around the world. They also shared a variety of ideas for improving the lives of community members both in the Portuguese-speaking diaspora and in their native countries. More information on the conference is available at http://bit.ly/Human_Rights_Symposium.

MAPS Sends Message on 'Living Positively' for World AIDS Day

More than 60 people enjoyed an evening of wine, snacks, good conversations and lots of information at the **Living Positively** event, organized by MAPS to mark World AIDS Day on December 1st. Staff members and volunteers decorated the second floor of the agency's headquarters in Cambridge with hundreds of red ribbons—the international symbol of the fight against HIV/AIDS—and provided several informational materials and free condoms.



The Living Positively theme was proposed to celebrate the better quality of life that people with HIV can have with the medication and treatments available today, in comparison to what it used to be 20 years ago. It was also an opportunity to honor and thank volunteers and businesses that work hard to support MAPS' efforts to educate the Portuguese- and Spanish-speaking communities about HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs).




MAPS offers HIV Prevention & Education, Counseling & Testing and Case Management programs in Cambridge, Allston, Dorchester and Framingham. The services are funded by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC). The program's Portuguese-speaking initiatives are represented through the *Siliga Program* (www.siliga.com), while the Latino initiative has the *Ambiente Latino Program* (www.myspace.com/mpowermentlatino, www.facebook.com/ambientelatinoprogram).

MAPS and GCBI to Hold Citizenship Drive Feb. 4 in Boston

MAPS will join its five other community partners of the *Greater Boston Citizenship Initiative (GBCI)* once again on Saturday, Feb. 4, from 11 am-2 pm, at the SEIU Local 615 office, 26 West Street, 2nd floor, Boston (Downtown Crossing & Park Street T Stations), to offer free citizenship application assistance. The event will be the third in a series of drives promoted by GBCI, a collaboration of agencies funded by a grant from the Fish Family Foundation. GBCI partners will also provide coordinated outreach, civics/citizenship classes, and other assistance to prepare eligible immigrants for citizenship, including application assistance at their individual sites in between the drives.

At the Feb. 4 drive, representatives of MAPS, MIRA, Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, Centro Latino, College Bound Dorchester, the Irish International Immigrant Center and Jewish Vocational Services will help immigrants apply for citizenship by assisting them in completing their N-400 application forms and answering questions about the process. On Dec. 3, 2011, more than 140 Brazilians, Cape Verdeans, Dominicans, Cambodians, Indians and many other immigrants from all around the world applied for citizenship during the second GCBI drive, which took place at the same location. On March 3, 2012, another drive will once again help immigrants with their citizenship applications. For more information, or to do a pre-screening for the drive and find out if you are eligible to apply for citizenship, please contact Júnior Catão at (617) 864-7600 or jcatao@maps-inc.org.



GREATER BOSTON
CITIZENSHIP INITIATIVE

ARE YOU READY AND ELIGIBLE TO BECOME A U.S. CITIZEN?
JOIN OUR 3rd CITIZENSHIP CLINIC!
FREE NATURALIZATION INFORMATION AND APPLICATION ASSISTANCE!

February 4, 2012
11 am – 2 pm

SEIU Local 615
26 West Street, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02111
(Downtown Crossing & Park Street T Stations)

JOIN US AND WIN

- \$1360 for TWO naturalization applications
- \$500 grocery gift card**

CONTACT INFORMATION:
For general questions or for event registration:
CALL 617-65-READY (617-657-3239)
OR
VISIT www.miracoalition.org

For screening, please contact one of the following partners:

<i>Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, Inc.</i>	<i>Fred Bennett - (617)635-5129</i>
<i>Centro Latino</i>	<i>Daisy Gonzalez - (617) 884-3238</i>
<i>College Bound Dorchester</i>	<i>Mila Monteiro - (617) 506-5964</i>
<i>Irish International Immigrant Center</i>	<i>John Rattigan - (617) 542-7654</i>
<i>Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers</i>	<i>Junior Catao - (617) 864-7600</i>

What you need to bring to the Citizenship Clinic on February 4, 2012:

- Green card
- Passport
- Two passport photos
- List of your addresses and employment for the past five (5) years

*Certain low income LPRs may qualify for fee waivers. Inquire when you call to register.
To be considered eligible for the prizes (cost of two naturalization applications and grocery gift card), participants must complete their naturalization application at the clinic and send proof of sent application to USCIS.

MAPS Announces Citizenship, ESOL and Portuguese Winter Classes in Three Locations

MAPS is offering new classes for the winter in three of its offices – Cambridge, Lowell and Framingham. Students can already sign up for Citizenship preparation (including US history, civics and English for immigrants applying for citizenship), English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and Portuguese. Classes start on the second week of February, as follows:

- **Basic ESOL** – Classes meet twice a week, for 12 weeks, on Mondays and Thursdays, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, starting Feb. 6th, at **MAPS’ Cambridge Office** (1046 Cambridge Street);
- **Basic Portuguese** – Classes meet once a week, for 12 weeks, on Tuesdays, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, starting Feb. 7th, at **MAPS’ Cambridge Office**;
- **Citizenship** – Classes meet once a week, for 12 weeks, on Wednesdays, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, starting Feb. 8th, at **MAPS’ Cambridge Office**;
- **Basic Portuguese** – Classes meet once a week, for 12 weeks, on Wednesdays, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, starting Feb. 8th, at **MAPS’ Framingham Office** (24 Union Avenue);
- **Basic ESOL** – Classes meet once a week, for 12 weeks, on Saturdays, from 9 am to 12 pm, starting Feb. 10th, at **MAPS’ Lowell Office** (11 Mill Street).

For more information or to sign up for the classes, please call (617) 864-7600 or email Júnior Catão at jcatao@maps-inc.org. ESOL and Citizenship classes are funded by the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants (ORI) and the Fish Family Foundation.

Paulo Pinto à Frente da Campanha do Dia do Laço Branco 2012



Paulo Pinto

O Diretor Executivo da MAPS Paulo Pinto e o Comissário do Departamento da Infância e da Família de Massachusetts (DCF) Angelo McClain assumiram um compromisso muito importante: eles estão à frente da Campanha do Dia do Laço Branco (*White Ribbon Day – WRD*) 2012 em Massachusetts, um esforço anual realizado em todo o estado para convidar homens a fazerem parte da solução de dar fim à violência contra as mulheres. A 5ª Campanha WRD em Massachusetts foi lançada pela Jane Doe Inc. no dia 6 de dezembro de 2011, marcando o 22º aniversário do massacre de 14 mulheres em Montreal e o 20º aniversário da Campanha Internacional do Laço Branco.

“Como um imigrante, eu me sinto muito honrado por estar ligado a essa campanha internacional porque a devastação causada pela violência doméstica e pelo abuso sexual não conhece fronteiras,” disse Paulo Pinto. “Viver livre de violência é um direito humano, e cada ato de violência sexual ou doméstica nos lembra o quanto é importante lutar por esses direitos, por igualdade e pela segurança e liberdade de quem sobrevive à agressão.”

Por meio da Campanha, homens de todas as idades são convidados a fazer o Juramento do Dia do Laço Branco e a se registrarem como embaixadores. Ao tomar uma posição ante a violência, esses homens posicionam-se como exemplos de conduta positivos para outros homens e jovens. Mais informações sobre a campanha estão disponíveis na MAPS e no site www.janedoe.org/whiteribbonday.

WRD na MAPS— O Programa de Violência Doméstica e Abuso Sexual da MAPS também está programando atividades para marcar o Dia do Laço Branco. No dia 8 de março, nosso escritório em Lowell (11 Mill St.) receberá a comunidade com refrescos e petiscos. Haverá uma pequena introdução sobre a campanha e os homens presentes poderão fazer o juramento (em português) de combater a violência contra a mulher. Eles também poderão se inscrever em um torneio de futebol a ser realizado no segundo semestre de 2012. Para mais informações, ligue para a MAPS pelos números (978) 970-1250 (Lowell), (617) 864-7600 (Cambridge) ou (617) 825-5897 (Dorchester.)

Simpósio Destaca Direitos Humanos & Qualidade de Vida de Falantes de Português

Mais de 120 profissionais dos Estados Unidos, Canadá, Portugal, Brasil, Cabo Verde e outras partes do mundo participaram do Simpósio Internacional sobre Direitos Humanos e Qualidade de Vida das Comunidades de Língua Portuguesa nos Estados Unidos e Canadá, que foi realizado nos dias 9 e 10 de novembro em três diferentes locais em Cambridge: o Cambridge Marriott Courtyard Hotel na Memorial Drive, o escritório central da MAPS em Cambridge e a Lesley University. O evento foi organizado pelo Governo dos Açores (Portugal) e a Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers



(MAPS) em colaboração com várias universidades locais.

Mais de 35 panelistas, incluindo o palestrante principal Prof. Craig Mello, Ph.D. – vencedor do Prêmio Nobel em Fisiologia ou Medicina em 2006, e professor da Escola de Medicina da Umass- apresentaram e discutiram uma variedade de assuntos ligados a saúde, deportação, ativismo comunitário, liderança e educação para um público de médicos, psicólogos, assistentes sociais, educadores, líderes comunitários, estudantes e outros. O Simpósio também contou com dois lançamentos de livros – um de Gilberta Rocha, PhD, Professora da Universidade dos Açores, sobre a violência doméstica nos Açores; e outro da Luso-American Foundation, apresentado pelo coordenador do livro Mário Mesquita, com o título Marcos da Estratégia Transatlântica, de Roosevelt a Obama.



Após o último painel na Lesley University, muitos participantes assinaram um Protocolo da Rede Internacional de Organizações de Serviço Social, focado na troca de idéias e iniciativas para apoiar as comunidades de língua portuguesa ao redor do mundo. Eles também compartilharam uma variedade de idéias para melhorar as vidas das pessoas tanto na diáspora quanto em seus países de origem. Mais informações sobre a conferência no site http://bit.ly/Human_Rights_Symposium.

MAPS Participa de Mutirão de Cidadania em Fevereiro



A MAPS vai se juntar às outras cinco organizações parceiras do **Greater Boston Citizenship Initiative (GBCI)** mais uma vez no **sábado, dia 4 de fevereiro, das 11 da manhã às 2 da tarde**, no escritório da **SEIU Local 615, 26 West Street, 2º andar**, Boston (Downtown Crossing & Park Street T Stations), para oferecer **ajuda gratuita à solicitação de cidadania**. O evento será o 3º de uma série de campanhas promovidas pelo **GBCI**, uma colaboração entre agências financiada pela **Fish Family Foundation**. Os parceiros do **GBCI** também vão oferecer informações e assistência para preparar imigrantes em condições de dar entrada no pedido de cidadania, inclusive em seus respectivos escritórios entre cada campanha.

Na campanha do dia 4 de fevereiro, representantes da MAPS, MIRA, Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, Centro Latino, College Bound Dorchester, Irish International Immigrant Center e Jewish Vocational Services vão ajudar imigrantes a darem entrada em seus pedidos preenchendo o formulário N-400 e respondendo a perguntas sobre o processo. No dia 3 de dezembro de 2011, mais de 140 brasileiros, cabo-verdianos, dominicanos, cambojanos, indianos e muitos outros imigrantes de várias partes do mundo deram entrada em seus pedidos durante a segunda campanha do **GBCI**, realizada no mesmo local. No dia 3 de março de 2012, mais uma campanha vai mais uma vez ajudar imigrantes a se tornarem cidadãos americanos. Para mais informações ou para fazer uma triagem para a campanha e descobrir se você pode ou não dar entrada em seu pedido de cidadania, entre em contato com Júnior Catão pelo telefone (617) 864-7600 ou email jcatao@maps-inc.org.

MAPS Anuncia Aulas de Cidadania, Inglês e Português em Três Locais no Inverno

A MAPS vai oferecer novas aulas no inverno em três de seus escritórios - Cambridge, Lowell e Framingham. Os alunos já podem se matricular para Preparação para Cidadania (incluindo história dos Estados Unidos, direitos civis e inglês), Inglês para Falantes de Outras Línguas (ESOL) e Português. As aulas começam na segunda semana de fevereiro, nos seguintes horários e locais:



- **Inglês Básico** – Aulas duas vezes por semana, por 12 semanas, às segundas e quintas-feiras, das 6:30 às 8:30 da noite, a partir de 6 de fevereiro, na **MAPS de Cambridge** (1046 Cambridge Street);
- **Português Básico** – Aulas uma vez por semana, por 12 semanas, às terças-feiras, das 6:30 às 8:30 da noite, a partir de 7 de fevereiro, na **MAPS de Cambridge**;
- **Cidadania** – Aulas uma vez por semana, por 12 semanas, às quartas-feiras, das 6:30 às 8:30 da noite, a partir de 8 de fevereiro, na **MAPS de Cambridge**;
- **Português Básico** – Aulas uma vez por semana, por 12 semanas, às quartas-feiras, das 6:30 às 8:30 da noite, a partir de 8 de fevereiro, na **MAPS de Framingham** (24 Union Avenue);
- **Inglês Básico** – Aulas uma vez por semana, por 12 semanas, aos sábados, das 9 da manhã ao meio-dia, a partir de 10 de fevereiro, na **MAPS de Lowell** (11 Mill Street).

Para mais informações ou para se matricular para as aulas, ligue para (617) 864-7600 ou mande um email para Júnior Catão, jcatao@maps-inc.org.

Torne-se um Membro Organizacional!

A MAPS está oferecendo uma nova oportunidade para organizações e empresas construírem uma relação mais próxima com a agência de serviços sociais e de saúde e ajudar a comunidade de língua portuguesa: **Filiação Organizacional**. Nós já tem vários membros individuais que oferecem um excelente apoio à nossa missão e aos nossos programas. A nova categoria abre para empresas e outros parceiros na comunidade a possibilidade de se tornarem membros da MAPS, com uma participação mais ativa e nos ajudando a prestar assistência a muitos outros clientes em necessidade durante o ano.

Empresas e outras organizações já podem se tornar membros da MAPS com uma variedade de benefícios, como direito de voto na Reunião Anual da agência, oportunidades de publicidade e desconto em anúncios no livro-programa de nossa **Festa de Gala Anual**. Há **quatro níveis de filiação**, com anuidades variando entre \$50 e \$500 por ano, e uma crescente variedade de benefícios a cada nível mais elevado. As filiações serão válidas para o atual Ano Fiscal da MAPS: de 1º de julho de 2011 a 30 de junho de 2012. Para mais informações, acesse <http://www.maps-inc.org/PT/participate/organizational-membership>, ligue para a MAPS, (617) 864-7600, ou escreva para lmorais@maps-inc.org.



Community Members Celebrate the Holidays at MAPS!

Santa Claus paid a visit to nearly 50 people, including seniors and their families, on December 21st at our Cambridge Senior Center. Regulars and guests gathered for the Center’s Christmas Luncheon, which included a banquet, dessert table, Christmas sing-a-longs, and gifts brought by “Santa” and his assistant—two seniors who have volunteered to dress up in traditional costumes. In November, they also celebrated Thanksgiving with a warm get-together reception.

“This is a time of the year that we want to spend with the ones we love the most,” said Julia Evora, MAPS Senior Center Coordinator. “We’re all a big family here and we wanted to celebrate the Holidays with each one of them.”

Participants of the *Cape Verdean Women’s Group* (formerly *Café Criola*) also joined to celebrate the holiday season with a luncheon at MAPS Dorchester office on December 10th. They enjoyed a variety of delicious Cape Verdean food and desserts, traditional music. Some of the participants were also honored with Certificates of Appreciation for all the work they have done throughout the many years *Café Criola* has been helping and empowering Cape Verdean women in Dorchester. For more information about the program or to join one of their meetings, please call Dulce DePina at (617) 825-5897 or email ddepina@maps-inc.org.



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