



MANN-U-SCRIPT

The Face of HMEA



Cimoyne Alves is a Residential Coordinator who oversees the Raynham Area. After having spent all of her adult years in human services, she came to HMEA in 2004. She is a member of the Diversity Committee at HMEA.

Cimoyne was born in Cape Verde in West Africa, and moved to the U.S. at the age of four. Family and cultural experiences influenced her passion for supporting others. As a child, she lived with her mother, stepfather, grandmother, great aunt, four sisters and a brother. Her grandmother was a member of the Peace Corps. The family members assisted immigrants from Africa, and the home a haven to many in need; Cimoyne does not recall a time when others did not live with them. "We opened our doors to just about anyone." Her mother continues this tradition of service, and currently has foster children living with her. Religion plays an important role in Cimoyne's life and the life of her family members as well. "It keeps us grounded. God is first and foremost" she states.

Cimoyne continues the family tradition of helping others. She helps promote and preserve Cape Verdean and African music and culture by organizing community events that involve bringing artists to the U.S. for live performances in various venues throughout New England. She's also involved with the production of the music. She sponsors and volunteers in several local Cape Verdean and African organizations responsible for events like annual cultural festivals and fundraising events to send aid to people in various African countries. Through these efforts, she's developed a network that includes members of the New England Patriots, who sponsor many of her events.

She's also a parent volunteer at the Pawtucket Boys and Girls Club, assisting with fundraising efforts to support the swim team. In collaboration with other parents, she's managed to raise funds to give less privileged kids access to events like the Speedo National Championships held every year in Tampa, Florida. As the parent liaison, she's assisted the team in a collaboration with two YMCAs in RI so that swimmers had the opportunity to participate and compete in summer swim leagues. She's very passionate about working with children, and enjoys creating opportunities for those less fortunate, so that they can learn about friendship, team spirit, and success.

When not fundraising or volunteering for others, Cimoyne spends time caring for her son, spending time with other family members, and reading; she also enjoys event planning and travel. ◀

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