

Homespace Happenings

Your quarterly newsletter!

Upcoming Events

Mother's Day – May 8
End of school
celebration – June 27

What to find inside:

Update from our Board
President
Homespace supports
Child Abuse Prevention
Becoming a Mother's
Day sponsor

Find us online:

www.homespacecorp.org

International Women's Day



The theme for International Women's Day in 2022 was to #breakthebias. Women around the world were encouraged to show their wings, both in support of those women who need some uplifting, and to show that we are able to lift ourselves up and support one another. As social worker AnneMarie Smith said, "There's nothing more powerful than women supporting other women."

30 Under 30 reaches Homespace team



In April, our President of the Board of Directors, James Zawodzinski, was honored as one of Buffalo Business First's 30 Under 30. To honor and support him, we sponsored a table for the event.



James Zawodzinski, Board President

2021 in the Rearview

These types of things are never easy to write. Do I talk about how well the agency is doing financially? Do I mention the challenges the agency has faced, and continues to face, with census and enrollment? Or do I highlight a particularly joyful moment? This year, I decided to forego the money talk (we're doing well, so don't worry) and focus on something a bit different—but very important to me and the rest of the Board of Directors.

2021 brought with it a whole slew of challenges. We emerged from 2020 cautious of what was to come. Would the vaccines work? Would the next "wave" shutter businesses and restaurants? Would we be back in lockdown? How would COVID-19 continue to affect the job market?

Some were able to weather these challenges from the safety of their at-home work desk—coffee mug in hand and dog by his or her side. But a large majority of workers didn't have that luxury. First responders—doctors, nurses, pharmacists, policemen and women, firemen and women, paramedics, among many others—sacrificed infinite hours on the front lines to safeguard our community.

But it wasn't just the first responders who sacrificed their own safety for the safety and health of others. Patient and client-facing workers, like the incredible staff at Homespace, put themselves at risk—without hesitation—to take care of the youth in our community.

Those workers—our staff—are the backbone of Homespace. And this year, rather than prattle on about money and other challenges, I wanted to take this space—this opportunity—to thank each and every one of Homespace's employees for their countless hours of service and dedication to our youth and to each other. Whether at 135, SILP, Next Step, or Second Chance, your commitment, dedication, and compassion made a noticeable difference.

I know that this year has been full of its ups and downs. But I encourage you to stick with us. We value you, and are grateful for all that you do. Now, let us toast to 2021—and kick it into the rearview mirror. On to 2022!

Now that your eyes are open, make the sun jealous with your burning passion to start the day. Make the sun jealous or stay in bed.

MALAK EL HALABI



BAKED FRESH

In light of Child Abuse Prevention Month, Homespace Corporation supported Paula's Donuts initiative to raise funds for the Child Advocacy Center at BestSelf Behavioral Health.

We thank Paula's for the opportunity to not only help out our community but also for the tasty treats for our youth.



April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. #ThrivingFamilies



HOMESPACE CORPORATION'S MOTHER'S
DAY SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Consider becoming a Mother's Day sponsor



ROSE LEVEL: \$200

INCLUDES ITEMS SUCH AS: CARD,
EDIBLE ARRANGEMENT, GIFT FOR
MOM OF MULTIPLE CHILDREN

TULIP LEVEL: \$150

INCLUDES ITEMS SUCH AS:
CARD, EDIBLE ARRANGEMENT,
GIFT FOR MOM OF ONE CHILD



GARDENIA LEVEL: \$100

INCLUDES ITEMS SUCH AS:
CARD, EDIBLE ARRANGEMENT,
GIFT FOR A PREGNANT YOUTH.

We ask donations be made by May 4.

OTHER DONATION LEVELS ARE AVAILABLE, AND ANY CONTRIBUTION IS APPRECIATED

**SEND AN EMAIL TO
ASHLEY.BIVIANO@HOMESPACECORP.ORG TO DONATE.**

Homespace CARES

Each month, our staff members nominate someone they feel has gone above and beyond. Here are a few of our recent winners:



March's winner was Breon. It was said, "Breon also has a amazing way with the girls and he truly cares. One of our girls needs a lot of praise and attention and Breon keeps her going with his talks encouraging her to do what she likes. I could go on and on about this amazing, kind-hearted, co-worker of mine."



David McCalister, March runner-up:

During a home visit with one of the youth, David found himself having to address a significant medical issue for the youth. He ensured the youth was safe, called the appropriate resources, stayed with the youth and worked with the youth's support system to ensure they were managing this unexpected situation to the best of their ability. This caused David to work significantly longer than he intended. He continued to check on the youth following discharge from a very (surprisingly) brief hospital stay. David was very invested in this youth's wellbeing both physically and mentally as we as the youth's friends/family. It was a very difficult situation to manage and David showed remarkable compassion, accountability and resourcefulness in supporting everyone involved. Homespace is very lucky to have David.



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