

HOMESPACE HAPPENINGS



Christmas 2022

Photos of our Christmas celebration on pages 3 & 4

A big thank you to all of our Holiday Angels, donors and volunteers for making this past holiday so special for all of our clients.

We did it!

Homespace achieves national accreditation through the Council On Accreditation

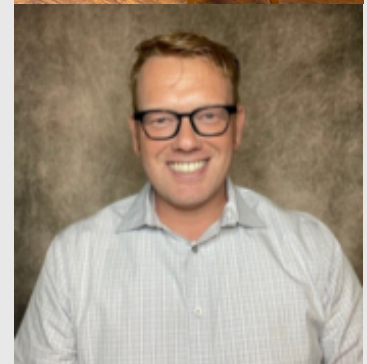
More on page 6



Homespace Featured on AM Buffalo!

More on page 5

Hello to our readers on behalf of everyone at Homespace! My apologies for not getting a 4th quarter 2022 newsletter out, but with the help of our fabulous new Development Coordinator Stephanie Codd, we are back at it and committed to getting a quarterly newsletter out to our staff, board members, clients, and supporters on a regular basis. SO MUCH has happened since our last quarterly newsletter (sent in October of 2022). Here are some highlights...



A letter from our Executive Director, Michael Hill on page 2



A letter from Executive Director, Michael Hill:

Hello to our readers on behalf of everyone at Homespace! My apologies for not getting a 4th quarter 2022 newsletter out, but with the help of our fabulous new Development Coordinator Stephanie Codd, we are back at it and committed to getting a quarterly newsletter out to our staff, board members, clients, and supporters on a regular basis.

SO MUCH has happened since our last quarterly newsletter (sent in October of 2022). Here are some highlights:

1. Homespace staff members Elizabeth Bocchino and Brenda Pryor took on new roles in December of 2022 – Elizabeth as our Residential Clinical Supervisor and Brenda as our SILP Clinical Supervisor. Congratulations to Elizabeth and Brenda on their new positions!
2. Homespace secured FULL AGENCY COA (Council on Accreditation) accreditation in February of 2023. There is a section in this newsletter specifically devoted to our COA accreditation, what it means, and why it is a MAJOR accomplishment for our agency.
3. We were awarded multiple grants. In October of 2022: A \$23,911.00 grant from the East Hill Foundation and a \$6,500.00 grant from the Peter and Elizabeth Tower Foundation. In November of 2022: A \$1,000.00 grant from the Buffalo Bills Foundation and a \$5,000.00 grant from from the Evans-Devereaux Memorial Fund. In December of 2022 a \$10,000.00 grant from the Kucera-Graham Family Foundation at the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, a \$10,500.00 grant from the James H. Cummings Foundation, Inc., and a \$5,000.00 grant from the Third Generation Fund at the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo. In March of 2023: A \$20,000.00 grant from the Children's Guild Foundation. A huge THANK YOU to all of these foundations/funds for their invaluable support of Homespace (and our clients).
4. We were featured on AM Buffalo in March of 2023! More information on the segments that AM Buffalo filmed at our SILP facility can be found in this newsletter.
5. Our Holiday Angels and General Fund Fundraisers in November and December of 2022 were wildly successful. There is more information on this in a separate section of this newsletter, too.
6. In January of 2023, Executive Director Michael Hill participated in a lobbying day in Albany sponsored by COFCCA (The Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies), of which Homespace was a member. It was a great opportunity to have meaningful conversations with New York State Senators and Assembly people about the importance of appropriate levels of funding for a host of child welfare-related initiatives here in the Empire State.
7. For several years now, Homespace has been offering CFTSS (Children and Family Treatment and Support Services and Therapeutic Counseling) to our clients and their families. In November of 2022, we announced (and started marketing) the fact that we can offer these valuable, impactful therapy and rehabilitation services to foster youth (and their families) that are NOT Homespace clients! Being able to offer these services to a broader section of youth in foster care is something that we're pleased and excited about being able to do!

See? I wasn't kidding when I said SO MUCH has happened at Homespace over the course of the last 6 months – and we're not stopping in 2023. We've got DEI initiatives to be discussed, developed, and rolled out. We've got strategic planning for 2024 (and beyond) to complete. We have a 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY in 2024 to get ready for. It's been an exciting and eventful ride as of late here at Homespace....and we're looking forward to sharing more good news and important updates with all of you as 2023 continues to progress.

– Michael

Christmas at Homespace



The holidays are such a special time at Homespace, and we want to give a big thank you to all of our Holiday Angels and General Fund donors, as well as volunteers and staff for making this past holiday so special for all of our clients. This holiday season we were able to raise a grand total of \$14,509.00, and we could not have done it without all of your help. We thank you, from the bottom of our hearts.



LIVE

ON AIR

HOMESPACE FEATURED ON AM BUFFALO

ON MARCH 9, 2023 CHANNEL 7 DID A LIVE SEGMENT AT SILP BRINGING AWARENESS TO HOMESPACE! YOU CAN WATCH A RECORDING OF THE SEGMENT ON THEIR WEBSITE.

WKBW.COM/AM-BUFFALO



THANK YOU TO BRENDA, KATY, MICHAEL AND DONTÉ FOR BEING FEATURED ON CAMERA AND REPRESENTING HOMESPACE!



*Homespace
has achieved
accreditation
through the Council
on Accreditation!*

We are so proud of our team for this amazing accomplishment. COA accreditation means that our organization's programs, services, administration, and management have been rigorously evaluated and meet best practice standards. The team worked for nearly three years to achieve accreditation. Organizations pursue accreditation to demonstrate the implementation of best practice standards in the field of human services. COA evaluated all aspects of Homespace's programs, services, management, and administration.

COA accreditation is an objective, independent, and reliable validation of an agency's performance. The COA accreditation process involves a detailed review and analysis of an organization's administration, management, and service delivery functions against international standards of best practice. The standards driving accreditation ensure that services are well-coordinated, culturally competent, evidence-based, outcomes-oriented, and provided by a skilled and supported workforce. COA accreditation demonstrates accountability in the management of resources, sets standardized best practice thresholds for service and administration, and increases organizational capacity and accountability by creating a framework for ongoing quality improvement.

To learn more about COA, please visit www.coanet.org.

HOMESPACE CARES

Loleta Lipscomb



nominated for
*Compassion &
Empowerment*



February 2023 Homespace CARES Winner:

Loleta Lipscomb
Medical Support Specialist

"Loleta consistently goes above and beyond to ensure our youth attend their medical appointments, dental appointments and advocate for them while at these appointments. Loleta has frequently had to manage difficult behaviors inside medical offices and works to redirect the youth so their needs are met."

"Loleta communicates well with our clients. She is professional in her role as liaison between health care providers and client needs. Loleta keeps staff updated, which is very helpful to staff. Loleta is respectful and compassionate with our clients while also being straightforward with them. She holds them accountable for their actions and praises them when they achieve their goals. She encourages them to be self-sufficient and models self-sufficiency."

HOMESPACE CARES



March 2023 Homespace CARES Winner:

Faith Zeigler

YSS



"Faith holds the house together on the overnight shift at Second Chance. She helps the mom's with babies during the night (compassion) Encourages girls to be up and on time for school (accountability). Faith is kind and respectful to our clients and encourages them to be self-sufficient and accountable for their personal care and daily responsibilities."