



OH THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE

HomeSpace



FOR THE HOLIDAYS



HOLIDAY RECAP

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OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN

2024

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From the desk of our Executive Director Michael Hill

Happy New Year! 2024 is upon us and we're looking forward to another productive, exciting, and memorable year here at Homespace. As you'll read more about later in this newsletter, our organization turns 30 years old in 2024. We're proud of the difference we've made in the lives of our clients (and their children) for three decades now. We hope you'll consider joining us for our 30th Anniversary Celebration taking place in April. Here's a list of recent agency highlights:

1. In terms of events, I (along with Homespace staff members Katy Cooper, Elizabeth Bocchino, and Brenda Pryor) provided a training/presentation on all things child welfare to Homespace Board of Directors members on October 12th. We had a Halloween door decorating contest and a Halloween party for staff and clients on October 31st. We hosted a Buffalo Bills watch party for Homespace staff at Buffalo Riverworks on November 19th. We had a Thanksgiving party for staff and clients on November 21st. In terms of December holidays, there was SO much going on around Homespace (as there always is during December), but highlights include a Holiday party and visit from Santa for clients on December 14th (and a big thank you Board of Directors members Jerry Irving, Del Purdue-Grant, and everyone at Moog who make this annual event possible) and a gingerbread house decorating party for clients on December 22nd.
2. We secured multiple grants during the 4th quarter of 2024. In October we received a \$30,000.00 grant from the East Hill Foundation and a \$7,000.00 grant from YouthTime. In November we received a \$30,000 grant from the Peter and Elizabeth C. Tower Foundation, a \$7,000.00 grant from the Josephine Goodyear Foundation, and a \$10,000.00 grant from the M and T Charitable Foundation. We deeply appreciate the support of these generous funders!
3. Homespace has partnered with the Magellan Group LLC to help us develop a strategic plan that will guide the work of our agency starting in 2024 (and beyond).
4. We were honored to host some very special visitors for key meetings in November. Specifically, the Acting Commissioner for New York State's Office of Children and Family Services Suzanne Miles-Gustave on November 9th, the Council of Family and Child Caring Agencies (COFCCA) Board President Kym Watson on November 17th, and Erie County Legislator Howard Johnson and New York State Senator Tim Kennedy's Director of Diversity and Inclusion Zeneta Everhart on November 28th.
5. We had some fantastic meetings with community organizations like Buffalo Futures, Goodwill Industries, SUNY Buffalo's Dental School, and WNY STEM Hub. All of these meetings should result in great opportunities for our clients when it comes to things like job training, vocational training, better access to health care, and more.
6. Countless businesses, organizations, and community members contributed to make the holiday season at Homespace memorable for our clients. Whether you donated money to our "Holiday Angels" or "Remember Homespace at the Holidays" fundraisers, donated holiday gifts to our clients, or volunteered to wrap holiday gifts, THANK YOU for your making a difference for the youth we serve.

In looking back at 2023, we accomplished a LOT of great work here at Homespace...and there's no reason to expect anything less from us in 2024. Here's to 30 years of Homespace! Again, I hope to see you at our BIG 30th Anniversary Celebration in April. If you have questions about the event, would like to attend, or your organization or company would be interested in becoming an event sponsor, please contact our Development Coordinator Stephanie Codd at stephanie.codd@homespacecorp.org.

- Michael

We couldn't have done it without you!



Thank you to everyone who participated in adopt-a-family, donated to Holiday Angels and The General Fund, and organized corporate sponsorships (special shout out to Hodgson Russ, Moog Inc., Level Financial, and Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo).

We raised over \$13,000 between all fundraising efforts in November and December and received gift donations for 55 kids this year.

Buffalo, your generosity is unmatched!

THANK YOU TO
THE BUFFALO BILLS
AND
NEXT GENERATION UNITED
FOR WRAPPING OVER 200
CHRISTMAS GIFTS



SANTA CAME TO HOMESPACE!



A big thank you to our friends at Moog Inc. for bringing Santa to Homespace for a magical in-person holiday party on December 14th



Homespace families were invited to a very special holiday party with

Honored guest:

STEFON DIGGS



THANK YOU SO MUCH TO

M&T Bank

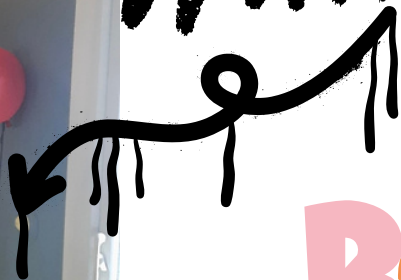
FOR THIS AWESOME EVENT!

HOMESPACE HALLOWEEN DOOR DECORATING

contest



WINNER



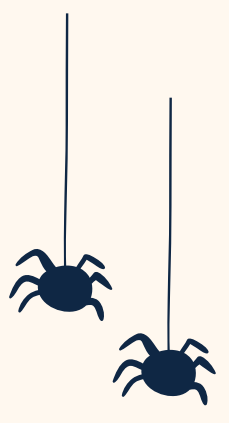
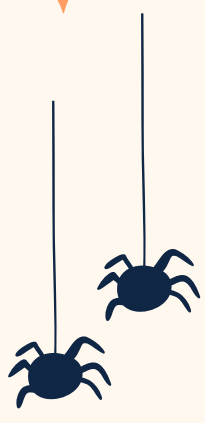
BOO!



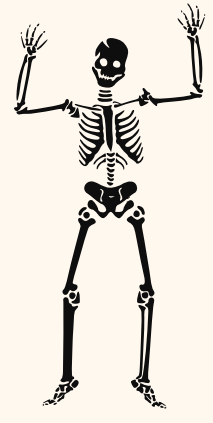
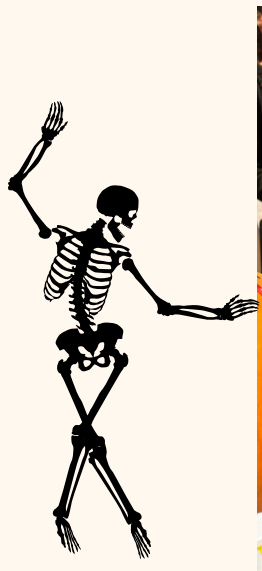


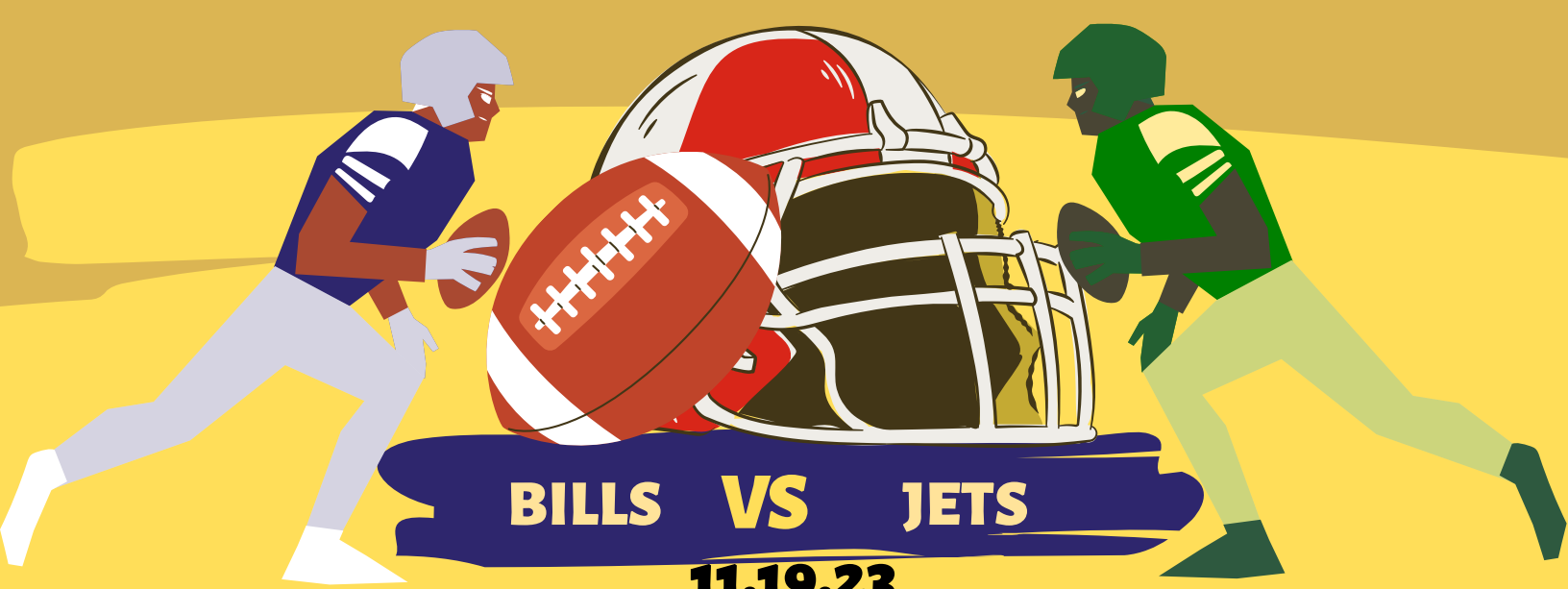
Homespace

PUMPKIN PAINTING



with pumpkins donated
from The Erie County
Sheriff's Office





BILLS VS JETS

11.19.23

FALL TEAM BONDING: WATCH PARTY AT RIVERWORKS

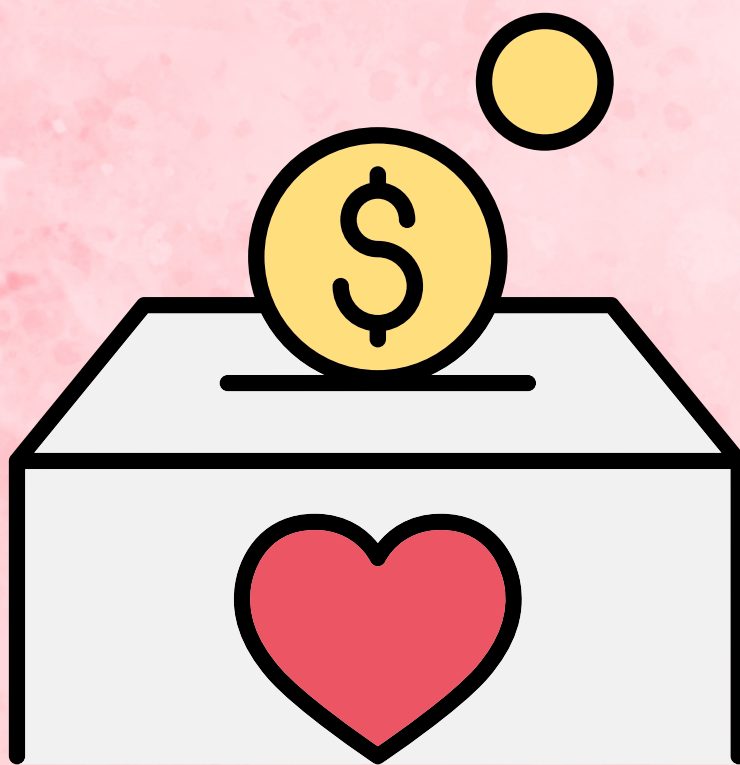




WE RECEIVED
THANKSGIVING
MEAL DONATIONS FROM
WEGMANS &
INGRAM MICRO

OUR BEAUTIFUL
COMMUNITY TABLE
SET & WAITING FOR
DINNER! STAFF &
YOUTH SHARED A
GREAT MEAL





GIVING TUESDAY

ON 11.28.23 WE RAISED \$355
THROUGH ONLINE FUNDRAISING, AND
OUR FRIENDS AT MISTER GOODBAR
RAISED \$1195 FOR HOMESPACE
TUESDAY NIGHT AT THE BAR!



TONYA RECEIVED A SCHOLARSHIP FROM THE BLACK NURSES ASSOCIATION GALA



SKY GRADUATED WITH HER MSW

ALEX GRADUATED WITH HER BSW



HOMESPACE STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2023

WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU!



MISS RONNIE MADE THE 2023 BLACK ACHIEVERS LIST IN BUFFALO BUSINESS FIRST



KATY AND AINSLIE ACHIEVED NEW CERTIFICATIONS IN PERINATAL MENTAL HEALTH

We are so excited to ring in 30 years of Homespace with a very special celebration fundraiser event coming up this April!

Information on the event is below. Ticket sales have not yet opened. Please keep an eye on your emails and our social media for a link to ticket sales in the coming weeks. Sponsorship IS currently open. If your organization would like to become a sponsor, and for any questions about the event, please contact our Development Coordinator Stephanie Codd at stephanie.codd@homespacecorp.org.

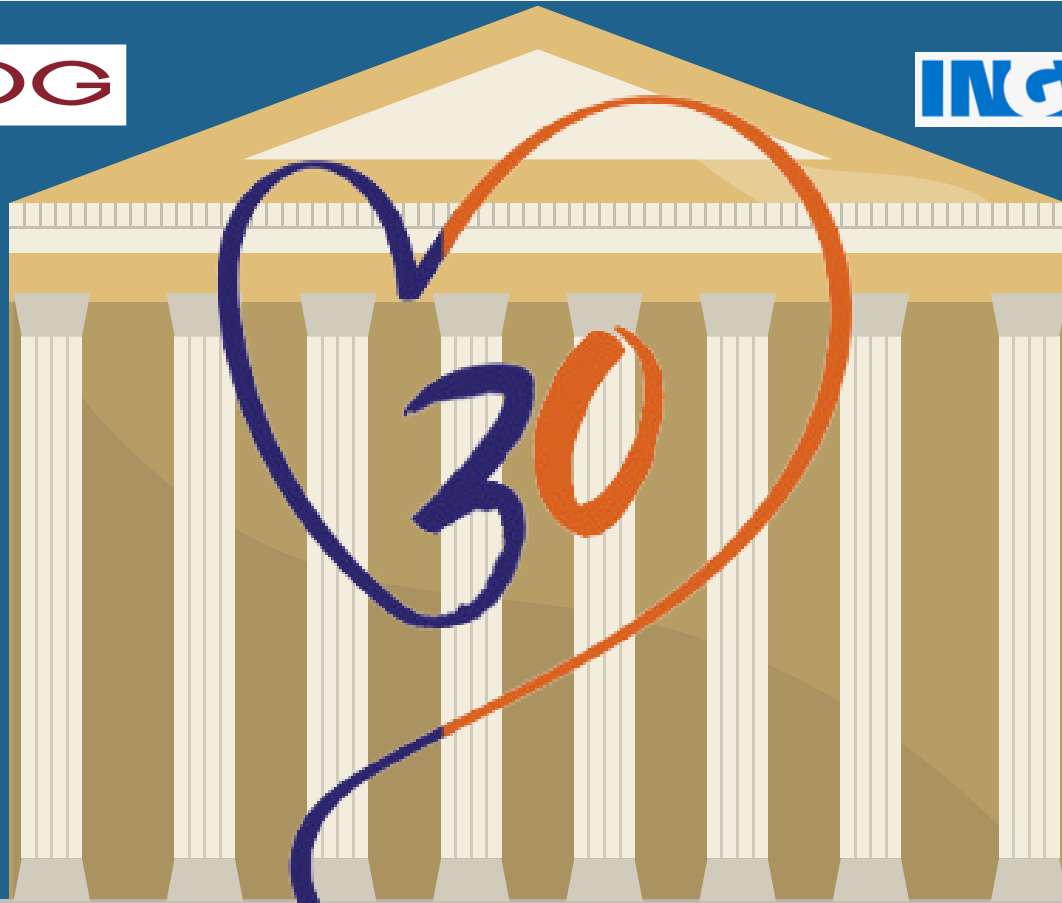
The History of Homespace with Mercedes Wilson

**HOMESPACE'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
PRESENTED BY**



MOOG

INGRAM MICRO



**JOIN US AT
THE BUFFALO HISTORY MUSEUM
SATURDAY APRIL 13TH 2024 AT 6:00 PM**

 **LAMPARELLI CONSTRUCTION CO., INC.**
Commercial • Industrial • Construction Management

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NEW YORK