

Healing Hearts



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#GIVINGTUESDAY™

Dear

Friends,

I love everything surrounding the idea of Giving Tuesday. I love that the idea was created around the values of service and giving back. I love that the social media campaign #GivingTuesday connects diverse groups of individuals, communities and organizations around the world for one common purpose: to celebrate and encourage giving.



Today, Giving Tuesday 2015, I encourage you to give to Bo's Place. Why give to Bo's Place? Let me tell you why I

give...

I give to honor the memory of my brother, Jeff Williford, who died far too young and left behind family and friends who still miss him ten years after his death.

I give so that a five-year-old boy who lost his baby sister has a place to share his deep love and sadness with children his own age.

I give so that a teenager who witnessed the drowning of his dad can confront his anguish and confusion and not feel so alone.

I give so that a mom who suddenly finds herself parenting solo has a place to be with other moms who will encourage her when she is afraid of what the future holds.

I give so that a dad who feels like the weight of the world is on his shoulders has a place where he can put down that burden and shed much needed tears.

I give to ensure that no one in our community ever has to grieve alone.

Because of the generosity of so many over the last 25 years, the bereaved in our community have a place that they can go for support. Please consider making a gift today to Bo's Place. To give now, click [here](#).

Giving thanks, with a grateful heart.

Mary
Executive
#GivingTuesday
#HelpHealHearts
#BosPlace

Beth

Staine
Director



Thankful for our Volunteers

An attitude of gratitude was seen on every face as we delivered Thanksgiving goodies to 81 families enrolled in our family grief support groups. Thanks to Advisory Board Member and Bo's Place pit master **Blaine Edwards**, families were treated once again to smoked turkey breasts - a true labor of love for Blaine that has become a Bo's Place Thanksgiving tradition. Families also recieved a handmade holiday card, delicious pie, and side dish items thanks to the generosity of **Superior Energy**, **The Junior League of Houston, Inc.**, **St. Martin's Episcopal Church**, and **National Charity League - Heart of Texas** and **Memorial** chapters.



Thank you to all our partners who made this special holiday treat possible.



Una Notte in Italia



For the third year, Bo's Place was the beneficiary of Festari for Men's "Una Notte in Italia" (A Night in Italy). Event Chairman, Eloise Frischkorn Bauer, and Honorary Chairman, Debbie Festari, greeted the more than 600 guests on November 6 at the Royal Sonesta, setting the stage for another sell-out event. After a lively cocktail hour, guests enjoyed delicious Italian food and fine wines as 25 "celebrity" models showed off their moves on the runway. KPRC Channel 2's Dominique Sachse and Andy Cerota served as the emcee and the auctioneer. After the show, DJ Senega kept the dance floor alive and Circulo Tequila offered specialty cocktails for the late-night revelers. All told, the event raised over \$350,000 for Bo's Place. Thank you to everyone that made this party a huge success!



Culture Can Influence the Grief Journey

On December 11, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, Bo's Place will host Sandra A. Lopez, LCSW, ACSW, DCSW, as she presents *Balancing Ethics & Best Practices: Honoring Diversity in the Grieving Process*. Sandra will discuss the ways that cultural background, beliefs, and rituals influence the grief journey, ethical challenges faced by those working with the bereaved from different cultures, and ways to honor diversity in the grief journey.



To register, please contact Valencia Buggs at 713-942-8339 or valencia@bosplace.org. For more information, click [here](#).



Amazon Smile Holiday Shopping

As you shop for gifts this holiday season, please consider supporting Bo's Place by registering with Amazon Smile. As part of Amazon Smile, Bo's Place will benefit from each purchase you make on Amazon. For more information, visit the [Amazon Smile](#) homepage.



Join us to Celebrate Peggy Roe



The Hearts of Hope Luncheon will be held on Thursday, January 28th, at the Hilton Americas. This year, we are delighted to honor Peggy Roe with the Robin Bush Award for her commitment to improving the lives of children in our community. Peggy served as a board member and founder of the Guild at Covenant House Texas. In her career, she worked with schools, churches and women's organizations to improve their fund-raising efforts. Near and dear to Bo's Place, Peggy served on the Board of Directors until 2014 and still serves as an advisory board member. We hope you will join us to celebrate all that Peggy has done for children and families in Houston.

For ticket and table information, please click [here](#).



Countdown to Houston Marathon!

The Chevron Houston Marathon is just over one month away! Please join us on Sunday, January 17th, at the mile 6.5 water station to support the marathon and cheer on our runners. To volunteer, you can sign up [here](#).

We will also be staffing a tent in the Charity Village. To volunteer there and celebrate the runners after they finish, email Jill Stillwagon at jill@bosplace.org.

Many friends, families and staff from Bo's Place will be participating in the ABB 5k the day before the marathon. Contact Teri Howell at marathon@bosplace.org to find out how to participate in this family-friendly opportunity.

To help Team Bo's Place reach its fundraising goal of \$60,000, donate [here](#). Thank you for supporting Team Bo's Place and the Chevron Houston Marathon!



Happenings



On November 2, volunteers from **St. Martin's Episcopal Church** kicked off the holiday season by decorating our dining room and serving our first holiday meal. These beautiful decorations welcomed families throughout the month of November.

The **Foresters** group was busy helping Bo's Place this holiday season, filling welcome bags for Camp Healing Hearts on November 7 and serving a delicious holiday dinner for families and volunteers on November 10.



On November 18, Program Director Marian Mankin served on the **Volunteer Management Academy** panel for the Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at Rice University's Susanne M. Glasscock School of Continuing Studies.

On November 19, Bo's Place joined bereavement centers across the nation in wearing blue to promote **Children's Grief Awareness Day**.



Bo's Place Grief Support Services

At Bo's Place, we believe that enabling grieving families to share their experiences with each other helps these families navigate the grief journey and move towards hope and healing. We offer free Grief Support Groups in English and Spanish to families and individuals.

If you or someone you know would like information about Bo's Place Grief Support Groups for children, families, and adults, [click here](#) or call 713.942.8339.

Bo's Place exists to enhance the lives of those who have experienced the death of a loved one.

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