



National Alliance for Grieving Children's 20th Annual Symposium

Bo's Place was well represented at the National Alliance for Grieving Children's (NAGC) 20th Annual Symposium on Children's Grief in Indianapolis, Indiana June 23rd-25th. Over 430 professionals and volunteers who work with grieving children came together to attend workshops and share new ideas, research and best practices to take home to help support the bereaved.



Executive Director, Mary Beth Staine, co-presented a workshop entitled "*Using Bereavement-Informed Assessment to Guide Grief Support Decision-Making: An Academic Community Partnership*" with Julie Kaplow, Ph.D., A.B.P.P., Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and Christopher Layne, PhD, Program Director of Education in Evidence-Based Practice at the UCLA/Duke University National Center for Child Traumatic Stress. The workshop described the ways in which Bo's Place is implementing a bereavement-informed assessment to guide referral decisions, evaluate service outcomes, and contribute to a collaborative data repository focusing on

childhood grief. In addition, as the president of the NAGC Board of Directors, Mary Beth introduced speakers and award recipients and worked with other board members to ensure that Symposium attendees were having the best possible experience.

Spanish Outreach Manager, Flor Guebara, LMSW, and Bilingual Ongoing Groups Manager, Cristina Flores, LCSW, shared their expertise on creating successful programs for Spanish speakers by presenting a workshop entitled "*Que pasa with your Spanish Programs? Maintaining and Nurturing Spanish Speaking Programs,*" and also led a forum on Spanish Speaking Programming. Program Director, Marian Mankin, LCSW, led a forum of Program Directors from across the country. Special Programs Manager, Courtney Reynolds, LMSW, also attended the symposium and brought back new ideas for camp and other special programming.

The NAGC staff, sponsors and volunteers put together a fabulous assortment of workshops and networking opportunities. Special thanks to the major sponsors of the symposium: *New York Life, Vitas, A Little Hope, Inc., Alex Cares, Inc., Marian University, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, and SendTree.* Bo's Place is proud to be a member of the NAGC and hopes that the alliance continues to grow and help build a world where no child has to grieve alone.



BIENVENIDO a Bo's Place

Thanks to the guidance, creativity, determination and dedication of our bilingual clinicians, Flor Guebara and Cristina Flores, we are expanding our Spanish speaking programs and need equally dedicated Spanish speaking Volunteer Facilitators to help us grow. The Hispanic population in Houston is rapidly growing and we are committed to serving this vital community. Twice

monthly weekend opportunities are available and a one year commitment is required. If you are a Spanish speaker, we invite you to please join our first-ever Spanish Speaking Volunteer Facilitator training, October 15-16 to help heal the hearts of our Spanish speaking children and adults. Registration is required. Please contact Carla Bagalay at carla@bosplace.org or 713-942-8339.



RUNNING out of time!

If you want to run the FULL Marathon, there are still a few spots left in Open Registration. Please sign up through the Marathon [here](#) and set up a fundraising page [here](#). There is no minimum amount that you must raise, but if you raise over \$350 you will automatically become a HERO and get some pretty cool perks. Find out more [here](#).



Planning to run the HALF Marathon, but realized Open Registration is SOLD OUT? You can still run, by joining Team Bo's Place through the Fundraising for Registration (FFR) Program. To reserve your FFR spot, sign up [here](#) and commit to raising a minimum of \$500 for Bo's Place.



Bo's Place collaborates with Shell & Volunteer Houston

"For nine years, the Shell Nonprofit Internship Program, powered by Volunteer Houston, has introduced college students from around the country to the nonprofit community in Houston. Forty nonprofit agencies and forty college students were selected through a competitive application process to participate in this unique 8 week long paid summer internship. Bo's Place was chosen, among other participating nonprofit agencies, to host the kick-off event for this program which included both the college interns and their nonprofit agency supervisors. It was a great way to kick off the start of this impactful summer program. From helping Volunteer Houston plan the event to providing guided overviews of Bo's Place's programs and meeting spaces, the staff went above and beyond what we could have asked for. Among the speakers were representatives from Volunteer Houston, Shell Oil Company, and Bo's Place. With a networking breakfast, guest speakers, breakout sessions, and tours of Bo's Place, everyone left motivated and eager to do great work this summer.

This Shell Nonprofit Internship Program is part of Volunteer Houston's Summer Internship Initiative, whose focus is introducing college students to the nonprofit field and helping these students and the agencies at which they intern make a positive difference in the Greater Houston Community. Volunteer Houston is dedicated to making volunteering and

service a part of every Houstonian's life and connecting them with a cause for which they truly feel a passion. Volunteer Houston is proud to call Bo's Place a community partner not only for hosting the Shell Nonprofit Internship Program, but for their continued dedication to the needs of the community and the volunteers that help make it happen."

-Luis Rivas, Senior Program Manager, Volunteer Houston

Thank you to Shell and Volunteer Houston for making this program available to college students with a passion for nonprofit service. Bo's Place is proud to be a partner in the Shell Nonprofit Internship Program.



The annual "Una Notte in Italia" will be held on Friday, November 4th at the Royal Sonesta. This year's Event Co-Chairmen Stacey Soriero and Tiffany Wong, along with Honorary Chairman Debbie Festari, have already been hard at work putting together a great group of committee women and making sure this event is another sell-out! Guests will enjoy Italian cuisine and wines, handsome men walking the runway on behalf of Bo's Place and late night dancing with DJ Senega.

Tickets and tables are already being purchased, so don't miss your chance to be a part of this special night. You may reserve online [here](#) or call Andrea Sivells at 713-942-8339, ext. 123.

We've already confirmed some fantastic men to walk the runway. Along with our live auction, we are featuring a silent auction with a select group of 10 to 15 premier packages. You'll have a chance to bid on prized wines, dinner out on the town or weekend getaways! This is truly one of the most fun events of the fall social season - hope to see you there!



Happenings



On June 1, Bo's Place welcomed four **undergraduate summer interns!** Lindsey White, Jordan Goldberg, Sarah Jacobson and Saif Thobhani have already become a helpful part of the Bo's Place team and have made great contributions to our summer initiatives!



Executive Director, Mary Beth Staine, and Development Director, Andrea Sivells, attended the 4th Annual **CJ Strnadel Memorial Fishing Tournament**, hosted by the Houston Office of **SpawGlass**. Pictured here with CJ's family and friends, Mary Beth and Andrea joined the group for the Captain's Dinner on June 3 in Port O'Connor, where Bo's Place was a beneficiary of the fishing tournament.

On June 3, Bo's Place hosted "**Night at the Movies**," for Bo's Place children and teens from our grief support groups. *Finding Nemo* entertained the crowd while they snacked on pizza and popcorn. Thank you to National Charity League for the beautiful decorations.



"**Playing with Paint**" was colorful, creative, artistic, and expressive, as Bo's Place children and teens created two paintings with the help and guidance of three artists: Blanca Anderson and Landauer Art. Everyone enjoyed playing with paint and making new friends.

Bo's Place adult group participants channeled their inner Picasso and Van Gogh on June 17 at our adults only version of **"Playing with Paint."** Smiles, friendships, healing, and joy were shared by all while creating two beautiful masterpieces to take home.



On June 16, Development team members, Andrea and Jill, braved the heat to staff the Bo's Place table at the **Houston Marathon Run for a Reason Kickoff Party** at Memorial Park.



The entire Bo's Place staff was treated to an **End of Year Celebratory Lunch** to acknowledge the hard work and accomplishments of the past fiscal year! We are full of goals for the upcoming year, as we will continue to help heal more hearts.



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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