

Healing Hearts



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What a sweet Valentine's gift for Bo's Place as we celebrated 30 years at the Hearts of Hope Luncheon. The event was sold out with over 800 attendees on Thursday, February 13 at the Westin Galleria. The special guest speaker was **Bode Miller**, World Championship gold medalist and a two-time World Cup Champion, winner of six Olympic medals, a gold, three silvers and two bronze, making him the second most decorated Winter Olympic athlete in US history. In an interview with emcee Lisa Malosky, Miller shared about his family's grief journey and how they coped with unimaginable tragedy when daughter Emeline Grier tragically died in a drowning accident at 19 months of age.



Chairs of the successful event, **Susan and Charlie Neuhaus** and **Kate and Logan Walters**, and Honorary Chairs, **Giggy and Matt Thanheiser** and **Paula and Rusty Walter** were thrilled with the over \$575,000 raised from the luncheon. The Puppy Pull was a popular attraction as guests were seen leaving carrying a plush puppies adorned with bows in red, white and blue, just ahead of President's Day. The colors and theme were carried through-out the event including the centerpieces donated by H-E-B.



Lindy Neuhaus, mother of Bo Neuhaus, whose death at the age of 12 inspired Bo's Place to be a safe place for bereaved families to come for grief support, introduced the Robin Bush Award Honorees, the **Upton Family**. The Robin Bush Award is given each year in memory of Robin Bush, daughter of President George H. W. Bush and Barbara Bush, who were early supporters of Bo's Place. **Mr. Wade Upton** spoke on behalf of his deceased wife, **Ginger**, and his daughters and their spouses, **Dr. Lindy Upton McGee** and **Mr. Tom McGee**, and **Mrs. Katie Upton Daily** and **Mr. John Daily**. Wade shared his heart for Bo's Place, but mostly for Ginger and how she was the magnet that brought so many people together. Many of those close friends, referred to affectionately as the "Ginger Snaps", continue to champion causes about which Ginger was so passionate. Wade concluded his remarks sharing: "Today everyone here is a "Ginger Snap" because you care deeply about suffering children and because you are willing to step up and do something about it. A piece of this award belongs to each of you."



Thank you to everyone who is a "Ginger Snap," whether you attended the luncheon, made a donation, volunteered your time, or helped spread awareness to support Bo's Place. We celebrate 30 years because YOU have made it possible to help heal hearts each year.

[VIEW VIDEO: "30 YEARS OF HEALING HEARTS"](#)



Upcoming Professional Training Opportunities

Good Grief for School Professionals

It is estimated that 1 in 15 children in the Greater Houston area will experience the death of a parent or sibling by the time they reach the age of 18. That startling statistic means that school counselors, nurses and classroom educators are seeing the impact of childhood bereavement in their student population on a regular basis and, at Bo's Place, we know that many

feel ill-equipped to appropriately meet the needs of these students.

For school professionals who want to build their skills to more effectively support bereaved students at their schools, Bo's Place offers **Good Grief for School Professionals** twice a year. The next workshop will be held on **Saturday, April 18, 2020**. Please share this information with a teacher or school professional in your community who may benefit from this hands-on workshop.



INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

The Branches of Our Tree: Unique Relationships and the Meaning of Each Loss

There are many factors which impact the grief journey. From William Worden we learn that there are seven mediators of mourning, all of which influence our experience of grief in different ways. The relationship one has with the deceased may be one of the strongest predictors of the intensity of a person's grief reaction.



On **Friday, April 24, 2020** in partnership with the **Institute for Spirituality and Health**, Bo's Place will host a workshop entitled **The Branches of Our Tree: Unique Relationships and the Meaning of Each Loss**. This 3-hour program will explore the experience of grief through the lens of our family relationships, including supports and spirituality. Through both clinical perspectives and personal narrative, the speakers will encourage participants to consider their own family tree to better understand how we grieve each relationship in distinct ways.

INFORMATION & REGISTRATION



Coming off the stylish Kick-Off party at Tootsies on Friday, February 28, 2020, we are betting that this year's Hats, Hearts & Horseshoes will once again be a sell-out event!. Guests at the Kickoff enjoyed a fab and fashion filled runway show with morning sips and noshes while they checked out the visually stunning hats and fascinators and the subsequent hunt for the perfect Derby outfit and hat. Thank you to Tootsie's for hosting a fun event, and thank you to all who attended to launch our annual Derby party!



In the meantime, Chairs **Kelli and John Weinzierl**, along with the Honorary Chairs **Paige Fertitta, Megan and Luke Hotze, Hannah and Cal McNair**, and **Hallie Vanderhider**, are hard at work finalizing the details for this not to be missed event on May 2nd. Hosted at a private home in Memorial, guests will enjoy the best 2 minutes in sports, decadent bites, and refreshing cocktails. Grab a group of friends and reserve your table for the best Kentucky Derby party in town.

For more information, email derby@bosplace.org. For sponsorships and underwriting opportunities, click below.

PURCHASE TICKETS & TABLES



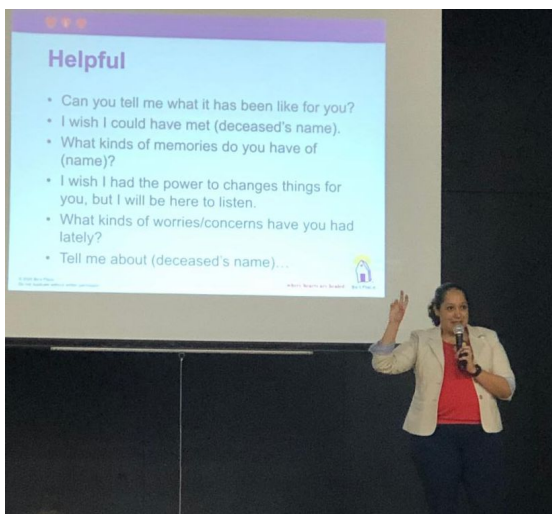
Happenings



Cristina Chipriano, LCSW-S, attended the **National Alliance for Grieving Children's board of directors retreat** on January 23-24. We are proud to have her representing Bo's Place on the board!



Volunteers from **St. Martin's Episcopal Church** decked out the dining room with festive decorations and served a delicious Valentine's Day themed dinner for our families on February 3. There was so much love in the air!



On February 7, Cristina Chipriano, LCSW-S presented our workshop "Understanding and Supporting the Latino Bereaved Community" to the **Latino Social Workers of Greater Houston Annual Conference**.

We are so proud of these volunteers who completed our **Winter Volunteer Facilitator Training** on the weekend of February 15-16! We cannot wait to see these heart healers in action as volunteers in our support groups!



We are grateful to have been a part of **St. Martin's Episcopal Church Outreach Sunday** on February 23. Members of their congregation volunteered to assemble "Bags of Hope," which we give to each child who begins support groups at Bo's Place. Our hearts are full of gratitude for the many volunteers who made 500 bags for us!



Our staff is ready to rodeo! On February 28, we participated in **Go Texan Day**, donning our best Texas-inspired attire and enjoying a barbecue lunch together! Yee-haw!



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 in Houston and West Houston/Katy.

If you or someone you know would like information about Bo's Place Grief Support Groups for children, families, and adults, visit our website [here](https://www.bosplace.org) or call 713.942.8339.

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



