

# Healing Hearts



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## In This Issue

- Getting Ready for School (and Group!)
- Meet Our Summer Intern: Olivia Golub
- Announcing Team Bo's Place Chairs
- Save the Date for 2024 Hearts of Hope Luncheon



## Getting Ready for School (and Group!)

As the summer heat continues, back to school shopping for new clothes, backpacks, and school supplies has begun. Settling into a new school year after a loved one has died may be difficult and some students may or may not want others to know about the death. They might feel different from others or think that they are the only one whose parent or sibling has died. Please see our *How to Support a Grieving Child Returning to School* handout for tips on how to support bereaved students.



Bo's Place is also gearing up for family grief support groups and school groups to resume in September. Donating items from our wish list will help Bo's Place support children and adults joining our in-person and online groups. Our wish list includes books and art supplies for our group activities and kitchen supplies for the meals provided for the in-person family groups. Each item is something needed to make our groups happen, and we appreciate all donations. If you place an order from our wish list, Amazon will send it straight to us. Please include your name and address on the gift receipt so that we can send you a letter of thanks (which you can use as your proof of donation). We thank you for caring and supporting children, adults, and families who are grieving.

[How to Support a Grieving Child Returning to School](#)

[Cómo apoyar a un niño en duelo con el regreso a la escuela](#)

[Amazon Wish List](#)



## Meet Our Summer Intern: Olivia Golub

Olivia Golub was all set to fulfill her Senior Internship Week for The Emery/Weiner School at Bo's Place. In

March of 2020. We all know what happened then.

Fast forward to her Junior year at Tulane University, when Olivia decided to pursue a career in social work. She also realized that most of the activities to which she had been devoting her time over the past several years – like being a camp counselor – revolved around children. It clicked that she could merge these two passions – social work and children – and turn a seemingly lost opportunity into reality. Her summer internship at Bo's Place began in June 2023.

For the past two months, Olivia has worked on numerous projects within all departments. She helped tag and organize our well known stuffed plush puppies (Raisin, Chip, and Buddy) for our children. She verified volunteer hours for the numerous helpers who support our programs. She assisted the development team with post-Derby party reconciliation. She worked on a very special art project for a community partner. And she stayed several evenings to assist Hospitality Volunteers on family support group nights.



Of all these projects, Olivia reflects that her proudest accomplishment was organizing the Pi Beta Phi Lending Library. This Lending Library is an asset to Bo's Place families, providing grief-related books for all different age groups and that cover all different topics. This is important to Olivia because she values the accessibility that Bo's Place brings to those who are bereaved. It is what attracted her to Bo's Place in the first place: it's a free service! She has seen those who are grieving suffer because they cannot afford private counseling. That Bo's Place provides free of charge services makes it exceptional in her book.

Olivia's passion for wanting to serve others is inspired by her father, Jeff Golub, who has been involved with Bo's Place as long as she can remember. Olivia shared that, while her father is so busy with his career, he is also generous with his time for charitable causes, and that has had a real influence on her and her siblings. In fact, Olivia has a true sense of gratitude for being able to volunteer at Bo's Place. She feels fortunate that she has never needed Bo's Place services and considers it a privilege to have the opportunity to support those who do need Bo's Place.

Olivia's most memorable experiences were being a hospitality volunteer during the family support group dinner, a special and important part of the support group program. Seeing families coming together establishing friendships and supporting each other over a shared family meal warmed Olivia's heart, as she witnessed firsthand how Bo's Place provides a safe place for bereaved families to support other bereaved families on their grief journey. Olivia's hope for Bo's Place is that the organization will continue to reach more people.

As her internship came to a close, Olivia shared advice she would give to someone considering volunteering: "When you have an opportunity to volunteer anywhere, just do it. If you're lucky enough to have the ability and interest to do it, even if for just a day, it makes a difference."

Olivia, we couldn't agree more. We will miss you and are grateful to you for being a part of our team of heart healers.



## 2024 Run for a Reason: Announcing Team Bo's Place Co-Chairs

Bo's Place is excited to announce our first-ever co-chairs for our 2024 Run for a Reason team. **Carol Lee Lyons** and her daughter, **Annie**, will be serving as co-chairs this year to help grow Team Bo's Place. Carol Lee is a current member of the Bo's Place Board of Directors and Annie will be a senior at Episcopal High School this fall. We're looking forward to a great race season and welcoming many new faces to Team Bo's Place.

Runners and walkers of all speeds, abilities, and ages are invited to be a part of Team Bo's Place. There are three race options: the Chevron Houston Marathon, the Aramco Houston Half Marathon, and the We Are Houston 5K. Team participants will receive a tech shirt, monthly newsletter, and an invitation to the pancake breakfast on race weekend.

Funds raised will help us further our mission and continue to help heal hearts. If you have any questions or would like to sign up, please email [marathon@bosplace.org](mailto:marathon@bosplace.org).



See you at the starting line!



## Save the Date for 2024 Hearts of Hope Luncheon

Join us for the annual Hearts of Hope Luncheon!

**Wednesday, February 7, 2024**  
**Hilton Houston Post Oak**

We are thrilled to announce the co-chairs of this year's luncheon:

**Emily and Chad Covey**  
**Laura and Mark Dalton**  
**Amy and David Mitchell**

For more information, please contact Rachel Daniels, Special Events Manager, at [heartsofhope@bosplace.org](mailto:heartsofhope@bosplace.org).



## Happenings

Bo's Place is so grateful to our friends at the **Smilin' Rylen Foundation** who presented a \$3,000 check on July 19 toward meals and supplies for our Family Groups from their annual raffle held in conjunction to the Smilin' Rylen Run. Kristen Cowan, Rylen's mother, shared: "Bo's Place has always been such a special place for my family, and we're happy to know that our gift will help your organization help other families in their grief journey.... Thanks for being a part of our healing journey and walking along side our grief journey as you all have continued to support our mission of helping families in crisis & raising awareness about organ donation."



On July 25, Marian Mankin, Bo's Place Program Director, provided a talk and tour for students and faculty from the **University of Houston Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine**.



## Bo's Place Grief Support Services

At Bo's Place, we believe that grieving families heal when they share their experiences with each other. 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.

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

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