



Bethany Hill Place
A living and learning community of neighbors

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2022

Message from Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Bethany Hill Place's mission, and that of our CSJ Founders, has always been to connect and empower those who have been marginalized. We seek to work with residents as equals and commit to restore dignity and agency to their lives. Before confronting COVID-19, we knew our residents had faced discouraging obstacles as a result of long-standing systemic racism. Inequitable education and housing policies and practices often leads to poverty, under-employment and homelessness.



In 2020, we recognized that in order to make meaningful change toward racial equity as an all-white staff, a majority white Board, and an all-white Sponsor, we needed to examine and understand our privilege and the invisible systems of dominance within which we exist and operate.

We began top-down at the Board level with structured training and discussions throughout 2020 and 2021. As we bring our current three-year strategic plan to a close, we are carefully reporting out on accomplishments and setbacks through a lens of racial equity, and we have begun the new year with facilitated trainings for our staff and partners who work in the building.

By becoming more perceptive and intentional, we have made small changes to advance equity within the organization and are committed to increasing racial equity within and beyond the Bethany Hill Place community.

Warm regards,

Trish Appert
Executive Director

IMPACT SPOTLIGHT

Making a Difference by Addressing Mental Health

FREQUENT AND PROLONGED HARDSHIP

Poverty is stressful. Worries about work, money, housing, food insecurity, childcare, and illness, all contribute to severe, long-term levels of chronic stress and trauma that can lead to anxiety, depression, and mental health issues.

OUR APPROACH

In collaboration with partners Advocates and the MetroWest Health Foundation, Bethany Hill Place offers on site counseling services and therapeutic supports, such as guided meditation and a morning walking group, all easily accessible to residents. We also provide self-care and wellness activities.

IMPROVING OUTCOMES

Addressing mental health issues and reducing stress gives people the opportunity to build resilience, diminish obstacles, and increase their capacity to engage successfully in learning, work, families, and future success.



“My role here is to show residents that we are fully committed to their success in life.”

ESTACIO PORTELA
Mental Health Clinician

Building Successful Futures, Together!

■ Mark Your Calendars! April 28, 2022 at 7 pm



LIVESTREAM BROADCAST

Learn more using your smartphone camera to scan the QR code and access our event page or visit givebutter.com/BethanyHillPlaceSpringGala.



JOIN US on April 28, 2022 at 7 pm for the live broadcast of our annual Spring Gala, this year dedicated to building successful futures through education and empowerment. While we wish we could gather together in person, our primary responsibility continues to be the safety and well-being of all.

With COVID's impact far from over, never has the need for corporate and individual donations been greater. During these still uncertain times, we are committed to provide adults with learning opportunities that improve their economic situation and children with educational and enrichment experiences that develop skills to succeed. Funds raised from our caring community of supporters keep these essential services available for the families who call Bethany Hill Place home.

We are honored to acknowledge TJX as a lead supporter of this signature event (see "Corporate Spotlight" on page 3). Our goal is to raise \$140,000 so we can ensure our families have support and opportunity in the face of continuing hardship.

Our Spring Gala has always been an inspiring celebration of people delivering hope and making a difference in the lives of our neighbors in need. We hope you will join us and give our residents a chance for a better life and a brighter future.

2022 Legacy of Justice Award

The MetroWest Health Foundation will be honored at this year's Spring Gala with the Legacy of Justice Award for its positive impact on the health and well-being of the 25 communities of Metrowest. Since its inception in 1999, the foundation has awarded \$50 million in funding to community-based programs that help residents and their families lead healthier lives. As a leader and convenor, the foundation has worked diligently, especially during the COVID pandemic, at finding solutions to health inequities and increasing access to healthcare services for disadvantaged populations. We are delighted to recognize their work and look forward to celebrating their efforts dismantling health-related inequities while eliminating barriers to justice for all.

**METROWEST
HEALTH
FOUNDATION**

Become an Event Sponsor

Our Spring Gala provides the perfect opportunity to promote your business while promoting values you and your employees believe in. Sponsorships from individuals and families are welcome too and are equally impactful.

So what does your sponsorship do?



- Helps kids with homework and matches them with a reading pal in after-school programming.



- Gives adults guidance with designing academic and work readiness plans that foster economic mobility.
- Connects families to transportation, schools, food, and emotional and mental health supports.

By addressing education, mental and physical health, hunger relief, traumatic stress, and child development we are helping to build successful futures, one family at a time. Without your support, this essential work can't continue.

To become a sponsor, visit our gala page at givebutter.com/BethanyHillPlaceSpringGala. For further information or assistance, please contact us at jboulet@bethanyhillplace.org or (508) 270-8002.

All donations to Bethany Hill Place are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



Corporate Spotlight

TJX has been a philanthropic supporter of the Bethany Hill Place mission and Spring Gala for more than 20 years. In addition to its yearly financial support, each December, the company's Associates help brighten the holiday season for our residents by filling their gift wishes through its annual "Giving Tree" program. We continue to be amazed by the generosity of TJX and are grateful today and every day for its continued support of our work.



DONOR SPOTLIGHT



Stephanie (right) and daughter Alyssa have volunteered for the children's educational enrichment Summer Club program since 2019.



Dedicated volunteers like Stephanie bring kindness, understanding, and a solid presence to the lives of our children residents.

NAME: Stephanie Campbell

HOMETOWN: Lives in Natick with husband, Rick, and children, Alyssa and Alex

FIRST INVOLVEMENT WITH BETHANY HILL PLACE:

"My daughter Alyssa had volunteered at Bethany Hill Place as a college mentor and reading buddy. She always spoke so highly about the families and how much fun she had with the kids. I had been searching for meaningful volunteer work and reached out to (Program Director) Courtney McSparron to see if 'an extra pair of mom hands' were needed. Lucky for me - they did!"

IMPACT: "I love volunteering; nothing is better than a middle-schooler telling you that 'they were going to try harder in school' based on a brief chat you had."

WHY DID SHE DECIDE TO CONTRIBUTE: "I'm a monthly donor because I know Bethany Hill Place's amazing programs can be life-changing. Providing financial support and seeing the residents set goals and achieve them is awesome in the truest sense of the word."

WHAT DOES "OPPORTUNITY" MEAN TO STEPHANIE: "For me, opportunity means removing obstacles so individuals can grow, achieve goals, and fulfill their potential."

MAKE AN IMPACT Join the Pathways Club

Recurring contributions provide ongoing support for our programming and can be made weekly, monthly, or quarterly and modified or canceled at any time. Bethany Hill Place relies on regular, consistent gifts from Pathway Club donors to ensure our residents have every opportunity to reach their full potential through

education and empowerment. To sign up, visit bethanyhillplace.org, click the Donate button, and select the frequency of your recurring gift. Even small donations, when given consistently over time, build to make a difference in our efforts to end the cycle of poverty.



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