

# Healing Hearts



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## In This Issue

- A Note from Jennifer...
- October is Pregnancy & Infant Loss Awareness Month
- Volunteer Spotlight: Justine Warburton
- Upcoming Training: "Good Grief for Helping Professionals"
- Save the Date: Hearts of Hope Dinner
- Happenings



## A Note from Jennifer...

Inspiration can be found anywhere. This weekend, I happened to find it in a commercial during a football game. The commercial began with the statement, "The huddle. It's a circle of trust." As teammates stand shoulder to shoulder, unbreakable bonds are shared, and confidence is forged.

This reminded me of our team at Bo's Place. The staff. The Board of Directors. The volunteers. The generous funders. We stand shoulder to shoulder to serve the bereaved in our community. Leaning into our circle of trust is part of what makes the magic of Bo's Place so real.

I also thought about our group participants. When the people we serve come together, they feel the support of one another. The huddle is their safe place and where the hope and healing begin.

The huddle is where lasting connections are built, trust is strengthened, and hope is renewed.

With Bright Hope for Tomorrow,

Jennifer Boubel  
Executive Director



## October is Pregnancy & Infant Loss Awareness Month

October 15th is internationally recognized as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day. Many events and activities are held worldwide to remember the babies who have died and to support bereaved parents and families.

In the Houston area, on October 13th, the Wave of Light memorial will be presented by Missing

Pieces Support Group, Harmonie Grace Foundation and Little Angel Network and other sponsors, including Bo's Place.

This candlelight memorial event will held at Bell Park (4800 Montrose, Houston, TX 77005) at 6:00pm and aims to bring together people who are remembering their babies' lives and honoring those many families worldwide who have experienced this profound loss. For more information about the Wave of Light event, please see below.

Bo's Place also has a support group for Pregnancy Loss, and we invite you to learn more below.



Wave of Light memorial event

Bo's Place Pregnancy Loss Support Group



## Volunteer Spotlight: Justine Warburton

Justine was born in England, but work brought her to the US, where she got married and created a beautiful blended family. While she is now an "empty nester," she fills her time with classes at the Glassell School of Art, working on a master's degree in fine art, traveling, visiting her children, and volunteering with Bo's Place.

When asked what brought her to Bo's Place, Justine shared that "on July 14, 2018, our youngest son, Toby, was killed tragically in a boating incident. Our world was turned upside down and we began our journey of grief. Three years after the tragedy, feeling emotionally stronger, I realized that I wanted to be able to share my experience of death and more importantly wanted to be able to help others in grief."

Now into her second year of volunteering, Justine spoke to the impact of her role, saying "Volunteering fills me up. Volunteers see a direct impact that their time has in lifting up participants who are in their lowest and most vulnerable points in their life. It gives me perspective on my own loss, and has given me the realization that each person has their own journey and the best role I can play in that is to listen and provide a place to be heard."

Thank you, Justine, for helping Bo's Place provide a safe space to be heard. We appreciate you!



## Upcoming Training: "Good Grief for Helping Professionals"

Save the date for our upcoming *Good Grief for Helping Professionals*. This online training is designed for professionals wanting to build their skills to more effectively support the bereaved. The session provides an overview of current grief theory, various indicators of grief, and how to support grieving individuals across the lifespan. Led by Bo's Place mental health professionals, this 3-hour training will focus on supporting the bereaved client using grief-specific therapeutic elements through a variety of interventions.

Participants will gain tools and resources to support their work with the bereaved, and interventions ready for implementation in a variety of settings. Opportunity for 3 continuing education credits will be available.

**Good Grief for Helping Professionals**  
**Friday, November 15, 2024**  
**9 am – 12 pm**

*Good Grief for Helping Professionals* is co-presented by Bo's Place mental health professionals, Marian Mankin, LCSW-S and Alison Smith, LCSW.



Good Grief for Helping Professionals



Save the Date for a special **Hearts of Hope Evening** celebrating 35 years of Bo's Place!

**Thursday, January 30, 2025**  
**6:00 PM**  
**The Post Oak Hotel**

Robin Bush Award Honorees  
**Sue Smith and Craig Brown**

Event Chairs  
**Mary and Gene Alford**  
**Megan and Luke Hotze**

Purchase Tables & Tickets

## Happenings

On September 12, Dianne Baek, Bo's Place Clinician, and Mikole Montgomery, Bo's Place Volunteer, attended the **BakerRipley HeadStart Resource Fair**. We loved the opportunity to share Bo's Place resources with the professionals in attendance.



On September 14, members from the **National Charity League Heart of Texas 2029 TikTok Class** provided breakfast for our Saturday Spanish Ongoing Group and made marigolds for our Ofrenda: A Día de Los Muertos event.



Twenty provisional members from **The Junior League of Houston, Inc.** came to Bo's Place on September 19 for a presentation on Bo's Place, information on the Bo's Place League placement, and a tour.



On October 20, our support group participants enjoyed dinner, goal planning, and creating beautiful dream boards at **Bo's Place's Family Vision Board Night**. Thank you to the Heart of Texas National Charity League for providing homemade desserts, and to our wonderful Facilitators and Hospitality volunteers for supporting the event.



On September 24, Myia Burns represented Bo's Place at the **Houston Marathon Training Kick-Off** at Memorial Park. The event was open to the public with food, music, and giveaways. Myia spoke to many attendees about joining Team Bo's Place and the many groups we provide.



The first **School-Based Facilitator Training** for the 2024-2025 school year was held on Friday, September 27. Attendees learned more about our school-based grief support groups, previewed the elementary and secondary curriculum, and tried out some new activities. An additional training for potential school-based facilitators will be held later this month.



On September 28, Julie Hogg, Bo's Place Clinician, staffed a table at the annual **Mothers Against Drunk Driving "Walk Like MADD"** event, providing information about our grief support services to over 1,000 victim's families and friends and first responders from all over the Houston area who attended the event.



## 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.

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



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