

## Doing great things together!

Spring 2016



# A CLIENT'S STORY: Help for the Elderly and Their Families

When Victor Kennedy isn't working or taking his parents to doctor appointments, he brings his mom, Linda, to The Caring Place. Here, they receive food and personal care supplies. "We don't know what we'd do without The Caring Place," Victor said.

A few years ago, Victor asked his mother, who had several health challenges, to come live with him and his wife in Georgetown. "She just lived too far away," Victor said. In addition to her hearing loss and restricted mobility, Linda was diagnosed with breast cancer last year. "I wanted her with me so that I could take care of her." Victor also cares for his dad who came to live with him after heart surgery a year ago.

"With all the medications, it's hard to keep up financially, especially at the beginning of the year. The insurance deductibles really kick us in the rear," Victor said.

Some of The Caring Place clients who are already constrained by tight budgets, experience even great-

er financial pressure when they become caretakers for their elderly parents. Our HOPE (Healthy Options for the Elderly) program assists with supplemental food, The Caring Place provides additional help for families by giving them personal care supplies. "We save \$50-\$60 a month on incontinence supplies alone through the HOPE program," Victor said. The Kennedy's also enjoy the fresh vegetables, bread and pastries offered through our Fresh Food For Families program on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Monday of each month.

"We're happy about The Caring Place. It would be a lot harder for us without them," Victor said.

## HOPE (Healthy Options for the Elderly)



Through our partnership with the Central Texas Food Bank (CTFB) in Austin, the HOPE program provides a food order to eligible individuals age 55 and over, once per

month, at no cost.

A **HOPE** food order contains nutritional, supplemental non-perishable groceries for seniors.

- You do not have to be a client of The Caring Place to participate in HOPE, but a separate HOPE application and annual renewal are required.
- Proof of age and income is required.
- Delivery is available for those who are homebound.
- **→ HOPE** food is distributed on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at The Caring Place from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

## **Behind the Scenes at The Caring Place!**

Many hands and hearts keep things running smoothly



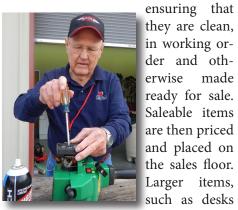
## **Turning Your Donations Into Resources!**



ver wonder what happens to your clothing and household goods once you donate them? Well, we're glad you wondered, because it really is amazing to see the process from dropoff, to placement on the shelves in The Shops at The Caring Place, to helping our neighbors in need.

When you make a donation of clothing, household goods or furniture, our Donations department volunteers

and staff separate the merchandise into labeled bins. After the first sort, volunteers and staff further parse the items,



in working order and otherwise made ready for sale. Saleable items are then priced and placed on the sales floor. Larger items, such as desks and tables, are

also inspected, priced and moved to the floor for sale.

In 2015, \$1,508,453 of our funding came from the sale of donated, gently used and new items in our thrift store, which equals 66% of our total revenue received. The revenue generated from sales in The Shops at The Caring Place, covers all of the operating costs associated with running the organization. This ensures that 100% of all financial donations to The Caring Place go directly to help area families in need.

So every time you donate clothing or household items to The Caring Place, know that your donations make a difference! Thank you!





Want to know more about what happens behind the scenes at The Caring Place? Join us for one of our Lunch 'n Learn sessions! You'll be amazed at all the moving parts that enable us to serve our clients and customers!

Pre-registration is required. Please contact our Community Engagement Department at 512-943-0702.

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#### Where Resources and Needs Meet:

Georgetown Health Foundation Supports The Caring Place

Last summer, Georgetown Health Foundation awarded a \$100,000 grant (\$50,000 a year for two years) to fund medical assistance programs at The Caring Place. This grant helps provide financial assistance with certain medical, prescription, optical and dental procedures to individuals in financial crisis.

In November, 2015, Georgetown Health Foundation published a study to get a better understanding of the concerns and needs of residents in Southeast Georgetown. The Southeast Georgetown Needs Assessment identified 10 critical needs, including access to affordable healthcare. Last year, The Caring Place provided 658 people with resources for medical assistance. "The grant enables us to provide additional medical assistance to our growing client base," said



Left to right, Erin Becnel, Client Services Director, The Caring Place; Suzy Pukys, Vice President of Strategic Philanthropy, Georgetown Health Foundation; and Ginna O'Connor, Executive Director, The Caring Place

and underserved populations in Georgetown.

"We want to partner with orga-

"The Caring Place is at the epicenter of meeting the basic human needs of people in crisis." –Suzy Pukys

Ginna O'Connor, Executive Director of The Caring Place.

Created in 2006 through a partnership between Georgetown Healthcare System and St. David's HealthCare, revenue from Georgetown Health Foundation's activities go directly to organizations that help the poor

nizations that focus on the health of our community," said Suzy Pukys, Vice President of Strategic Philanthropy for Georgetown Health Foundation. "We support The Caring Place because they are at ground zero for crisis mitigation."

In addition to its grant making activities, Georgetown Health Foun-

dation is seeking ways it can support broader and more responsive initiatives that promote community health. Partnerships and collaboration with other organizations, board members and volunteers is key to that effort. "We are challenging ourselves to consider other ways that we can responsively support the community and nonprofits," Suzy said. "No one organization can fix all the problems. It's going to take all of us working together."



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## ANNUAL VOLUNTEER RECOG

he Caring Place honored 250 of its volunteers and their guests on April 10th by treating them to a late afternoon showing of *My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2* at City Lights Theater in Georgetown. "It was a great movie and a lot of fun. I really enjoyed it," said volunteer, Janice Lindsey.

There is a scene in the movie where the entire family teams up to plan the wedding. This scene is reminiscent of what goes on at The Caring Place every day: volunteers and staff pooling their expertise and time to make the operation run smoothly for our clients! "It takes a lot of people to fulfill our mission, and our volunteers help make it possible for us to serve our community. We value each and every one of our dedicated volunteers," said Ginna O'Connor, Executive Director.

"It was so fun. We got to socialize with people we don't normally see. My friend, who is 91. sat there with me and laughed and laughed at the movie. And the popcorn was great!"

Gerry Carolan, Volunteer



**Night at the Movies!** 

" I loved it. The movie was so funny!" Deanna Lee.

Volunteer



"It was a great movie and was a lot of fun. I really enjoyed it. It was a good mixer. We got to talk to a lot of people we didn't know.

Janice Lindsey, Volunteer



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## INITION AND APPRECIATION

The following volunteer awards were given in two categories for service in 2015.

#### The Doris Krohmer Memorial Service Award

Doris Krohmer was a volunteer who embraced The Caring Place mission, and was instrumental in the agency's development. Doris was a visionary leader who demonstrated empathy and compassion. She was known for her bright smile, positive outlook, and for providing extraordinary support to The Caring Place. This award recognizes volunteers who consistently exceed expectations and embody the spirit of this dedicated and giving person.

#### **Award Winners**

Lucile Byerley
Gary DeRemer
Sue Moore

## The Caring Heart Award

The Caring Heart Award recognizes demonstrated excellence that exceeded the expectations of a client, customer or peer.

Five individuals and one team were recognized for their contributions in 2015, resulting in departmental efficiencies, better customer service and cost savings – positively furthering The Caring Place mission.

#### **Award Winners**

Marilyn Bergren
The Cashier Team
Gerry Carolan
Pet and Mike Clark
Bill Dalton
Nell SanGregorio

#### **Congratulations to all the winners!**

We appreciate all you do for The Caring Place!



Boutique

Customer

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### **Save the Dates**

#### On Stage July 15 – August 14, 2016

Again this year, The Caring Place has partnered with the Georgetown Palace Theatre, a fellow non-profit organization, for the show "Smokey Joe's Cafe."

The Caring Place supporters receive a \$1 discount per order by using promotional code TCPJOES. Tickets go on sale, May 20, 2016, and may be purchased on the Georgetown Palace Theatre website or at the box office.





You're Invited!
Saturday
October 15, 2016

DEEP IN THE HEART OF CARING Annual Fundraising Gala Schwertner Ranch



Come dine and dance under the twinkling Texas sky and shop at our fabulous silent auction! Watch for more information in our Another Week of Caring newsletters and on our website, or contact Rita Turner at 512-943-0702.

#### 9th Annual Sweets, Treats and Trees!

Thursday, November 10, 2016 6:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

This is the one-stop shopping opportunity that people wait for all year. We decorate the store in holiday motif and fill our shelves with all sorts of Christmas decorations at great prices. We'll even have homemade treats waiting for you. Don't miss out!



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#### **Message From The Board President**



#### Dear Friends,

It's an exciting time here at The Caring Place. We are about to launch a new initiative that will allow us to help more people in need in the rural areas of Williamson County. As our county and organization have grown, The Caring Place has become increasingly aware of the barriers that exist to access the

programs and services we provide for those living outside of Georgetown. One of the critical barriers is the lack of transportation.

Therefore, in response to this need, and for the first time in its 31 years of service to our community, we are venturing outside of our Georgetown location to engage in a 6-month pilot project that establishes outreach locations in Florence, Granger and Jarrell. In the initial phase of this outreach project, we will work with partners in these rural communities to make our services as accessible as possible to those in financial crisis by providing services remotely on a limited basis. In November, at the end of the 6-month pilot period, we will evaluate the outreach initiative, and determine next steps in each community.

We also just celebrated our incredible volunteers at our annual Volunteer Appreciation and Recognition event. I continue to learn about the contributions our gifted volunteers so selflessly make to support our mission. Thanks to all our volunteers for being awesome!!!

Thank you for your support—you make our work at The Caring Place possible. We continue to do more great things together!

Barry Haag President, Board of Directors 2015-2016

"It is a very hard thing when we can't supply everything our children need."

It's great to know that The Caring Place will give us a helping hand."

Anonymous Client

#### **Say Hello to Our New Board Members**



**Rev. Harriett Jones**, is a native Texan, and Senior Pastor of Saving Grace Christian Bible Fellowship in Georgetown, Texas. Rev. Jones has an extensive background in business, fashion, leadership and nonprofit consulting. She earned a divinity degree from Dallas Theological Seminary and was ordained in 2014.



Holly Steger Stevens grew up in Georgetown, and works for the NASA International Space Station Advisory Committee. She is the Manager of Federal Relations for American Pacific Corporation, an aerospace-related company. Ms. Stevens has served in a variety of PTA officer positions at GISD

schools and has been involved in many local philanthropic endeavors.



**Paul Jordan** was born in Brownsboro, Texas. Paul graduated with honors in 1985 from Texas A&M University with a B.S. degree. He completed graduate studies at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs and received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law in 1989. Appointed by Governor Perry, Paul served as a commissioner, representing

the public on the Texas Real Estate Commission. He is a former chairperson of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce, and is currently on the board of directors of the Texas FFA Foundation. Paul is an attorney and shareholder with Sneed, Vine & Perry, P.C.

A Big Welcome to Rev. Jones, Ms. Stevens, and Mr. Jordan!

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Our courtesy truck will pick up your larger item donations to be sold in The Shops at The Caring Place. To schedule a pick-up, please call our donation line at 512-943-0711 and leave a message for our Donations Coordinator. Your call will be returned within 24 hours. Please allow at least one week of advance notice when you call to schedule your pick-up.

#### **Vision Statement**

The Caring Place is a local, faith-based non-profit organization that addresses the basic human needs of people within its service area, and collaborates with community partners to improve the quality of life of every client.

#### **Mission Statement**

Honoring its faith-based roots, The Caring Place serves the community as a welcoming and purposeful organization, responding to the basic human needs of people in Georgetown and rural Williamson County.

#### WE ARE HONORED TO HAVE BEEN VOTED

















2000 Railroad Avenue • P.O. Box 1215 • Georgetown, Texas 78627 • 512-943-0700 • Fax 512-943-0740 • www.caringplacetx.org

## 512.943.0700 www.caringplacetx.org

The Shops at The Caring Place Monday – Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Open Thursdays until 7:00 p.m.

**Donation Drop-Off Area** Monday – Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Client Services Offices Monday — Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Open Thursdays until 7:00 p.m.

**Caring Place Hours** 

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GEORGETOWN, TX 78627-1215 PO. BOX 1215

Doing great things together!



