

# Happenings at the Heart

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



## Note from the Executive Director

### MERRY CHRISTMAS!

As we come upon the end of another year and reflection, I am brought to the following scripture: Psalm 9:1...I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

While 2021 may have proven to be a test of our faith, let's remember ALL the things that we have to be thankful for this year. Our health, a roof over our head, food on the table and clothing on our back. How about a child's laughter, a hug from a parent or child, someone praying for you or you for others? I am thankful that with YOUR help, HeartLove Place gets the opportunity to be a blessing to so many youths and their families throughout the year through our programs, services, and activities that have been shown to make a difference. How do I know this? When a student comes up and gives me a hug, or when one of our former daycare babies that is now a young adult working at the local Pick & Save I just so happen to walk into says, "Hey Miss Viola!" and we catch up with one another. Or a former culinary student successfully running her own Catering business!

Blessings of thankfulness are all around us if we just look. Thank you for your continued support of HeartLove Place. Together we are a blessing!

*Viola Reubert*

## Fall Harvest 2021

HeartLove Place collaborated with **The Art of Health, INC.** in September to host the Harambee Harvest Fest at the HLP Peace Park. There was an array of activities offered for the community to enjoy such as art, gardening, games, and horseback riding!

Fun was had by ALL!

[See Pictures Here >>](#)



## HLP Partners with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School

HLP is partnering with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School to provide programs, services and support for children and their families. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School offers families an African American Immersion (AAI) environment that focuses on the history and culture of African Americans while drawing upon the strengths of the scholars. AAI, the arts, and parental/community involvement are essential parts of the beloved community of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School. The school puts math, reading, writing, AAI, and the arts to work so that scholars are prepared for success in college, career, and beyond.

"We really appreciate you and your team bringing the **Girls Who Walk and Talk** Program to our school! This program has ignited excitement with our Lady scholars. There is a growing sense of sisterhood amongst them. Thank you for the opportunity to grow our lady scholars into healthy, informed, and confident leaders," said Principal Hayes of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School.

**Girls Who Walk & Talk** is a mentoring and wellness program for girls in grades 5-8. Students meet once a week with HLP staff and Marquette University Interns to discuss a variety of topics while walking. Topics discussed have included body image, healthy relationships, nutrition and more!

We are in need of additional Mentors for the next school year, if interested please contact HLP TODAY or sign up here!

[Become a mentor!](#)

**Please note that all volunteers will be required to have proof of vaccination and will be required to sign up through the Milwaukee Public School volunteer website and submit to a background check.**



## Harvest Fun with MLK Scholars

In September, HeartLove Place provided 25 K-5 students from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School a fun fall day in the garden where they participated in a day full of stories, arts & crafts, gardening activities and an exercise-themed treasure hunt!

The students were also gifted their own pumpkin and apples to take home as they and their families begin harvest season.



On Friday, October 29, HLP provided fun harvest games and activities for 125 students at Dr. MLK Jr. School! Harvest pumpkin relay races, arts & crafts, and indoor gardening with students provided lots of laughter and happy faces with all students receiving a bag of treats!



# A Season to be Thankful

## Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway

On November 18th, HeartLove Place, for the second year, partnered with **Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church** and **Gamma Pi Sigma Philo Affiliate (Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.)** to distribute turkeys and food boxes to those in need. Thanks to all of you and your contributions, we raised \$1,720, and distributed over 120 turkeys with food boxes organized by Mt. Zion. We also had the help of eight students from **Carver Academy School** helping to hand out turkeys as well for their day of service.



## HeartLove Place and Marquette University Interns

This fall, we've had the pleasure of working in service with Exercise Science students from Marquette University. Megan Lombardo, Sophia Albano, and Shannon Staley have all been instrumental pieces to the wellness aspect of our ministry, as they spearheaded our ***Girls Who Walk and Talk*** program.

"I love that the people at HeartLove Place provide a safe, comfortable, and warm space for me to be myself and open up when I need to. I learned that I will never know if I don't ask. This could be when it comes to asking for help, having a question, or wondering if something is possible."  
– Sophia Albano

"Every day was so uplifting working at the office and the minute I started I felt included and accepted. It's very inspiring to be surrounded by such passionate people. I am grateful I got to learn more about Milwaukee, the inner workings of Heart Love Place, and working with girls from Martin Luther King Schools for our ***Girls Who Walk and Talk*** program which helped advance my knowledge on programming and building connections."  
– Shannon Staley

"I really enjoyed interning at HLP this semester! I loved the atmosphere in the office, everyone was very welcoming and fun to be around. I learned a lot about what goes on behind the scenes at a nonprofit, I also I learned to be patient when organizing a program. I'm excited to take these skills with me and implement them in my future work!"  
– Megan Lombardo



It has been our utmost pleasure to have these three students at HLP for the past 4 months!

HeartLove Place is always excited and willing to provide Internship opportunities for college students to continue to learn and grow while giving them hands on experience in the world of work! If your college is looking for Intern placement, please think of HLP! Contact us at (414) 372-1550 #1

## Spreading Love

It is not too late to participate! You have from now until February 10th to get your shirt and make your video on how you spread **LOVE**!

HeartLove Place is encouraging you to show us and the world how you spread the love not just over the holidays, but all year round by joining us in our **#HLPSpreadTheLove** Campaign!

Supporting the cause is as simple as 1, 2, 3!

1. Purchase a HLP T-shirt
2. Wear your shirt loud and proud
3. Record a video/testimonial of how you spread love every day and post it to your Facebook.

Please tag HeartLove Place and use hashtag **#HLPSpreadTheLove**

[Buy Your Shirt Here!](#)

**Check out the videos of everyone who's participated on our Facebook page and encourage your family and friends to join in on the LOVE!**

## Donor's Corner

A huge thank you to our donors who have made contributions to HeartLove from September to November. Your donations have allowed us to continue to serve, support, and love on those who are in need.

Alvin & Helen Copeland, Jr.  
Christopher Martin  
Clariissa Barnes  
David Rodrian  
Elizabeth Cole  
Jeffrey & Kristine White  
Jodi Wenz  
Josh & April Larson  
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New Testament Church of Milwaukee  
Oakwood Church  
Phillip LaCasse  
Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church

Looking to become a monthly donor? Learn about how you can contribute and help us serve our community below.

<https://heartloveplace.org/donate-2/friend-of-heartlove/>

HeartLove Place will continue to be a resource for the Milwaukee community and look forward to a safe and successful Fall season!

**With a heart of love; teach, encourage, and support families through programs and services centered in Christian values.**

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