Bay Cove Partners with Life Science Cares to Combat Effects of Poverty

While Bay Cove offers supports individuals dealing with a variety of complex issues, one condition shared by a great number of those we serve is poverty. Many of those we work with—whether they’re receiving mental health services, treatment for addiction, or senior services through our Kit Clark programs—live on fixed incomes, receive public assistance and are, in some cases, even homeless. For people combating already significant life challenges, living below the poverty line adds a whole other level of complexity and difficulty to the goal of achieving full, rich lives.

Life Science Cares is a breakthrough group of life science leaders and companies who aggregate human and financial resources and deploy them against poverty. Bay Cove is tremendously honored to announce that Life Science Cares has chosen our agency as a partner organization in the mission of helping individuals struggling with poverty.

As part of the new collaboration, Life Science Cares has already conducted a coat drive for our CASPAR (Cambridge and Somerville Programs for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Rehabilitation) programs for individuals battling homelessness, and will be connecting our agency with volunteers from area life science companies looking to give back to the greater Cambridge community.

In addition, Life Science Cares recently presented our FirstStep Street Outreach Team—which works to connect unsheltered individuals with access to emergency medical and psychiatric care, meal programs, shelters, substance abuse treatment, and daytime drop-in and social service centers—with a $10,000 grant to help enhance its crucially important services.

“There is no more basic human need than shelter, and CASPAR provides clean and safe options for people in the greater Kendall Square community and throughout Cambridge who are struggling with substance use disorder,” said Life Science Cares Executive Director Sarah MacDonald. “We are excited to support the FirstStep outreach program, and look forward to building our partnership with CASPAR and Bay Cove.”

To learn more about Life Science Cares, visit www.lifesciencecares.org.
The creation of Bay Cove Human Services, more than 40 years ago, was based on a simple core value: that everyone deserves to be treated with dignity and respect, no matter what challenges they may face. As Bay Cove grew from one small program in Boston to the more than 175 programs throughout Greater Boston and southeastern Massachusetts that comprise Bay Cove today, that value has remained constant. It is shared by the entire Bay Cove community: the people who turn to our programs for help, the remarkable staff who partner with them to help realize their goals, and the funders and generous supporters, including you, who help make all of this possible.

In fact, I believe that it is our shared commitment to this core value that is the “secret” of our success.

When someone struggling with an addiction is treated with respect—treated as a person, not as “an addict”—his or her chances of recovery are much higher.

When a person living with a developmental or psychiatric disability is treated with respect—not disparaged or made fun of for having a visible disability—he or she can focus on their abilities and achieve incredible things.

When an older member of our community is treated with respect—rather than being ignored or treated as a “burden”—he or she can continue to live as an active, engaged member of the community, as independently as possible for as long as possible.

And when our values enable us to attract dedicated, talented, and committed direct care staff from an extraordinary diversity of backgrounds—more than 30% of Bay Cove’s employees were born outside of the U.S.—our entire community is strengthened.

So, when our national leaders speak disparagingly and dismissively of entire groups of people—of the challenges a particular group may face, or the countries that they come from—it is painful for the entire Bay Cove community. It not only goes against our values, it also squanders invaluable resources—causing untold hardships and making our country weaker as a result.

I’ve always felt very fortunate to work here at Bay Cove, but at this challenging time in our national discourse, I feel especially lucky to be part of the Bay Cove community. Each and every day, I get to interact with people working to overcome extraordinary challenges, supported by an incredible team that draws its strength from its diversity.

As you’ll see throughout this newsletter, we are busier than ever at Bay Cove. We are expanding our partnerships, growing and continually improving our programs, and serving as a leader in advancing the delivery of human services in the Commonwealth. We are also very proud to have been selected, in partnership with our colleagues at Vinfen and several other human services providers, to be part of an innovative redesign of the delivery of services for Medicaid recipients in Massachusetts. (To learn more about this new initiative, please visit the News and Events section of our website, www.baycove.org.)

As a Bay Cove supporter, you help to make all of this, including the extraordinary achievements of the people we serve, a reality. Just as importantly, you help to advance the core value that we all share: that every person deserves to be treated with dignity and respect. Thank you, as always, for your commitment to Bay Cove and the work we do.

CEO’s Corner by Bill Sprague, President & CEO
New Cambridge Warming Center Helps Homeless Endure Winter Conditions

This winter, the City of Cambridge chose Bay Cove as its partner in developing a new resource designed to help unsheltered adults deal with the harsh challenges of living on the streets. On January 16, the Cambridge Warming Center (CWC) opened its doors in the basement of Citywide Senior Center (806 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge), offering members of the city’s homeless population a welcoming and safe drop-in center where they can enjoy hot meals, access to bathrooms and yoga mats for sleeping, and be connected with more advanced services. The CWC is open seven nights a week, from 7:30 p.m.-6:30 a.m., at which point guests are transported (if they so choose) to the CASPAR Emergency Services Shelter, where they can access daytime services.

“We were so happy to serve 23 guests on our first night in operation,” said Muriel Kramer, director of the CWC, “and the quick success of the program can be attributed to our strong partnerships with established groups in Cambridge already working to identify and meet the needs of our homeless neighbors, as well as to our amazing staff members. Our goal is to always provide a consistent, safe, and welcoming environment for our guests.”

Cambridge Mayor Mark McGovern, Police Commissioner Branville Bard and Police Superintendent Christine Elow all visited the CWC on its first night, and have been among the many Cambridge community leaders that have shown their support of the program from the start. We thank them, and all of our partners in providing services at CWC, for helping us offer this lifesaving resource to our most vulnerable Cambridge neighbors.

Corporate and Community Philanthropy Critical to Bay Cove

The vital work done at Bay Cove would not be possible without our partnerships with private foundations and corporations, with whom we share a vision of providing innovative and high quality services to the Commonwealth’s most vulnerable citizens. Some key philanthropic partnerships from the second half of 2017 include:

- Kit Clark Senior Services received $50,000 from the Walmart Foundation, and $25,000 from The Boston Foundation, for the Senior Nutrition Program, which ensures daily meals for 2,000 low income and/or homeless seniors in Boston at 26 congregate meals sites and through Meals on Wheels. These partnerships will support the purchase of food, with a focus on fresh produce from local growers.

- SolarFlair, a solar panel installer working with the City of Somerville on the Solarize Somerville initiative, donated a 5kW solar panel array to be installed on the roof of CASPAR’s New Day residential recovery program for pregnant and parenting women and their newborns. The new equipment will reduce the house’s energy consumption, while allowing us to devote thousands of dollars in energy bill savings over the next decade to continually improving program services.

- Blue Hills Bank Foundation awarded Kit Clark’s Senior Nutrition program $15,000 towards the purchase of a new meals delivery vehicle, allowing us to replace an older model vehicle. This partnership strengthens the reliability of our fleet of meals delivery vans, decreases repair costs and supports the sustainability of the program.

- Eastern Bank awarded a $10,000 partnership grant to pilot the Community Opportunities Outreach Program, an innovative support model for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities. The program combines traveling day services with a virtual presence option, helping ensure that those who experience medical- and age-related barriers to attending traditional day programs have opportunities to be a part of the community, socialize with their peers and experience the benefits of a structured day experience.

- The Cambridge Community Foundation awarded $15,000 to support our CASPAR programs, specifically our Emergency Services Shelter and FirstStep Street Outreach Team. (Also, see story on p.1 to learn about our new collaboration with fellow CASPAR funder Life Science Cares!)

- And the Boston Bruins Foundation and TD Charitable Foundation teamed up to award Bay Cove a $50,000 grant for the Boston Night Center, the overnight warming center for unsheltered adults in downtown Boston.

We are gratified by the generous support of these organizations, and others, which make the work we do each day possible!
Changes at the Top for Bay Cove’s Child & Family Services

The arrival of 2018 brings a significant change to Bay Cove leadership—specifically to our agency’s Child & Family Services division. After close to 25 years with Bay Cove, the division’s director, Candace Chang, retired from the agency on December 31.

Candace has more than 35 years of experience in planning, management and provision of services to children and families. She came to Bay Cove in 1994, as Director of our Early Intervention (EI) program, and in 1997 became Division Director for Child & Family Services. Overseeing both EI and the Small Wonders Nursery School, Candace has led her staff in helping thousands of young children get the services they need to help them and their parents deal with the challenges associated with developmental delays.

Stepping into Candace’s role as the Director of Child & Family Services will be Amanda Kasica, who has been with Bay Cove as a Speech-Language Pathologist and Supervisor since 2001.

Before her time with Bay Cove came to an end, Candace was able to enjoy what she’s often called “her favorite day of the year” on December 14, when the EI program was once again filled with holiday joy and brightly-wrapped packages of all shapes and sizes, courtesy of the “Fifty Families.” Each year, this group of dedicated supporters from the town of Lincoln answer the wish lists of the families who receive services through our EI program. The volunteers (pictured below) purchase toys, books, diapers, gift cards and much more, and bring carloads of these gifts to our staff in Dorchester. We cannot thank our friends from Lincoln enough for the years of unceasing generosity they have shown in creating happy holidays for the families we serve!

Please join all of us at Bay Cove in congratulating Amanda on her new position, and in thanking Candace for all her great work at Bay Cove. We wish her all our very best as she embarks on her next chapter!
**Save the Dates for “Strengthening Our Community” and the Changing Lives Gala**

New Englanders tend to pride themselves on being hale and hearty souls, but after a couple of months of snow-shovelling, most of us start looking for things to look forward to—specifically, *springtime* things! Here at Bay Cove, we definitely share that sentiment, and are delighted to have some of our most highly-anticipated occasions of the year set to take place as the days get longer and the temperatures get warmer. We’re hoping that you’ll all mark your calendars to join us this spring for the following very special events:

On **April 12**, we invite supporters to join us for “Strengthening Our Community,” the annual spring fundraiser for our Cambridge- and Somerville-based CASPAR programs. The event takes place at the Courtyard Marriott Cambridge (777 Memorial Drive, Cambridge) from 6-8 p.m., and will feature delicious food and drink, as well as the chance to bid on unique auction items and hear inspiring stories from those who have battled against addiction and homelessness.

This year, we are proud to be presenting the **Carl F. Barron Catalyst for Change Award** to Tom Andrews of Alexandria Real Estate, for his longstanding support of CASPAR and other local organizations, and for working to bring hope, while lending a hand, to our homeless neighbors and those in dire need. If you’re interested in joining us for this very special evening, please visit [www.casparinc.org](http://www.casparinc.org) or contact Director of Development for CASPAR Julia W. Londergan (jlondergan@baycove.org).

Then, on **May 23**, we hope you’ll join us for the **2018 Changing Lives Gala**, taking place in a new venue for the event—The Renaissance Boston Waterfront Hotel (606 Congress St., Boston). The Changing Lives Gala is Bay Cove’s biggest fundraiser of the year, and is always a wonderful evening devoted to celebrating the impact our agency is able to make on the lives of the men, women and children we serve. This year, we’re thrilled to be honoring **Liberty Mutual Insurance**, and its Chairman & CEO **David Long**, with our Changing Lives Award for their extraordinary philanthropic leadership and longstanding partnership with Bay Cove. Information about the event—including sponsorship opportunities and how to purchase tickets— can be found by visiting [www.baycove.org/gala](http://www.baycove.org/gala).

We look forward to seeing everyone at these two very special events. Until then, think Springlike thoughts!

*In April, Bay Cove will once again have a team of athletes running the Boston Marathon to raise awareness of the agency, our programs and services. This year, thanks once again to the generosity of the John Hancock Boston Marathon Non-Profit Program, Bay Cove has received six numbers for the April 16 race. Of the six members of Team Bay Cove 2018, one—Lauren Easton (pictured, far left)—has run for Bay Cove before. We’re pleased to welcome Lauren back, and to introduce our five new runners (l-to-r)—David Core, Jill Antenucci, John Graves, Candice Narsasian and Kristopher Kenney—who are taking on the grueling task of training to run 26.2 miles, while also fundraising for Bay Cove programs. Team Bay Cove has set an ambitious fundraising goal of $90,000, but we’re confident these extremely motivated athletes can make it happen—with your help! If you’d like to support our dedicated runners, please visit our team fundraising page at www.crowdrise.com/baycovehumanservices2018, where you can read our runners’ stories and donate to any one of them, or to the team as a whole. We thank you for your support, and know you’ll join us in saying “Go Team Bay Cove!”*
“The Dresser” Offers Warmth and Comfort to Those We Serve

Last summer, Bay Cove’s Development Team had the idea to set up a centralized distribution point for all the clothing that our agency has received through generous donations from individuals and organizations. The idea was to gather everything together, set up a dedicated spot with regular “business hours,” and have the individuals we serve come in and pick out things they may need. That idea became “The Dresser,” located within our administrative headquarters at 66 Canal St. in Boston.

Nearly six months later, The Dresser has been a huge success, with close to 350 individual Bay Cove clients having received assistance. As of early January, that has included a total of 1,110 pieces of clothing distributed, including 160 coats.

“The Dresser has been so helpful since it opened up,” says Samantha Garber, a clinician with Bay Cove’s Treatment Center. “It has been great to have a place to bring our clients, where they can be provided with clothing and other necessities to improve their situation and their overall quality of life. The donations that come in have given our clients everything from everyday clothing to winter needs, and our clients have been truly appreciative to have a place like this to go.”

During a recent visit to The Dresser, one client (name withheld) spoke of the importance of such a resource: “I recently moved, and I lost all of my clothes in the process. The guy I lived with was not very nice, so I couldn’t go back to the house and get my stuff. I only actually have the clothes that I have on, so I really needed this. It’s nice to be able to come here and get some of the things I need. I feel so much better.”

The Dresser has been able to help Bay Cove clients thanks to the many generous donations we’ve received over the last several months. Those donations have come from individual supporters, Bay Cove staff, and our friends at One Warm Coat, who have connected our agency with a variety of area companies conducting coat drives. Our thanks to all of the organizations who have conducted drives for Bay Cove, including Armstrong Ambulance, The W Hotel, Delta Airlines (pictured, right), Brigham and Women’s Hospital, MIT, Harvard Square Business Association, One Beacon Insurance, Shell Techworks, and many, many more.

There is still room in The Dresser, though, and there is still a great need for items like winter coats (particularly large sizes XL-5XL), winter gloves, winter boots, new cotton or wool socks, new underwear (both men and women) and men’s pants. If you would like to contribute to our efforts to keep the men and women we serve warm this winter, please contact Caitie Sprague at 617-619-5930 or Emily Dorn at 617-371-3184.
Join The Next Generation of Bay Cove Supporters!

Boston is home to a large number of young professionals, many of whom came to the area for college and have since settled here. Today’s 20- and 30-somethings are, arguably, more globally and locally engaged than any generation before them, and want to make a difference in their community.

In an attempt to bring together our agency’s young professional supporters, we’ve established a dedicated group dubbed the Bay Cove YP Advocates. The group’s mission is to advocate for Bay Cove, spread awareness of the agency, and encourage their peers to assist in philanthropic support of the work we do.

One of the YP Advocates’ first dedicated projects involves our Boston Marathon team, Team Bay Cove 2018 (see story, p. 5). YP Advocate Candice Narsasian is a member of the team, and the group is making a concerted attempt to help her achieve her fundraising goal of $10,000. They’ll do this by spreading the word to their respective networks via social media, while also planning and executing fun fundraising events on her behalf.

The group also engages in volunteer work for Bay Cove, such as a December project at our Emergency Services Shelter (pictured, right) where a group gathered to assemble holiday gift backpacks for our shelter guests.

There are many ways to show your commitment to philanthropy. If you’re a Young Professional interested in making a difference by supporting Bay Cove, please contact Caitie Sprague at csprague2@baycove.org.

Bay Cove Named a “Top Place to Work” for Fifth Consecutive Year!

For the fifth straight year, Bay Cove Human Services has been named one of The Boston Globe’s Top Places to Work in Massachusetts. Each year, the newspaper polls employees from businesses all across the state, and in every industry, to determine the best places to work in the Commonwealth.

Last summer, close to 700 staff members took the time to respond to an anonymous, electronic survey, and answer questions designed by survey administrators Workplace Dynamics to assess staff satisfaction with Bay Cove. The responses they gave to this survey were the basis for Bay Cove being named one of the companies in the “Largest Employer” category (1,000 employees or more), a category that includes well-known local and national companies such as EF Education First, Comcast, The Herb Chambers Companies, TripAdvisor, Tufts Health Plan, Takeda Oncology and others.

Making the list for five consecutive years is a prestigious honor for Bay Cove, and all of us at the agency are very proud to once again be named a Top Place to Work. Being a non-profit, Bay Cove is unable to offer the same array of perks found at some of the for-profit businesses on the list, so we regard this recognition as an acknowledgement of the investment our exceptional employees hold in the impactful work we do at Bay Cove, and of the corresponding investment that Bay Cove leadership holds in them.

The full list of companies was revealed in November, in a special magazine supplement of the Boston Globe. The supplement also featured Bay Cove’s President & CEO, Bill Sprague, in a small feature highlighting his practice of sending hand-written notes to employees on the anniversary of their start date with Bay Cove. The piece, and the complete list of Top Places to Work, can be viewed online at www.BostonGlobe.com/topplaces.
Follow Bay Cove on Social Media!

A picture is worth a thousand words... and now you can check out the newest photos of Bay Cove programs and activities on our Instagram account. Give us a follow on IG at baycovehumanservices today!

And don’t forget: you can always stay informed about the latest Bay Cove news and events by following us on your other favorite social media channels. Check out Bay Cove on Facebook at baycovehumanservicesinc, and on Twitter at @BayCoveMA; and learn the latest about CASPAR on Facebook at CasparIncNonprofit, and on Twitter at @CASPARCamSom.

MISSION:

Bay Cove Human Services partners with people to overcome challenges and realize personal potential.

A Bay Cove staffer uses an iPad to work with individuals at our Day Habilitation program on enhancing job and life skills.

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