



# Advent Greetings *from* St. Gianna's Place!

Our home has been blessed beyond measure these past few months. We opened our 3rd floor with a ribbon cutting ceremony and barbecue in September and we've welcomed staff and a new board member who will continue to guide St. Gianna's Place according to God's will.

I'm happy to introduce our new Director, Donna Meade. Donna was previously our Resident Services Manager and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to her new role. Please also welcome our new Resident Services Manager, Kathy Mahoney. A veteran member of our Board of Directors, Kathy brings experience as a RN and a case manager to the team. Finally, we've hired a part-time House Manager. Mary Menendez comes to us from New Generations in Greenland, a NH housing resource for moms in crisis. Our new board member is Celeste Horan. Celeste has a strong background in child development and has worked extensively with women and children at risk.

On behalf of everyone at St. Gianna's Place, I wish you a Blessed and Merry Christmas! Enjoy this special season with your families and friends.

*Kelly*

## Director's Update

It's been quite the year at St. Gianna's Place! After serving as the Resident Services Manager since last November, I have recently moved into more of a leadership role here. I am grateful for all the wisdom and training that I received, and hope to continue this good work with God's guidance. As Director, I have been working with a wonderful team of board members, staff, volunteers and residents. Together we continue to strive to understand and fulfill God's vision for St. Gianna's Place so that women in crisis can receive the help and support that they need to say "yes" to the miracle of the life growing inside of them. Without each of you, there would be no St. Gianna's Place, and we are forever grateful for your prayers and support. I wish each of you a Blessed Christmas and a New Year full of God's abundant love.

*Donna*



A gifted friend of St. Gianna's Place, 17 year old Maria Brouillette, has been working diligently and reverently on saint icons for our second and third floor room doors. Here are the completed second floor door icons which will grace our home for many years to come!



# We Love our Volunteers!



(Clockwise from left)  
 Laurie Watkins gives of her time and talent by offering a 12 week class called Parenting Journey, which our moms recently completed.  
 Joe Palfini has spent countless hours repairing and renewing the back doors and formerly broken concrete steps so that they are safe, stable and usable for years to come.  
 Holly Turner gives of her time by babysitting for our residents so that they can work and attend classes.  
 Eileen Beliveau is a long time volunteer who spends her Saturdays at St. Gianna's Place offering her friendship and support wherever it is needed.

## Baptism

It is with gratitude that we welcome the newest member of God's family, Tisera, who was recently baptized at St. Patrick's Church in Pelham. Her mother, Sephonia, a resident of St. Gianna's Place, and godmother, Monique, along with the St. Gianna's Place family, received a warm welcome from the parish community on this very special day.



## We Value the Knights of Columbus Support



The local Knights of Columbus councils are some of our biggest supporters. Whether it's helping us with hands-on projects or raising money to keep our doors open, the Knights are always available to help St. Gianna's Place. Most recently, Director Donna Meade, accepted a donation from Council 6850, St. Joseph Parish, Epping, NH. Thank you for your generosity!

## Resident Spotlight: Meet Alanna

My name is Alanna and I'm one of the residents at St. Gianna's Place. I've been living here since January 2022. I had my beautiful daughter a month after I moved in. I was scared at first, but you meet people going through the same thing you are and you don't feel as alone as you did before. Wonderful people here are trying to make a change and a difference. I can't thank the people here enough! I was able to go to school for Phlebotomy and finished a few months ago. I have been going to budgeting classes, faith formation, Parenting Journey, and more to help me become a good parent. I just want to thank everyone that made this place possible, because I don't know where my daughter and I would be today if it wasn't for St. Gianna's Place.

*Alanna*







# Third Floor Dedication

St. Gianna's Place is excited to announce the opening of the third floor of our home after completing its renovation in August. To celebrate the occasion, a dedication and house blessing with a barbecue to follow was held on our beautiful back lawn. Friends, staff, volunteers, and former and current residents all enjoyed this time to give thanks to God for the blessings He has showered upon our home and ministry. St. Gianna's now offers 7 bedrooms with three full baths on the second and third floors to house our moms and their children.



Paul Roy, project manager, cuts the ribbon as his wife Marsha, Liz Neville, and Joe Palfini look on



## Our Board of Directors

- Kelly McIntire, *President*
- Liz Neville, *Vice President & Co-Founder*
- Dennis Pedley, *Treasurer*
- Celeste Horan, *Secretary*
- Monica Rahilly, *Board Member & Co-Founder*
- Maria Szemplinski, *Board Member & Co-Founder*
- Kevin Cronin, *Board Member*
- Elizabeth Breuder, *Co-Founder*
- Donna Meade, *Director*
- Rev. Volney DeRosia, *Spiritual Director*

## Meet the Staff

When you think of the heart of St. Gianna's Place, one name comes to mind - Susanne Levesque. Susanne is our Administrative Assistant, who will greet you on the phone or at the door. She meets each resident with a smile and an ear. She helps keep us organized and on track and directs us all to the chapel when challenges arise. If you plan on volunteering, Susanne will be your contact person. Having been with the program since 2019, she will orient you about the program's history and vision. For Susanne, St. Gianna's Place has been a vocation fulfilled. "I'm doing what God wants me to be doing." For us, Susanne is a blessing realized.

## A Resident Graduation

Congratulations, Alanna! We are so proud of resident, Alanna, who recently graduated from the phlebotomy certification program at St Joseph's Hospital.





# Unto Us a Child is Born



## New Patio

Residents, staff, and volunteers are now able to enjoy the beauty of our backyard. Thanks to American Wall and Patio for the excellent workmanship of the new patio. And thank you to all of our donors for making this patio possible!

**Save the Date**  
 Join us for our banquet on May 25th, 2023 to be held at the Event Center in Nashua. Sister Deirde Byrne, Missionary, retired army colonel and surgeon will be the guest speaker.



## Kids Donate!

In September, Father Von and a representative of St. Gianna's Place spoke at St. Patrick Parish in Pelham. Four children listened intently and picked up fundraiser baby bottles as they left Mass. Once home, Jaxson, Madison, Carter and Harper went right to their piggy banks and began to fill their baby bottles. When asked why they were helping, Jaxson, age 8, said, "Every mom and new baby deserve a nice house to live in, so that's why we are giving." They may be little people but St. Gianna's Place holds a special spot in their big hearts! ▶



◀ Siblings Elisabeth and Corey ran a lemonade stand outside of De-Clores Religious Bookshop in Salem, NH and donated the proceeds to St. Gianna's Place.



THE STAR THEY HAD SEEN WHEN IT ROSE WENT AHEAD OF THEM UNTIL IT STOPPED OVER THE PLACE WHERE THE CHILD WAS



St. Gianna's Place, Inc.  
 A Safe Harbor For Mother and Child  
 PO Box 725 Londonderry, NH 03053

[www.stgiannasplace.org](http://www.stgiannasplace.org)  
 (603) 521-8440