



SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER

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JUDY PEARLSTONE: PROJECT BACKPACK FOUNDER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & PRESIDENT

Judy Pearlstone is the creator and original organizer of Project Backpack. She began the project as a local social service project of NA'AMAT USA (an international service organization) and made the first distribution of backpacks to a local police department in 1999.

Judy created Project Backpack solely with the mission to help children in the St. Louis area. The children served are the silent victims of domestic violence. The organization provides emergency services by furnishing area police departments, social service agencies, domestic violence shelters and Department of Family Services workers with backpacks for children who are removed from their homes usually with nothing but the clothes on their backs.

Under Judy's direction, the project quickly mushroomed and grew to become an independent entity. She brings a wealth of not-for-profit organizational experience to her leadership of Project Backpack. She has served as a member of the National and Midwest Boards of NA'AMAT USA and as President of its St. Louis Council. She continues to serve as a member of the NA'AMAT Board in St. Louis.



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Judy has been involved with helping victims of domestic violence for more than a decade, starting with crisis training through ALIVE, Inc. (Alternatives to Living in Violent Environments). As a retired teacher at the H.F. Epstein Hebrew Academy, Judy has in-depth understanding of children and their needs. She received her BA from Washington University in St. Louis and her MA in Education from Webster University.

Thank you Judy for your leadership and service to our community. Happy Giving!



HAPPY TO GIVE ELECTS TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Happy To Give recently elected and installed two new members on its Board of Directors. Kelsey Mansfield and Mike Lorenz joined the Board effective March 12, 2019, and will be responsible for helping to oversee the organization's activities and growth objectives.

Kelsey Mansfield is a nurse at Barnes Jewish Hospital in St. Louis city. In her free time, she's always looking for new experiences and ways to branch out. Kelsey enjoys how Happy To Give supports a different organization each year, and how it also helps publicize for that organization and raises awareness for different causes.

Mike Lorenz is a husband and father of three teenage children. For the past 16 years he has been an art teacher, football coach, and Student Council advisor at Lutheran High School North. He enjoys helping people and likes to see good things happen in the community. He also loves to see former students go on to have an impact on the world. He's excited to join the Board because he believes Happy To Give wraps all of that up into one neat package.

Congratulations to Kelsey and Mike. Happy to Give is happy to have you on board!

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A TRIVIA NIGHT COMMITTEE CHAIR OR CO-CHAIR?

We're currently in need of a committee chair or co-chair for our annual trivia night. As a committee chair or co-chair, you will be responsible for helping to drive the logistics, planning and success of the event. Happy to Give is the perfect, non-intimidating way to give back to your community. Join us at one of our upcoming events to learn about our organization and how we're raising funds to support our mission.

You can also join us at our upcoming Project Back Pack volunteer days (see information below) to learn more about our organization. Or you can visit our website at www.happytogive.org or email us at happytogivestl@gmail.com. We look forward to meeting you!



GIVE STL DAY

Give STL day is on Wednesday, May 1. This annual event is a community-wide giving day sponsored by the St. Louis Community Foundation.

All local organizations (over 380 and counting) are registered via their website and they accept all donations and keep a running total of how much is raised throughout the day.

Click here to support Happy to Give via Give STL Day. For more information about Happy to Give visit our website at www.happytogive.org.

For more information about Give STL Day, visit their website at www.givestlday.org.

Happy Giving!

2019 Upcoming Events: SAVE THE DATE!

April 25: Project Backpack Volunteer Day @ 6pm - 8pm

Where: Project Backpack HQ | 12120 Bridgeton Square, Bridgeton, MO 63044

May 14, June 11, July 16: Golf Committee Meetings

Where: 12916 Cedarledge Court, St. Louis, MO 63146 (all meetings begin at 6pm)

June 15: Project Backpack Volunteer Day @ 10am - 12pm

Where: Project Backpack HQ | 12120 Bridgeton Square, Bridgeton, MO 63044

July 27: 12th Annual Happy To Give Golf Tournament

Where: Florissant Golf Club | 50 Country Club Ln, Florissant, MO 63033 | Shotgun Starts at Noon

Cost: \$440 per 4 Man Scramble | Price includes cart, lunch, dinner, beer and t-shirt

November 16: 5th Annual Happy To Give Trivia Night

Where: St. Ann Parish Center | 7530 Natural Bridge Rd, St. Louis, MO 63121 | Doors open at 6:30pm

Cost: \$200 per table | 10 people per table