



WINTER 2018 NEWSLETTER

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HAPPY TO GIVE ANNOUNCES 2018 GIVING PARTNER

Each year *Happy To Give* (HTG) selects a local non-profit organization with whom we partner with to raise funds and participate in volunteer activities. HTG is thrilled to announce our 2018 Giving Partner: *Kids In The Middle* (KITM). KITM is a non-profit organization that empowers children, parents, and families during and after divorce through counseling, education and support. Offering the most comprehensive and expert counseling in the field, KITM is the only non-profit service provider in the St. Louis region with the unique specialization of working with children “in the middle” of their parents’ separation and divorce. They originally opened their doors in 1977, and since that time their services have significantly expanded to serve the whole family, including parents. KITM offers group and individual counseling for children, individual counseling for parents, co-parenting counseling, co-parenting groups, court mandated co-parenting education classes, family counseling, and blended family counseling.

In 2017, *Kids In The Middle* served over 692 families. They also helped 415 children through group counseling and 180 children through individual counseling. KITM turns no family away based on their inability to pay, and as many as 90% of the families they serve receive some level of financial assistance from KITM. (continued on next page)

(continued) In addition to the counseling services provided at their St. Louis County location, KITM also helps children and families in schools through their School Outreach Counseling program.

Happy To Give has an exciting and productive year planned with *Kids In The Middle*. Both organizations will be cross-promoting their events (see 2018 *Upcoming Events* section below for more information) to help drive participation, including volunteer and donor efforts.

If you're interested in volunteering directly with *Kids In The Middle*, please contact Sarah Contarini, Associate Director of Development, at SContarini@kitm.org. More information can also be found on their website at www.kidsinthemiddle.org ★



2017 HIGHLIGHTS: A LOOK BACK ON OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH BLESSINGS TO OTHERS

Happy To Give (HTG) has a lot to be thankful for with its 2017 Giving Partner, *Blessings To Others* (BTO). BTO is an incredible non-profit organization that exists to provide quality intermediate and affordable housing to individuals, families, and strategic partners. They help to bridge the gap between transitional and permanent housing needs for individuals and families experiencing significant life changes.

Through our partnership and collaborative efforts, *Happy To Give* was able to give *Blessings To Others* \$20,000 in 2017. This money allowed BTO to purchase and renovate homes for their affordable housing program, which gives individuals and families access to safe and clean homes with a reasonable purchase price or rental fee. The money also allowed BTO to pay bills, pay down debt, and have breathing room in 2018 to be more productive and achieve planned goals. BTO, for example, acquired a home late last year and are currently conducting renovations on the property.

Tim Grimmet, Executive Director of *Blessings To Others*, mentioned that he was especially thankful for our volunteer efforts last year in helping BTO renovate houses. (continued on next page)

(continued) BTO is a smaller non-profit in the St. Louis area and they are just beginning to make a long-lasting and positive impact on the community. *Happy To Give* was blessed to be a part of their journey in 2017, and we look forward to helping BTO grow and help others in any way we can.

Blessings To Others is looking for volunteers who are passionate about the housing market, and dedicated individuals who would be interested in serving on their Board of Directors. For more information about BTO or how you can get involved, visit their website at www.homebto.org ★

HAPPY TO GIVE ELECTS TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Happy To Give recently elected and installed two new members on its Board of Directors. Matt Dirnbeck and Matt Ramshaw joined the Board effective December 12, 2017, and will be responsible for helping to oversee the organization's activities and growth objectives.

Matt Dirneck has been a participant in the *Happy To Give* Annual Happy Gilmore Day Golf Tournament since its inception and is excited to be serving on the board starting this year. Matt lives in Saint Louis city near Forest Park and works at Saint Mary's High School as a science teacher and cross country coach. Matt is an active lifestyle junkie and enjoys running, cycling, triathlon, skiing, hiking and traveling.

Matt Ramshaw has been a volunteer and contributor of *Happy To Give* since 2013, and is excited to join the Board to have an even greater impact within the organization. Matt is married to his wife, Candace, and they have a two year old daughter, Adeline. Matt works in business development in the healthcare industry for Centene Corporation. He enjoys spending time with family, running, reading and eating any kind of pie. ★



Visit happytogive.org for more information about our **events** or **sponsorship opportunities**.

2018 Upcoming Events

February 28: *Kids In the Middle* Fundraiser/ St. Louis Blues Night

April 28: *Kids In The Middle* 2018 Gala

July 28: *Happy To Give* 11th Annual Happy Gilmore Day Golf Tournament

November 2: *Kids In The Middle* Tasting Event (Wine, Beer, Food)

November 10: *Happy To Give* Annual Trivia Night