

A community that cares and grows together

**INSIDER** Winter 2021

Dear Friends,

2020 was a year that challenged us all. But despite the trials it put in our paths, it was also a year that created beautiful stories of overcoming in the face of adversity. I am so thankful for our amazing <u>team</u> who worked tirelessly to continue the fulfilment of our mission.

I am also thankful for the <u>community partners</u> who came alongside us to provide contributions, both financial and in-kind, to ensure we have the resources needed to continue serving the most vulnerable in our community.

As we plant our feet solidly in 2021, I look forward to the amazing stories of HOPE that are yet to unfold. I want to thank each of you for the part you will play in telling those stories in the coming days.

Be well,

4-905

Nora Hitchcock Our Space Executive Director



## Our Space Announces 2020 Employees of The Year

2020 has handed each of us a multitude of challenges. The pandemic has caused us to redefine much of what we viewed as "normal," creating unease, unrest, and uncertainty.

2020 was also a year punctuated by record mental health and addiction crises. Each member of the Our Space team was impacted by these crises in profound ways; yet despite the adversities, they continued to show up. They continued to be there for the individuals we serve.

At Our Space we call ourselves a family. As such, our goal is to help each other achieve the very best, and also be there when a family member is struggling. This has been the ongoing story for the entire Our Space team...walking alongside each other in the good days and the bad.

When you work with such an accomplished group of people, the task of choosing the "best of the best" is no easy job. In fact, if we could award our entire staff, that would have made the job much easier. But at Our Space, we are not about doing the *easy* thing, but rather doing the *right* thing.

With that in mind, we are pleased to announce our *2020 Employees Of The Year*, one individual from each of our key program areas – Supportive Housing, Outside Peer Support Contracts, The Parachute House Peer-run Respite, and the Our Space Administrative Team.



## Our Space on the News!

Our Space is special for many reasons. From the programming we offer to the individuals

we employ, we work hard to create a future of hope in our local community. Recently we were honored to have one of our fantastic team members, Shalene Fayne, featured on TMJ4-TV. Click here to see this amazing story!



Thank you to the following organizations, foundations, and individuals who generously support the Our Space mission of empowering individuals living with mental illness and substance abuse issues to achieve their full potential by providing recovery-oriented, person-person centered services and programs in a safe and accepting environment.

Erica P. John Foundation American Family Dream Foundation Stackner Family Foundation Herb Kohl Philanthropies Trustee of Funds and Endowments, Inc. -Simon of Cyrene Fund United Way Colleen Aird Jonathan Beeton Wendy Bennewitz Fred and Joan Brengel Family Foundation John Dobroski Susan Dvorak Sarah Lubbs-Fairchild Al Hentzen Family Foundation Karen Jick Lona Kanitz Heddy Keith Rosemary Krause Gregory Jurenec Jeanne & James LaValley

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