



## What's Happening at Abbott House

*News Bites About Staff and Friends Who Help Us Meet Our Mission*



### **Staff Recognized for Excellence in Practice**

The NYC Administration for Children's Services recognized the entire Abbott House Group Homes Staff and four members of the Foster Care team for Excellence in Practice at their quarterly Directors meeting in March.

**Join us in congratulating Natasha Aho, Brittany Gordon, Shawn Dennison, Violet Franklin and the entire Group Homes Staff!**

The Excellence in Practice Awards are given to individuals, teams, or units that have demonstrated *"superior practice in areas including but not limited to casework on an individual case; policy and program development; crisis management; evaluation and quality assurance; business process improvement; staff development; supervision and training, or leadership."*

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### **Abbott House Social Workers are Essential!**

March is Social Work Month, and we want to take a moment to celebrate the achievements of all our dedicated social workers, case planners, clinical aids, and essential staff who work tirelessly to improve the lives of others. In

the coming weeks, they will each receive a token of appreciation to commemorate World Social Work Day 2021, **but more importantly, to remind them that they instill hope in the hearts of so many people.**



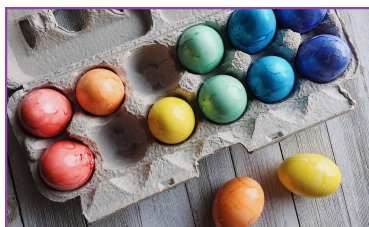
### **Easter Bunnies Hard at Work**

Every year, our friends at the [Church of St. Paul the Apostle](#) in NYC gather on a Sunday in March to assemble beautiful Easter baskets for the children at Abbott House. Due to ongoing COVID restrictions on large gatherings, this event could not continue as planned.

With the spirit of the season and the children on their minds, the church decided to collect and ship us all the essential items needed to build a perfect Easter basket - chocolate bunnies, candy bracelets, stuffed animals, wrapping supplies and so much more.

The only thing left to do was assemble - a job for our dedicated volunteer Lori Cohen, who led a team of hardworking student volunteers through [The Workers Circle](#) family to help decorate close to 300 beautiful baskets.

Thank you so much to Kathy Zirnhelt and Tania Chebli at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle for coordinating this effort year after year, and a special thank to Fordham University and our Easter bunny volunteers who make children in our care feel loved and special.

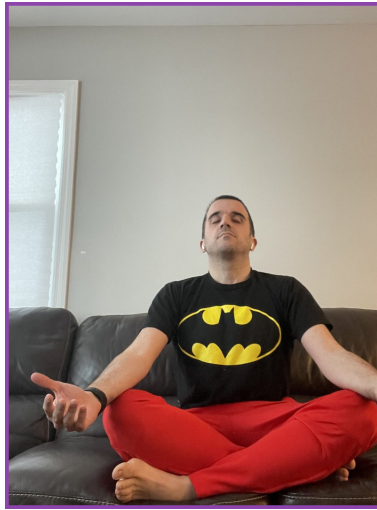


**A Vote for Jesse is a Vote for Abbott House!**

One of our dear friends at Abbott House, Jesse Ruggiere, recently received the 2020 Dave Wade Heart of Gold Award for his tireless commitment to raising funds and awareness for our mission. He is now vying for a chance to be featured in Yoga Warrior Magazine and win \$10,000, which he has vowed to distribute to his three favorite charities - one of which is Abbott House!

Voting ends at 7 PM TONIGHT! Please take a minute to cast a vote for Jesse by [clicking here](#).

An excerpt from Jesse's page: What words or mantra do you live by? **Be Good. Do Good. Feel Good. I help others, so I can sleep at night.**



You do a lot of good, Jesse, and we are grateful to be the recipients of your big heart.

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**We hope you are remaining safe and healthy, and as always,  
thank you for continuing to support Abbott House.**

***PS: Keep watch for the Golf Outing invitation in the coming weeks.  
Save the date for a day of fun: May 24!***



#### **Our Contact Information**

\*{{Organization Name}}\*

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