



Italian Home for Children Annual Report **2021**



Welcome from Susan Keays, CEO



Dear Italian Home community,

In April, I was given the honor to step into the role of CEO of Italian Home for Children. During the past few months, I have been energized by conversations with supporters, inspired by clients who are making rapid progress despite a pandemic, and proud of 200 extremely dedicated and hard-working staff.

As you read through this annual report, I hope that you are as proud as I am of the work Italian Home continues to do. As an agency, we adapted and pivoted many times to help our clients as we all navigate this global pandemic.

We also took advantage of opportunities in 2021 to build upon Italian Home's footprint and scope of services. We expanded our In-Home therapy offerings to the southeast coast and Cape Cod to serve families in an area where services are not readily available. We launched our Applied Behavioral Analysis program working with youth on the autism spectrum. We also secured new contracts for our Residential Program, opening our doors to youth who have a high need for our services.

I also encourage you to read two client stories about Leo and Ashley, included in this report. These stories highlight both the importance and the impact of our work, giving insight into a small scope of the care we provide.

I truly love Italian Home and am proud to lead our organization as CEO. We continue to thrive because of our collective commitment -staff, Board of Directors, and you- to our vital mission. I am grateful for you and your continued support of Italian Home and the children and families we serve. I look forward to his new year with optimism and excitement for what lies ahead.

Thank you for being part of our family.

Susan Keays
CEO & President
Italian Home for Children



OUR MISSION

Italian Home for Children provides an integrated network of powerful and effective programs to help children and families with emotional, behavioral, and educational challenges thrive in their communities.

OUR VISION

We strive to be a diverse, inclusive, and compassionate community champion that empowers children, adults, and families with mental health and educational struggles through therapeutic, collaborative, and transformative programming.

OUR VALUES

Transformative

Empowering

Adaptable

Mindful

Integrated

Hopeful

Compassionate



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Southeast Expansion

The COVID-19 pandemic has not only added stress to families but has also decreased supports and opportunities for children to develop, learn social skills, and learn self-regulation. Therefore, the services we provide are more important now than ever before. This year, we proudly expanded to the Southeast region of Massachusetts. Within the 2021 fiscal year, we launched our Southeast expansion with 10 new families receiving In-Home therapy services. Serving the South Shore and Cape area, from Brockton all the way to Provincetown, allows clients in those regions teams to access therapeutic services that they may not have immediate access to otherwise.

In-Home Therapy is a teamed approach that works with youth (ages 3-21) and their family to increase their ability to provide effective support for their child, and to promote healthy functioning within the family. Upon graduating from this program, children often report feeling more in control and happier while parents report increased confidence in safety planning and better family dynamics.

Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)

This past year, we prepared for the launch of our In-Home Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program serving children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Our ABA program assists children and their families with gaining skills and behavior management that will allow each child to live their life as independently as possible. Home-Based ABA is often a long term service that can assist the child through different life stages, providing them with the support and expertise needed to navigate each developmental milestone or transition. These services are overseen by a Licensed Applied Behavior Analyst (LABA) or Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) and implemented by a Behavior Therapist.

The LABA or BCBA completes testing, a functional behavior assessment, and an individualized treatment plan for each child, specifically addressing their needs. The LABA or BCBA works with the family to create goals and oversees the implementation of the plan, meeting frequently with the family to assess if any changes are needed. The amount of time each team spends with a child and their family can be a few hours per week to multiple hours per day, depending of the needs of the child. Italian Home has already begun working with 10 families and looks forward to continued growth!

An Update to Our Values

As Italian Home grows and expands, we remain linked as a community through the values embodied by every staff member and program. Our values are what hold us together and remind us every day of our capabilities and goals. This year, we came together through reflective discussion to update our values to accurately reflect the work we do. The resulting seven values not only act as a barometer for our work but also form the acronym: TEAM IHC. This is a further reminder that we are a team at Italian Home. No person or program is an island.

Transformative	We positively change the lives of the youth and families we serve.
Empowering	We empower youth and families to advocate for themselves and their needs, enabling them to live healthy and fulfilling lives.
Adaptable	Each child and family has unique backgrounds, strengths, and needs. We adjust to our clients' needs and revise as new challenges arise.
Mindful	We stay aware of our clients' needs, emotions, and strengths.
Integrated	We work as a team. Our continuum of care allows for a child to be enrolled in multiple services aimed at strengthening and bettering every aspect of their lives.
Hopeful	We optimistically push forward for a world that puts mental health first and where every child feels safe.
Compassionate	We remain sympathetic towards our clients and go above and beyond to support them. From finding adequate housing to attending IEP meetings at school, our staff often serve beyond the typical model of services to best support our youth and families.

BY THE NUMBERS

FY21 Year End Financials

All numbers are unaudited

Revenue

Residential Programs	\$5,787,312
Mary Savioli Pallotta Educational Center	\$3,522,118
After School Programs	\$707,169
Clinical Services	\$1,668,011
Community Programs	\$3,658,534

Contributions

Foundations	\$220,721
Individual Donations	\$448,852
Corporate Donations	\$183,991
In-Kind Gifts	\$3,175
Total Contributions	\$856,739

Total Restricted and Other	\$449,264
-----------------------------------	------------------

TOTAL REVENUE \$16,649,147

Unduplicated Numbers for FY21

34,027

hours of in-home
therapy and
therapeutic mentoring

11,828

hours of therapy
delivered through our
clinic in Brighton

Boston Programs

- 41 Residential Programs
- 36 CBAT
- 35 Day School
- 48 After School/Summer Camp
- 553 CBHI Services

BAMHA

- 685 Outpatient Clients

Communities Served

Abington	Everett	Needham	Stoughton
Arlington	Framingham	New Bedford	Sudbury
Auburndale	Hudson	Newton	Taunton
Belmont	Hyde Park	North Attleboro	Truro
Bolton	Jamaica Plain	Norwell	Uxbridge
Boston	Lakeville	Norwood	Waltham
Boxborough	Lawrence	Provincetown	Wareham
Braintree	Lexington	Quincy	Watertown
Brighton	Lynn	Raynham	Wayland
Brookline	Malden	Readville	Wellesley Hills
Cambridge	Mansfield	Revere	West Boylston
Charlestown	Mashpee	Rockland	West Roxbury
Chelsea	Mattapan	Roslindale	Wilmington
Dedham	Medford	Salem	Woburn
Dorchester	Milton	Somerville	
East Freetown	Natick	South Hamilton	

Board of Directors

Mike O'Hanlon, Chair
ezCater, Inc.

Peter Maglia
Coldwell Banker

Peter Day, Vice Chair
Piper Sandler & Co.

Minister LaVerne Pina
Morning Star Baptist Church

James Dowling, Treasurer
Liberty Bay Credit Union

Rosemarie Rudin
Independent Director

Ryan Doyle, Clerk
ConstructSecure, Inc.

Robert Sabadoz
Eaton Vance Corp.

Mark Brandon
Independent Director

Nicole Solera
Cushman & Wakefield

Don Brechner
Independent Director

Marc A. Verga
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management

Daniel Brennan
South Shore Bank

Robert V. Wallace Jr.
Wallace Property Company and Wallace Capital

Susan Dempsey
*Brigham and Women's
Faulkner Hospital*

Jamie Whitney
State Street

Joseph Fabiano
JLL, Inc.

Ciro Whooley
Danforth Advisors

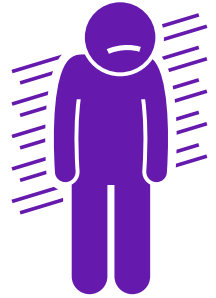
Marcia Fowler
Bournewood Health Systems



Leo's Story

The following is a statement written by one of our clients at the Brighton-Allston Mental Health Association. For the sake of confidentiality, he's been asked to be called, "Leo."

I started therapy with the Brighton-Allston Mental Health Association very young, I was 8. I had trouble making friends, I struggled to pay attention in school, I couldn't control my anger, **I was depressed, suicidal, isolated, anxious**, and my speech impediment didn't make any of the above any easier. I would be diagnosed with depression and an anxiety disorder and I would stay in therapy for more than 10 years. I was hospitalized twice, once in 8th grade and once again in my sophomore year of high school. I remember so clearly hating myself, feeling completely worthless, and like the world would be so much better off if I took my own life. The most tragic part of it all is that it was totally normal for me. I didn't feel broken compared to everyone else, I thought it was completely average to, at the age of 13, go everyday considering killing myself and hating every part of who I was. Eventually I realized that everyone else didn't feel that way, and I wanted so desperately to feel comfortable with who I was and with my future since I knew it was possible to get rid of the feelings which had haunted me my entire young life.



I remember vividly, sitting in my therapist's office when I was 15 or 16 after a tough but manageable day and saying, "Maybe this is as good as I get. Maybe the best I get is only hating myself 2 days every week, and only feeling suicidal every few weeks. That's okay with me, I think I can live like that." I'm happy I didn't settle for that. I had come a long way but I didn't know that I would be so much better than even what at the time was the best I had ever been. I used to be so isolated, I didn't have many friends and I was so used to feeling utterly useless and forgettable, but now I have so many people around me who I love having in my life, so many things I do that I love spending time on, and so those old feelings feel so foreign and detached from the person I am now. Things which broke young me are completely manageable and conquerable now, and it was that progress over many years that led me to who I am and the much improved person I am now.

At this point in my life, and probably at every point from here on out, it's hard for me to remember exactly how I felt when I first started, mostly because the person I am now would have seemed entirely unattainable to 8 year old me. I'm 22 now, I'm about to graduate with a bachelor's degree, I have more friends now than I thought I'd ever have, and I feel better than 8 year old me would have even thought was possible. I still have my speech impediment, although it's much improved, and I still get overwhelmed, angry, and detached from time to time but the difference from then to now is so incredible I still don't quite know how I did it. With a lot of help, I know that for sure. **I guess that's the strange magic of therapy: it's incremental.** When you do it long enough, you've learned so much about yourself, fixed so many of the broken and challenging areas in yourself, and you've learned so much about processing emotions and strengthening who you are that when you look back it's hard to remember there was a time when you weren't the way you are now. I know that's true for me. And I couldn't be more happy about it. **All the progress I've made comes back to this: if not for a therapist who helped me for so long, asked me all the right questions, led me to all the right answers, and pushed me in all the right directions every week for over a decade, I know I wouldn't have a tenth of the happiness, stability, confidence, optimism, and future I have now and that lies ahead.**

Ashley's Story

The following story is about Ashley, an adult client at Brighton Allston Mental Health Association. While most of Italian Home's clients are youth, we do work with adults through our services at BAMHA, and this story about telehealth was too important not to share.

Ashley had been working with her clinician for about two years when COVID-19 forced a shut down, however she was still able to continue services thanks to telehealth practices. In April of 2020, Ashley contracted COVID-19 and was forced to quarantine in her basement as she battled the virus. Her quarantine lasted five and a half weeks and during this time she was not able to see her wife or her 4-year-old son. During Ashley's quarantine, Italian Home was still able to provide help via telehealth during a time when Ashley physically could not see anyone else.

When Ashley first began working with us, she dealt with suicide ideation and admitted that she felt her family would be better off without her. She was guarded when it came to working with her therapist. Over time, the two built trust, but it took a major event like COVID-19 and quarantining to break down some remaining walls. Ashley shared that she felt safe with telehealth and that with nothing else to do during quarantine, she began to really engage in her "therapy homework" (as she calls it). She started to feel that she was making real strides as a result of the work.



One of the biggest breakthroughs came with her family. During Ashley's 40-day quarantine, she got a first-hand look at what life would be like if she were not around. Her son cried at the door to the basement because he missed his mom. Her wife expressed her struggles to maintain routines and keep up with life. She missed her partner. It was excruciating for her to not be there for her family. This unfortunate situation gave Ashley a new appreciation for her life.

With this revelation, Ashley and her therapist worked together to help prioritize what matters most in Ashley's life. As she re-entered her household after quarantine, Ashley has worked on being as present as she can be. She understands what matters most. While there are still other matters she's working on, Ashley no longer has thoughts of suicide. She looks forward to watching her son grow up and growing old with her wife. She was grateful that telehealth was available, especially during her quarantine. Italian Home helped her process thoughts, emotions, and feelings in real time. We were there for her when she needed us most.



Thank you to our donors for their generosity and investment in the youth and families we serve. Our work would not be possible without you.

1919 Society

\$100,000+

Cummings Foundation

Promise Circle

\$50,000-\$99,999

Anonymous

Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation

Compassion Circle

\$25,000-\$49,999

Donna Anne Poulack Foundation

Jack Williams' Wednesday's Child

Helping Circle

\$10,000-\$24,999

Bain Capital Children's Charity Ltd.
Boston Public Health Commission
Brigham & Women's Faulkner Hospital
Adam & Maria Chase
Demoulas Foundation
The Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation
for Autism, Inc.
Vincent Guiffre Trust

Arthur J. Hurley Company, Inc.
Mario & Claire Pallotta
Caren & Joe Pasquale
Privitera Family Charitable Foundation
Jeffrey & Rosemarie Rudin
John & Edith Sacco Charitable Foundation
Sanofi Genzyme Corporation
Youk's Kids

Leadership Circle

\$5,000-\$9,999

1265 Main Street LLC	Ernst & Young
Ametek	J & Company, LLC
The Boston Foundation	Bob Menery
Bournewood Health Systems	Gay & Mike O'Hanlon
Mark & Stacey Brandon	Marc & Maria Puglia
Catholic Health Foundation	Rockland Trust
Joseph Cefalo	Christina & George Roman
Cincotta Family Trust	David & Joni Schelzi
Frederica Cushman	UG2 LLC
D'Arrigo Bros. Co.	Michael & Vincenza Vinciullo
Dedham Savings	Charitable Foundation
Francis J. & Rita A. DiMento Foundation	Katy & Robert Wallace
John & Gertrude Donovan Foundation	The Anne & Henry Zarrow Foundation

Caring Circle

\$2,500-\$4,999

Aetna Corporation	Phil & Norma Fine Fund
Maureen Barrett	Americo J. Francisco Charitable Trust
Daniel Brennan	Scott & Susan Keays
Julianna Cammarano	New England Produce Center, Inc.
Mark & Susan Dempsey	Charles & Rebecca Pagliazzo
Eastern Bank	Josephine Pizzuto

Kindness Circle

\$1,000-\$2,499

Anonymous	James D'Angelo
Hilary & Brad Allinson	Mark & Shawna Daoust
Atlantic Elevator Services	Peter & Stacey Day
Diane & James Beatrice	Dr. & Mrs. Salvatore DeLuca
The Benevity Community Impact Fund	John DeMichaelis
Anjini & Neil Bhattacharyya	Midge & Thomas DeSimone
Ann & Hans Birle	Devaney Energy
James Buggie & Mary Murphy	Diana Dorci
Building Trades Employers' Association	Frederic Dorci
Patricia Burke Devellis	James Dowling
David Campbell	Ehana, LLC
Antonino & Pimontip Catalano	Kathleen Elcock
Christopher Catanese Children's Foundation	The Episode Foundation
Chase Corporation	Roberta A. Ferriani
Edward & Mary Ann Choate	Marcia Fowler
Laurel Cleary	Mario Gabelli
Kimberly Clementi-Eadon	Bruce & Lisa Gaskey
Anna & BW Cosentino Charitable Foundation	Anthony & Elaine Grillo
	Antoine Hatoun & Andrea Levitt
	Charles Hayes

Kindness Circle (cont'd)

\$1,000-\$2,499

James & Carla Hines
Richard Iandoli
Ed & Meg Ingalls
Insight Services Group
Alan Jacobson
Harriet & Sheldon Jacobson
Joseph Karbowski & Margaret Duggan
James Kilduff, Inc.
Matthew Kuschel
Gail Lentini
Miss Wallace M. Leonard Foundation
Timothy & Joanne Leveroni
LT Development LLC
Peter Maglia & Gerardo Garcia-Rios
Martignetti
Karen Mulry-Rockwell
Aileecia Murray
David & Dorothy Nasuti
Carolyn & Dana Pope
Providence Equity
Joseph Rigali & Tracy Winn

Giselle Rizzo
Carol & Eric Roderick
St. Michael's Chapel
Mark & Brenda Schelzi
mark Snyder
Elizabeth Sorrentino Sorgi
Lawrence Spezzano
Cindy & Kye Stockwell
Stop and Shop
John & Cathleen Sullivan
Masai Takahashi
Daniel & Julie Tempesta
Tremont Strategies Group
Louis Trubiano & Phyllis Doherty
Michael Verrochi
Hirsch Roberts Weinstein LLP
Wilson Farms
Alison Wintman
Your Space Landscape
& Construction, Inc.
Carmencita Bua & Gianfranco Zaccai

Joyful Circle

\$500-\$999

Anonymous (6)
The Albright Foundation Trust
Sven & Christina Andersen
Alida Aska
Robert & Kelly Badavas
Bain Capital
Bruce & Patricia Bartlett
Beacon Fruit & Produce
Tony & Michelle Bordieri
Susan Bowler
Conant Brewer & Lorrie Anderson
Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen
Union Local No. 3
R. Kelly Cameron
Chiccarelli Family Charitable Fund
Mark Cincotta
James Considine
Susan & Kevin Coppola
Louise T. Coull
D'Arrigo Massachusetts
David DeGiacomo

Mark Donovan
Ryan Doyle
Sergio Fagherazzi
Anthony & Cynthia Franchi
Anne Frasca
Michael Giunta
Gold Bell Inc.
Paul & Amy Greeley
David & Susan Hamblen
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
Health Justice Advocacy Fund
Jeff Hirsch
William & Barbara Holgersen
IBM
Al & Liza Johnson
Stephanie Kilbride-Small
& Christopher Small
Mary Jane Kowalski
Catherine & Salvatore Lanuto
Elisa Maglia
Catherine McMenimon

Joyful Circle (cont'd)

\$500-\$999

James McSherry
Michael Morin & Marie O'Malley
Eugenia Nicholas
Kevin Nokaj
Jon & Sandra Nunez
James & Karen Oppenheim
Linda Palmer Friedman
People's United Bank
Diane & Carl Petrella
Denise Piazza
John Piccione
James Reichardt
Grace Resmini
Joanne Reynolds
Kathleen Rooney
Patricia Roth

Mary Lynn Ryan
Robert Sabadoz
Salem Country Club
The Schefter Family Fund
Wendy Laurich Spagnuolo
& Anthony Spagnuolo
Lucille & Richard Spagnuolo
Takeda
Norman & Carol Tasgal
Segel Thaler Family Fund
Travers Fruit Co.
Veritas Advisors LLC
Gerald & Natalie Weare
Wells Fargo Foundation
Ciro Whooley

Independent Circle

\$250-\$499

Anonymous (3)
Richard Abbadessa
Marie & Robert Alessi
Louis & Mary Andrews
Laurence & Rose Barron
Diane Barsotti
John Beal
Joseph & Carol Bianco
Cindy & Damon Blank
Joseph Bonavita
Gary Bosse
Jennifer Brochu
Joseph & Kathleen Bruno
Jack & Pauline Buckley
Jeffrey Calabrese
Paolo Carfagnini
Children of St. Anns Spiritual
Baptist Church
Mr. Michael & Mrs. Melissa Cleary
Vincenzo Colaiacovo
Elizabeth Condelli
David Condon & Jennifer harris
Jean Connelly
Sara Connerty
Michael & Delia Connors

Margaret Coppola
Annamarie Coyne
Marietta Curto-Agnitti
Lynda Cutrell
Anita D'Angio
Stephen De Lorimer
William DeGiacomo
Edward Deveau
Larry DiGiammarino
Paul DiMaura
James & Kathleen Elcock
Darryl Elliott
April Evans
Joseph Fabiano
Gary Feldman
Ron Felici
John & Nancy Foppiano
Lisa Franciosa
T.J. Freda
Susan & Art Garofalo
Louis Gregoire
Grimmway Enterprises Inc.
Ann Grossman
Guido's Fresh Marketplace
Charmaine Hartman

Independent Circle

\$250-\$499

John & Charlotte Hayes
William Holgerson
Iannella Victory Team
Ted & Jill Katsiroubas
Elizabeth & Stephen Kaye
Stephen Keegan
Jennifer & Dennis Kelly
Gregory Kosofsky
Kevin Lally
Albert & Maria Lanzillotti
George & Susan Logue
Deborah LoGuidice
Mariann MacDonald
Elisa Maglia
Greg Maheras
Michael Malone
Mary Manganaro
Paul Marchesiani
John & Linda Anne Marchi
Donald & Carol Mcanulty
Dan McCarthy
Stephen & Caitrin McSherry
Stephen & Rita McSherry
Buzz & Marion Meeks
N. Marcello & Pamela Micozzi
Middlesex Savings Bank
Lisa Mondani
Margaret & Thomas Morrison
Nicole & Tim Murphy
John Nagle Co.
Daniel Nash
Richard & Margaret Novak

David & Marie O'Leary
Mary Ann Pesce
John & Josephine Phillips
Brian & Christine Possi
Julia Ready
Donna Resmini
Catherine Reuben
Rice Fruit Company
Edward M. Riley
Josephine Rizzo Family Trust
Sacred Heart Parish
Joseph & Karen Sammartino
Linette Sanders
Frank Santangelo
Edward Santoro
Paula & Vincent Santosuosso
Sbrocco International, Inc.
Frank Scala
Carolyn & Steven Shea
Lisa DeGiacomo Smith & James Smith
Societa San Domenico Protettore
Di Augusta
James Stamatatos
Joseph & Lois Staula
Sun Life Financial
Lori Tambone
Alexander Tarani
Judy & Mario Umana
Lee Vieira
mark Viscusi
Frances Vitagliano
John & Rose Marie Vitiello
Marina Yapoujian



COVID-19 UPDATES

The work we do with youth and families hinges on connection and trust, which is challenging to build and maintain online. This is just one of many challenges that COVID-19 has brought to our staff and clients. Learning disabilities, symptoms of trauma, and mental health concerns have certainly persisted, and at times, escalated during COVID-19. The shifts and struggles with fair housing, food scarcity, and access to education add additional stressors to youth and families. However, we remain resilient and able to adapt through the ever-changing climate. Italian Home leadership and staff have persisted and continued to put our clients first.

The Pallotta School was fully opened as of last school year (2020-2021) when many other schools in the community were still using a hybrid model. In addition to in person learning, we provided remote learning to families that requested it and provided remote learning when children were unable to attend in person due to needing to quarantine because of COVID protocols.

We provide on-site weekly testing of all Residential staff and have been doing regular testing since September 2020, including testing of residents when needed.

We partnered with a local community health center to host an on-site vaccine clinic for 100 staff in winter 2021 and assisted additional staff with receiving their vaccine during a time when vaccine access was limited.

Italian Home also provided telehealth appointments so our clients and clinicians could stay connected. Telehealth appointments have proven to be uniquely beneficial to some clients as they have been able to share their interests and home lives more. For some young clients, online therapeutic activities have engaged their focus more than in-person sessions and they have able to progress with their goals more rapidly than before.





Supporting children and
families in crisis since 1919.

