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WINTER
2026
NEWSLETTER



OUR MISSION:

Supporting
exceptional
children
and families
toward a
successful
future.

Learn More: 603-286-8901 or
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IN THE COMMUNITY

Community-Based Programs: New Home

Until recently, our Community-Based Program (CBP) staff worked out of shared office space in tight quarters. In mid-October, we were delighted to move the team to a new, Spaulding-owned building in Tilton. The building is one of two on the property that Spaulding purchased as part of our strategic plan to expand services to the community.

Our in-house facilities team did a wonderful job renovating the building to create office spaces, meeting rooms and a conference room. The newly opened building will allow us to bring staff in to meet the needs of the foster care community, while plans for the second building are under consideration. “There is a significant need for additional community-based mental health providers in the state. Using the second building as an outpatient center is just one possibility,” said Amanda Champagne, our Vice President of Family Services.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Clinical Supervisor Ashley Donahue

If you ask Ashley Donahue what she finds most rewarding about her job as Spaulding’s Clinical Supervisor, her answer seems surprisingly simple: seeing children playing. “Play is the opposite of fear,” she explained. “If a child is playing, then they feel safe.”

When Ashley joined the Spaulding clinical team eight years ago, she changed lives as a clinician in our residential cottages. A little over a year ago, she was promoted to Clinical Supervisor, which she describes as the “best of both worlds.” She serves as a mentor and supervisor to clinicians and therapists in our residential cottages, while maintaining a small case load working with Spaulding students. “I love supporting people’s growth, whether helping a staff member build trust, helping a child navigate trauma, or helping a mom learn parenting skills and break a generational cycle of abuse and neglect,” she said.

Ashley is a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC) and Certified Clinical Trauma Professional (CCP). Most recently, she became a Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TRBI®) practitioner and has trained our staff on the therapeutic model, which is designed to promote healing and build trust with children who have experienced trauma.



FALL TRADITIONS

Creating Classic Memories from Pumpkin Painting to The Author’s Tea

Fall offers so many opportunities to celebrate as a community! Here are just a few highlights from one of our favorite seasons:

The Author’s Tea has become a fun, community-centered tradition that showcases the literary talents and hard work of all our students. Using pencil and paper, computer keyboards, augmentative communication devices, Boardmaker software and more, students spent the fall writing, editing, illustrating and publishing their own literary works. On November 21, our students shared the results with family and friends while nibbling cookies and sipping tea. This year’s publication titles ranged from “Wild West Getaway!” to “Trying New Things” with a wide range of topics in between.

Thanksgiving Celebration - On November 20, our amazing food services team went above and beyond to serve an incredible turkey dinner to more than 250 invited guests, staff and students. Seatings were held at 11 am, 11:45 am and 12:30 pm so visitors could mingle with students during their regularly scheduled lunch period. The Thanksgiving meal is a wonderful way to show our gratitude to all the people who make Spaulding so special. A fun activity during the lunch encouraged students, staff and guests to write down their own thanks on a paper feather that was later tucked into the tail of a turkey illustration.

Halloween Trick or Treating - There were no tricks, but it was definitely a treat to enjoy a campus-wide trick-or-treating event during school hours! Each

department in every campus building handed out treats as students went building to building in the Spaulding neighborhood. Our Registered Dietitian made sure that goodies were available to meet dietary restrictions so that every student could participate and enjoy the fun!

Staff Halloween Costume Contest – It was hard to tell who had more fun with the staff Halloween Costume Contest — the staff who went all out with over-the-top creative costumes, or students, who got to see grown-ups looking goofy. One group dressed up as their supervisor, another became a flutter of butterflies and others were Choose Love-themed Care Bears, a hot dog and condiments, and the list goes on. A special shout-out to art and music teacher Robyn Allen and her Hunters for transforming the Art Building into a full-blown Haunted House. It was absolutely spook-tacular!

Pumpkin Painting - We are so grateful to Performance Foodservice for donating a truckload of pumpkins for our annual Halloween pumpkin carving and painting! Rain forced us inside this year, so we pivoted and did more painting than carving. Students had a great time, and their handiwork added a festive touch throughout the campus and inside the cottages.

