



2020 Community Leader Agency Award Gerard Place



Gerard Place makes a difference in people's lives every day, providing support, education, and outreach to homeless single parents and their children. Their focus is on giving a hand up, not a hand-out, and from their housing assistance through their work to provide a sense of community and belonging, Gerard Place seeks to empower their clients to be self-sufficient, resilient, and successful.

Founded in 2000 by a collaboration of nuns from several local orders, Gerard Place was established to address the persistent poverty and homelessness that exists in WNY. They provide vital services to their residents, and the agency prides itself on meeting the needs of the community it serves. Gerard Place offers GED courses, childcare, healthy groceries, and cooking classes at its community center. Since opening its doors nearly twenty years ago, Gerard Place has helped thousands of WNYers of all backgrounds build better lives. They have an amazing success record, as a full 92% of their clients never return to poverty or homelessness upon leaving the program.

For its work to create equity and opportunity, The NFJC is proud to present Gerard Place with the 2020 Community Leader Agency Award. Accepting the award is David Zapfel, their President and CEO.