



Deborah Gagliano is the HR Swiss Army Knife for The Community Place of Greater Rochester. Simply known around the office as Debbie G. she has been an integral part of our settlement house history. We wanted to take this time and space to recognize all she has done for so many of us as she gets ready to leave us for retirement.



Always our biggest cheerleader

Our connection to a shared history - Debbie G. has the distinction of being part of three settlement houses! She went to **Camp Fisher at Genesee Settlement House** as a child, then a few years later found herself working at **Eastside Community Center** in 1989. She was still on board in 2001 as Eastside joined

Genesee Settlement House and Lewis Street Center to form **The Community Place of Greater Rochester!** Thankfully for us she just never seemed to leave the old neighborhood.



Debbie, with her Nick, at the Lewis Street Alumni picnic

These were Debbie's thoughts on the newsletter we did featuring Genesee Settlement House and Miss Mary Hannick.

"I usually do not "reply all" but I want to thank you for sharing this wonderful story about any amazing woman, Miss Mary Hannick. I was blessed to have known Miss Hannick and have her touch my life and the lives of my brothers for many years. We were Genesee Settlement House kids and attended Camp Fisher summer camp from the ages of 4-12. They were wonderful summers and provided us with the opportunity to go to different parks, etc. every day and spend a week, when we were older, at Hidden Valley Camp. It was a wonderful experience! As I grew older, I was able to stay in touch with Miss Hannick. Even though she told me to call her Aunt Mary I still continued to call her Miss Hannick (she could not be anyone but "Miss Hannick" to me)! Also, even though she was

this tiny little woman to me she was always appeared larger than life. She loved “all her children” and cared so much for the neighborhood and those who lived in the neighborhood. When we first started going to Genesee Settlement House we lived on North Union Street (right across from the Public Market) and then moved to Chatham Gardens but continued to go to camp each summer even though we moved out of the neighborhood. Those years at Genesee Settlement House will always be some of the most treasured years of my life and knowing Miss Hannick will be an honor and a privilege.

Again, thank you for sharing this wonderful story about Miss Hannick and Settlement House history!"



Debbie , with Carmen our CPO, serving dinner at Thanksgiving in our Senior Center.

Debbie has been our link to the service of our past - reminding us of the ideals we share as the foundation of our organization - and blends that with her role in Human Resources keeping us up to date in so many ways as we move into a rapidly changing future. She is always ready to listen and advise with an incredible

open door policy (except, of course when she is processing payroll - luckily those days are behind her.) She knows service above and beyond her role in the office - often lending a hand when a program needs an extra body, to serve some food, teach a craft, run the Reverse Raffle Board, or really whatever you need. This type of unwavering support sets the standard for everyone to follow and is an integral part of what it means to be a settlement house. Thank you for leading the way Debbie G.

One final thought about Debbie G. We don't want to give you the wrong impression. Yes, she does work very hard and can be very serious. However, there is a slightly silly side that appears from time to time - singing in the hallway, making bad jokes, or just being a good old fashioned goofball. And when she finally does leave us - we will miss every minute of it.

Thank you Debbie G!



Debbie clowning around with some friends.

CPGR in the News

One last thing before you go. Our CEO, Scott Benjamin, was on with Mark Gruba to discuss our 20th Anniversary and a few other things that we have been doing at Community Place. If you missed it, you can watch it here!

Community Place celebrates 20 years of serving the community

4 minutes left

WROC

8 WROC 52° 12:11

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The image is a video player thumbnail for a news segment. The main title is 'Community Place celebrates 20 years of serving the community'. A large white play button is centered over a blue and yellow abstract background. The WROC logo is prominently displayed in the center. At the bottom, there is a financial ticker showing stock prices for Corning Inc (GLW), Delphi Automotive PLC (DLP), and Eastmanon Chemical Co. (STZ), along with a 'FINANCE' button. The temperature is 52° and the time is 12:11.