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After Mass. and Cass, he has reason for hope

Housed at last, Miguel Pagan takes steps to finally beat addiction

By Chris Serres
GLOBE STAFF

When his body feels up to the task, Miguel Pagan grabs his backpack, gently ventures down three flights of stairs, and roams for miles around Boston with no destination in mind.

Most days, he walks to clear his mind and to silence an inner voice — what he calls his “addict voice” —

that sometimes cries out for the heroin that has ruptured his relationships and brought him to the brink of death more than a dozen times.

The therapeutic walks, which sometimes take him from his apartment near downtown Boston to his childhood home in the Mission Hill housing projects, stem from a promise that Pagan made to his 84-year-old mother, Maria, who moved to

Boston from Puerto Rico in 1965: “I promised her that I would get completely clean of drugs before she died,” Pagan said. “Nothing is more important to me.”

Pagan, who turned 64 two weeks ago, has never been closer to fulfilling that promise.

In late October, Pagan was among the first of 126 people living in the sprawling, crime-ridden en-

campment on the edge of Boston’s South End, known as Mass. and Cass, who accepted an offer of temporary housing from the city. Of these, nearly 100 have been placed in facilities such as sober homes, supportive housing complexes, and detoxification centers, where they have access to substance-use treatment and counseling, city officials estimate.

But, as Mayor Michelle Wu and
MASS. AND CASS, Page A12

Release of hostages, prisoners continues

Mediators hope cease-fire is building momentum

By Ben Hubbard, Thomas Fuller,
and Talya Minsberg
NEW YORK TIMES

Israel said Tuesday that it had received 12 more hostages from the Gaza Strip amid negotiations for a broader hostage-prisoner deal and warnings from the United States that, should hostilities resume, Israel should fight more surgically and avoid further mass displacement of Palestinians.

The Israeli military said in a statement that 10 Israelis — including three members of the same family — and two Thai nationals were freed. Thirty Palestinian women and children were released from Israeli prisons on Tuesday as part of the agreement, according to an official list. It was the fifth exchange of hostages and prisoners since Friday.

Since Friday, when a cease-fire deal covering hostages, Palestinian prisoners, and aid for Gaza went into effect, Hamas has released more than 60 hostages seized in its Oct. 7 raid in Israel that set off the war. Israel has also freed 180 Palestinians from its prisons, most of them women and children.

Egypt, Israel, and the United States dispatched their top intelligence officials to Qatar to negotiate further exchanges. CIA Director William J. Burns joined David Barnea, the head of the Mossad, Israel’s spy service, and Abbas Kamel, Egypt’s spy chief, for meetings with Qatari officials, including the prime minister.

Two people with knowledge of the mediation efforts said the hope was that the current model — a daily cease-fire with the release of Israeli captives

HOSTAGES, Page A6



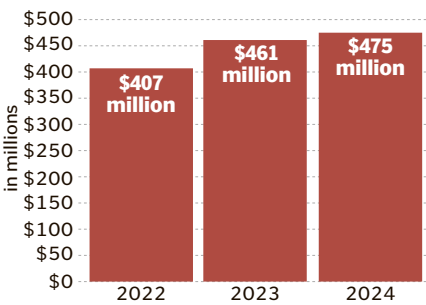
DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

Joanna Hendrix played with J'Lian Walker Carrasquillo at United South End Settlements' day-care center.

CHILD-CARE CENTERS PUSHED TO THE LIMIT

Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) grants

C3 grants in Massachusetts were funded with federal money in FY22 and then a combination of federal and state funds in FY23. In FY24, the Legislature funded the grants in full.



SOURCE: Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care
GLOBE STAFF

With federal COVID funds dried up, providers look to the state for a more permanent solution

By Diti Kohli
GLOBE STAFF

It is 9:07 a.m., and Joanna Hendrix is stuck between a sleepy baby and two hungry ones. Since her co-teacher quit months ago, Hendrix has been the sole teacher in the infant room at United South End Settlements' day-care center. Hendrix is about to use her foot to rock the tired baby in a bouncer while feeding the others, but thankfully a colleague swoops in to help on this November morning.

“It is like juggling, every day, all the time,” Hendrix said with a nervous laugh. “It never ends.”

After 18 years in child care, Hendrix knows babies well — what blanket Milo

needs, how Celia likes to be fed, which toys J'Lian prefers. But every day feels more difficult than the last, as Hendrix watches colleagues leave for higher-paying jobs elsewhere. The center is strapped for resources at every turn.

Those financial strains are likely to get worse: Pandemic-era federal funding for child care ended in September. Governor Maura Healey and the Legislature provided one-time state funding of \$475 million to the industry through the end of the fiscal year in June.

This year, the state separately also budgeted roughly \$850 million — mostly from the federal government — to support child-care fi-

CHILD CARE, Page A9



RAMALLAH FRIENDS SCHOOL

Two of the victims, Hisham Awartani (left) and Kinnan Abdalhamid, are shown together as children.

Vt. shooting victims are in pain, families say

One’s ‘afraid to leave hospital’; another reported paralyzed

By Shannon Larson and Sean Cotter
GLOBE STAFF

BURLINGTON, Vt. — The parents of one of three Palestinian college students shot over the weekend said Tuesday that they are “extremely relieved” he has been released from the hospital, but that he remains fearful and in pain as he recovers from an attack authorities are investigating as a potential hate crime.

Kinnan Abdalhamid, who attends Haverford College in Pennsylvania and was spending Thanksgiving weekend in Burlington with friends, “told us that he was afraid to leave the hospital,” his parents said in a statement released by the Institute for Middle East Understanding, a nonprofit. “Our child may be physically well enough to be out of the hospital, but he is still shaken from this horrific attack. We know that this tragedy will shape the rest of our lives.”

They said they were extremely proud of their son, who ran for help after the gunman shot him and his friends at around 6:30 p.m. Saturday on a street near the University of Vermont.

“In the face of hate, he has exhibited
BURLINGTON, Page A7

Boston Public Schools is delaying the rollout of its controversial inclusion plan for students learning English, just weeks after most of an expert task force resigned over the plan. **B1.**

Rent-a-Center will pay an \$8.75 million fine to the state to settle allegations that it engaged

in a pattern of abusive misconduct targeting low-income communities. **B7.**

Forty-one construction workers emerged dazed and smiling from a collapsed tunnel in India where they had spent the last 17 days, an ordeal that gripped the country. **A3.**

A FIRST FAMILY'S FAREWELL



ANDREW CABALLERO-REYNOLDS/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Amy Carter paused at the coffin of her mother, Rosalynn Carter, at a tribute service Tuesday in Atlanta for the former first lady, who died last week at the age of 96. Former president Jimmy Carter, who at age 99 has been in hospice care for nearly a year, made the trip from his home in Plains, Ga. **A2.**

Going out for a bite

Wednesday: Sunny, brisk. High 37-42. Low 28-33.

Thursday: Warming up. High 46-51. Low 36-41.

Sunrise: 6:51 Sunset: 4:13

Weather and Comics, G8-9. Obituaries, C11.

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