

from
the

Heart

NEWS FROM THE CENTER FOR GRIEVING CHILDREN IN MAINE

Need us? We're Here for Families and the Community

Here's something Center staff and volunteers hear often: "I'm so glad the Center provides its important services—and I hope I never need them."

Understandable.

For a child or parent, needing help from the Center means a loved one has died or an immediate family member is seriously ill. For a student or employee, it can mean a classmate, teacher, or work colleague has died. For groups of Portland students who receive Center services, it means having endured life in war-ravaged countries and refugee camps before resettling in Maine.

Clearly, no one would choose those devastating experiences. Thankfully, those who experience them can find support from the Center for Grieving Children.

Thanks to You

At the Center, our staff and trained volunteers encourage the young people and families we help to move in their own way through the experiences of loss and grief. They begin to heal, and to find hope.

And you make sure the Center is here for them.

You are the individuals, businesses, and organizations making financial gifts and volunteering for the Center in so many capacities.

You fuel the multiple impacts of the Center's work, with every grieving child who finds love and understanding, every family that regains strength after

heartbreaking loss, and every school and workplace where students and staff find support in times of grief.

The long-term result is a stronger community—as strong as the families that live there.

Hear from some of the people who know us best in our 2012 Report to the Community. It offers a sample of what you helped the Center accomplish, during the year we celebrated 25 years of helping more than 66,000 children and families find hope.

Why Grief Support?

More than one in seven American children and teens face the death of their parent, brother, or sister. For additional young people, a parental figure, often a grandparent or care giver, dies.

It can be devastating. As one grief specialist summarized recently, "Just about everything bad you can think of can happen to a child or teen when the person who took care of them dies."

Conversely, research shows that children who receive reliable and appropriate support at this difficult time are less likely to suffer anxiety or depression, have problems in school, abuse alcohol and drugs, and die by suicide.

A community is only as strong as the families that live there.



3 ...Continues positive impacts across communities.



2 ...Creates benefits for extended families, friends, and individual schools and workplaces, and...



1 Grief support and healing for one child and family...



the
center for
grieving children
where families find hope and love

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Bill Hemmens, founder

The Center for Grieving Children serves more than 4,000 grieving children, teens, parents, and young adults annually through peer support, outreach, and education. Offering our services at no charge, for as long as people need them, the Center's mission is to provide loving support that encourages the safe expression of grief and loss and fosters each individual's resilience and emotional well-being. The Center relies on financial contributions from individuals, businesses, foundations, United Way, and special events.

Our Core Programs

PEER SUPPORT through facilitated, age-specific peer support groups where people draw strength from one another.

Bereavement Peer Support in Portland and Sanford for children, teens, and their families who have experienced the death of someone close to them. Additional groups in Portland for young adults, bereaved parents, and bereaved spouses and partners.

Tender Living Care (TLC), from the point of diagnosis, for families who have children/teens and are living with the serious illness of a family member.

Multicultural Peer Support, in partnership with Portland schools, serving students resettled in Maine from countries that have experienced war and genocide.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH delivered through phone support and referrals for individuals; training and resources for schools, groups, agencies, and businesses; and support within schools or workplaces during a grief-related crisis.

Photo above: Richard J. Sandifer
Cover, pages 2 and 5 photos: Jane Berger
Pages 3, 4, 7, 10 photos: Brian Fitzgerald

Share, follow, tweet, or pin—
connect with the Center on these social networks:



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Our Heroes

From Executive Director Anne Lynch



Our 25th Anniversary Volunteer Reunion and Recognition party at summer's end was the scene of hugs and laughter among people whose dedication to the Center makes every one of them worthy of recognition and thanks. Several of them received special awards.

The Center's President's Award recognized two people's outstanding service. Paul Attardo, Portland, and Steve Hart, Yarmouth, are long-time volunteer facilitators and team coordinators. They model the principles of the Center, and give strength and inspiration to other facilitators.

Named for the Center's founder to recognize individuals who support children and families dealing with illness and loss, the Bill Hemmens Award was presented to Bruce St. Thomas, Peaks Island. A Center consultant, Bruce helped found our Multicultural Program 15 years ago, and has also advised the Center's work at America's Camp.

Eight other volunteers received Unsung Hero awards, representing our volunteers in different capacities. They are: Chris Gould, office volunteer; Kathryn Diggs, Nancy Kellar, and Janice Zurlo, York County volunteers; Sheryl Plummer, Tender Living Care facilitator; Destiny Cook, event volunteer; Tony Parise, bereavement peer support facilitator; and Joan Uraneck, Multicultural program volunteer and member of the Intercultural Advisory Council.

Congratulations to all of them, and thank you to every volunteer who makes the Center's work possible.

Thank you, one and all!

Our 2012 Paul Gray Memorial Swing "Fore" the Center in September was a memorable event in tribute to Paul Gray, a former Center board member and leader with MaineHealth and Maine Medical Center, who died in 2011. We deeply appreciate the help from Paul's family and former colleagues that combined with support from 32 golf teams and local business sponsors to generate \$55,000 from a great golf outing and evening Awards Dinner at The Purpoodock Club in Cape Elizabeth.



From left, the Center's Nancy Thompson and Anne Lynch, Beth DeTine and Sarah Gray, and Maine Health's Don Quigley and Bill Caron

More than 50 Center FundRacers and 50 volunteers participated in the 2012 TD Beach to Beacon 10K in August. Our ranks included both people who receive and make possible Center services. With their help, and a gift of \$30,000 from the TD Charitable Foundation, the Center became the organization that has raised the most support in its "B2B" beneficiary year, more than \$65,000.

Board President Nancy with Olympic Medalist Joan Benoit Samuelson, B2B runners, and Center FundRacer Shari



2012 Report to the Community

Celebration, Accomplishment, and Thanks

Over and again, we hear it said: there's no place in Maine like the Center for Grieving Children.

When the serious illness or death of a loved one occurs, individuals and families need immediate information and longer-term support. The Center delivers both, and helps others do so, by combining staff-driven outreach and education services with peer-support programs that rely on trained volunteers.

In any year, we accomplish a lot. This year, we celebrated 25 years with results like these:

- **Answered the Most Calls Ever**—The Center took more calls last year than ever before. In fact, over the last three years, the number of calls has more than doubled. Cancer, suicide, heart disease, and accidents mean families need help.
- **Expanded Service**—Achieving a milestone last fall, the Center opened a York County site in Sanford. Online, our new Web site, e-alerts, and strong social-media outreach made grief resources available day and night.
- **Attracted Record Involvement**—From the two boys and babysitter who sold home-baked cookies, to the volunteers, donors, and sponsors who contributed thousands of hours and dollars, we celebrated record-breaking involvement.

Most important? We continued free service for families. Recognizing that illness and death can bring serious financial as well as emotional challenges, the Center makes services free of charge, thanks to community support.



"It seemed like an avalanche."

From a local college came this message last year: "There's a student in my nursing class who says the Center changed her life. You should talk with her. ..."

That's how we were reunited with 25-year-old Kelly Casey.

When she was 15 years old and a student at Deering High School, she discovered her dad had collapsed from a heart attack. He died in the ambulance, on the way to the hospital.

Within the next six months, three of her friends also experienced the death of a parent. "It seemed like an avalanche," she said.

Kelly's mom became deeply concerned about her daughter, who was feeling disoriented and exhibiting signs

of depression. Mom turned to the Center for Grieving Children, and Kelly began meeting in a bereavement peer support group for teens.



Kelly Casey, after a run in South Portland this summer

John Ewing

"I needed the Center, and I went there throughout high school," Kelly said. "It was so important to me. Even if I had a crazy busy week at school, or a tennis team match, or whatever, I went to the Center."

Kelly says peer support "saved" her. Hearing what other teens were facing—sometimes, multiple losses—and seeing them learn to cope, inspired her. Her experiences at the Center continue to help her reach out to other who have experienced substantial loss and grief.

"My time at the Center truly has made me the person I am today. It was such a great experience. I couldn't be more thankful."

"I needed the Center."

Impact:

“Amazing” Hope and Healing

From its founding, the Center’s foundation has been the volunteer-based peer support model of grief support.

Last year, 350 young people and adults met in age-specific peer groups facilitated by trained volunteers who were supervised by Center staff and consultants.

They shared experiences, memories, feelings, and silence. They participated in art-making, play, and performance. Connections enhanced healing, as grieving families drew strength from one another.

Bereavement Peer Support Groups in Portland and Sanford met weekly last year for children and their families. In Portland, additional peer support groups met weekly for bereaved parents, and twice a month for bereaved spouses/partners.

A parent in Portland last year noted her group found “great healing by simply sharing our pain, hopes, and rememberings,” while a parent in Sanford said of her group, “I don’t know how I lived without it.”

For their part, young people ranked what they liked best:

- 1) “Having a place to share feelings,”
- 2) “Talking about the person who died,” and 3) “The activities we did!”

Tender Living Care (TLC) peer support groups also met weekly in Portland, serving nearly 70 families living with the serious illness of a family member.

Available to families from the day their family member is diagnosed, the TLC program supports hope and helps families living with illness and uncertainty communicate in ways that can bring them closer together.

Last year, as in other years, staff and volunteers with the program made visits to families when the ill person was hospitalized or dying.

From feedback last year:

“The program has provided real and effective solutions that help take the pressure off me as a caregiver, which allows me to be a better husband and father.”

“Words cannot adequately describe the immeasurable support.”

“My son hates to miss a session. That says a lot.”

Multicultural Peer Support, in partnership with Portland schools, worked with peer groups of elementary and middle-school students resettled in Maine from countries that have experienced war and genocide.

The year was busy! Local musicians helped students produce and record “Inner Strength,” a CD album of songs exploring their feelings about isolation, war, and racism as well as the healing power of faith and love. Interns from the University of Southern Maine produced “From the Heart,” a film exploring how different cultures respond to loss, and how family dynamics change during resettlement. And the program formed an Intercultural Advisory Group, to help enhance understanding of the resettled students’ experiences.

“My son hates to miss a session. That says a lot.”

“I had felt so awful.”

As a social worker, Susan Gaudet referred families to the Center for Grieving Children. Two years ago, she walked, haltingly, with her own family through the Center’s doors.

Susan had suffered a rare spinal cord injury that created complications. That’s why she and her daughters began weekly participation in the Center’s Tender Living Care (TLC) program.

They were hesitant at first, with her youngest daughter taking weeks to be willing to join them. But Susan’s family began to find that the “unconditional love and caring” the Center’s staff and volunteers gave them provided relief.

“As a mom, I had felt so awful, seeing how my illness was affecting each of my girls,” she said. “But at the Center, things started to feel less heavy and scary. We started to feel less alone. The Center helped heal us by giving us ways to cope and deal with my illness, and still move forward.”



Susan Gaudet and her daughters, at the Center. From left, Lizzie, Susan, Grace, Lauriana

“The Center helped heal us.”

"I know from my own life how critical it is...."

On February 3, 2012, at the gala celebrating the Center's 25 years of helping families find hope, Senator Olympia J. Snowe became the first recipient of the Resilience Award of the Center for Grieving Children. The award pays tribute to those whose personal resilience after tragic loss is an inspiration to others through high-level service, personal achievement, and exemplary leadership.

The following are excerpts of Senator Snowe's acceptance remarks:

As I look back on the beginnings of this Center, I am struck by how founder Bill Hemmens transformed a personal tragedy into a phenomenal benefit for others, and an exceptional legacy. He demonstrated a rare personal resilience that inspires all of us to this day....

I know from my own life how critical it is to have a support system like this Center.... I think about the loss of my parents when I was 10 years old.... The loss of my first husband, who was killed in a car accident... And the wrenching loss of my beloved stepson Peter when he was in college.

How to manage and, ultimately, surmount devastating trials like these has been the heroic province of this Center since its inception.... No organization has stood as a taller, brighter beacon, guiding others to safer shores, than this Center.



Senator Olympia Snowe

Impact:



Impact: Awareness and Support

They came at different times of the year. Some produced sweat, tears, laughter, or all three. There was barking during at least one of them, and music from opera to heavy metal during another.

What diverse Center events had in common last year was their success raising critical financial support and spreading awareness of our services.

During our last fiscal year, generous community members like you made events like these successful:

- Center FundRacer events including the **2011 Maine Marathon**, **2012 New Year's Day Resolution Run**, and **2012 Sea Dogs Mother's Day 5K**;
- Our **2011 Swing "Fore" the Center** golf tournament in September, the five-day **WCYY Markathon** in December, and **Pet and People Walk 2012** in June; and
- **Celebrating Hope: Our 25th Anniversary Gala** in February 2012. The Center's top fund-raising event ever brought in \$190,000—substantial support for our mission, and a tremendous tribute to all who have been part of the Center's growth and service since its founding days.



Joanne Minor photo

Who called upon the Center?

A sample of groups receiving education, training, or grief support during the fiscal year.

Augusta:
National Guard

Biddeford:
Counseling Services Inc.
Southern Maine Medical Center

Cape Elizabeth:
Casco Bay Montessori
Pond Cove Elementary
United Methodist Church Daycare

Cumberland Center:
Mabel I Wilson School

Gorham:
University of Southern Maine classes

Kennebunk:
Dream Factory National Conference
Rotary

Ogunquit:
Rotary

Portland:
Barbara Bush Children's Hospital
Catherine Morrill Day Nursery
The Children's Center
Lyman Moore Middle School
Lyseth Elementary School
Maine Kids Kin
Maine School Counselors Association
Presumpscot Elementary School
University of New England classes
University of Southern Maine classes
VNA Hospice

Sanford:
Goodall Hospital
Kiwanis
Noble High School
North Parish UCC
Rotary
Sanford Junior High and High Schools

Scarborough:
Day One Peer Mentors
Hospice of Southern Maine
Maine Center for Cancer Medicine

South Berwick:
Central School

South Portland:
Aucisco School
Kaplan University
Lions Club
Mahoney Middle School
National Guard
Southern Maine Community College classes

Springvale:
York County Community Action
Coalition

Waterboro:
Massabesic High School

Wells:
Wells Elementary and Junior High Schools

Chesapeake, Virginia:
Camp Lighthouse-Sentara Hospice

Financial Statistics (unaudited)

Revenue

Revenue from Services	\$0*
Contributions, Grants, Events, and other Community Support	\$806,809
Investment Loss	\$(1,661)
Total Revenues	\$805,148

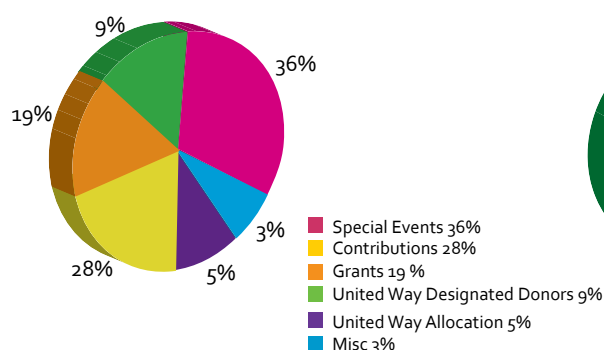
Expenses

Program Services	\$699,198
Management and General	\$47,812
Fundraising	\$50,546

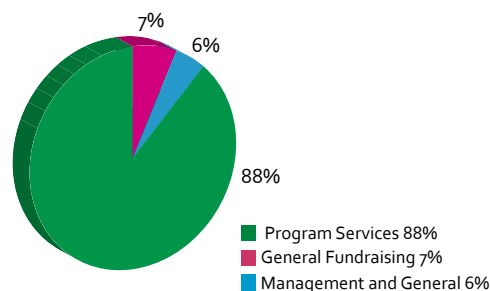
Total Expenses	\$797,556
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Profit/(Loss)	\$7,592
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Revenue by Source



Expense Allocation



**The Center provides services to grieving children and families at no charge, through the tremendous generosity of our community.*

Impact:



Hours, Days, and Years of Support

- Directly interacted with 1,500 adults and nearly 200 young people through our community outreach services to schools, workplaces, and organizations.
- Provided support by phone to nearly 1,000 callers looking for someone trained in grief support to listen to them.
- Responded to more than 440 inquiries about our peer support groups, and conducted 104 meetings with families to explore their readiness in advance of entering these groups.
- Served 350 children, teens, and adults in peer support groups in Portland and Sanford.
- Delivered 75 educational workshops and training sessions.
- Benefited from 23,000 hours of volunteer service!
- Trained 60 new volunteers to join the ranks of 140 other trained peer support group facilitators for service in Portland and Sanford.
- Finished 10 years of providing grief support at America's Camp, which in August 2011 celebrated its last season serving hundreds of young people whose parents or siblings died in the attacks of September 11, 2001.



America's Camp kids

Impact:



Education and Training that was “Exactly What We Needed”

Nearly two thirds of those who received help from the Center last year accessed it through our community education and outreach services. They called the Center’s information, training, and resources “outstanding,” “generous,” and “exactly what we needed.”

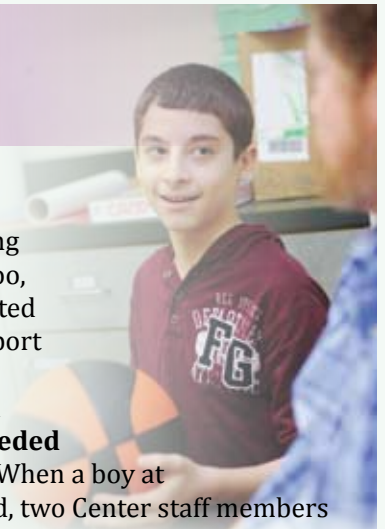
Callers got answers: “Are my kids old enough for Grandmom’s funeral?” “How can I get help for my friend I think is suicidal?” “What should I say to my young children about a violent death in our family?”

People from Northern Maine to Virginia asked for education and training: Schools and colleges, hospitals and hospice centers, law enforcement staff, and more needed help learning the best ways of

supporting grieving young people. Sign-ups came, too, for the Center’s highly rated training on the peer support model of grief support.

Schools, camps, and workplaces in crisis needed help:

Just one example? When a boy at a summer camp drowned, two Center staff members traveled to the camp immediately. They provided grief support to campers and counselors, helped plan a camp memorial service, and worked with local partners to create a plan for ongoing support.



Impact:



“A Miracle” in York County

In the spring of 2011, Caroline’s dad was playing football at home with his kids in Sanford when he suffered a heart attack and died. By late fall, 12-year-old Caroline was receiving grief support from the Center—in her own hometown.

“Going to the Center is so important to me, it’s almost hard to explain,” Caroline says. “It seems like a miracle that the Center came to Sanford.”

Our new service site within North Parish Church on Main Street in Sanford is a significant resource for local families. With 20 percent of the families we serve in Portland coming from York County, grieving families’ need for a closer-to-home site was confirmed by local advisors and supporters: school and medical staff, clergy and funeral directors, law enforcement personnel, United Way of York County, and a passionate group of York County-based volunteers for the Center.

We began service in Sanford in November 2011. In just six months, the number of families seeking support doubled, and additional volunteers signed up for training to become group facilitators. Peer groups can now meet year round. And the number of families seeking service is growing.

With community support from York County, we can continue serving families like Caroline’s in their own back yard.



“We are very excited to welcome the Center to Sanford!”

—Megan Walsh, Sanford Public Schools

“Now we have a local Center to help us give children the resources they need to find hope and life beyond loss.”

—Ed McGeachey, Southern Maine Health Care

“Sanford Institution for Savings is proud to support an organization that does so much good.”

—Deb Mullen, SIS



A \$500 gift from the Beacon Charitable Corporation was one of the generous donations that helped the Center meet a \$2,500 matching challenge for the Sanford site from Kennebunk Savings. From left, Audrey Beach, Joanne Craft, Kennebunk Savings President & CEO Brad Paige, and the Center’s Anne Lynch and Janice Zurlo

With Gratitude

July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012

On behalf of those we serve, thank you to everyone who has made a gift to the Center.

Visionary (\$50,000+)

Wright Express

Benefactor (\$20,000+)

America's Camp Foundation
New York Life Foundation
TD Bank Charitable Fund
United Way of Greater Portland

Patrons (\$10,000-\$19,999)

A Little Hope, Inc.
IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.
John T. Gorman Foundation
Maine Cancer Foundation
Martin's Point Health Care
Elmina B. Sewall Foundation
Wal-Mart Foundation

Leaders (\$5,000-\$9,999)

Androscoggin Savings Bank Foundation
Anonymous
Bangor Savings Bank Corporate Giving Program
Bank of America Foundation
Charles De Sieyes and Carol Ward
Melissa Duffy
Eunice Frye Home Foundation
Joseph Forbes
George L. Shinn and Clara S. Shinn Foundation
Steve Hart
Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare and Health Plans
Kennebunk Savings Bank
Lake of the Woods
Joe and Carole Long
Maine Community Foundation
Mercy Hospital
RE/MAX By The Bay
Rines Thompson Foundation
Melissa Smith
Spectrum Medical Group
Andrew Stickney
Will Stiles and Hilary Rapkin
Tex-Tech Industries
The Thomas Agency
Tucker Law Group
Virginia Hodgkins Somers Foundation

Legacy Builders (\$2,500-\$4,999)

A Perfect Smile
Asylum
Bank of America United Way Campaign
Gail and Dan Bruzgo
Michael and Denise Dubyak
Marshall Fields
Fitzgerald Photo, LLC
Geneva Ventures LLC
Give With Liberty
IBM Employee Services Center
InterMed—Administrative Offices
Paul and Janet Letalien
Maine Medical Center Foundation
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney
One Beacon Insurance
Peoples United Community Foundation
Portland Computer Copy Inc.
Perkins Thompson, P.A.
Portland Downtown District
Gary Robinson
Sanford Savings Institution
Sanford School Department
Sentara Home Care and Hospice
Shipyard Brewing Company
Kimberly Simard
The Wireless Zone Foundation
Timberland
Unity Foundation
Unum
William J.J. Gordon Foundation

Core Support (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Alere Scarborough, Inc.
Apple Lane Foundation
Assurant Employee Benefits
August Wealth Management
Best Buy Company, Inc.
Bigelow Investment Advisor
Tim Brewer
Christine Bennett and Bruce Dalbeck
Build-A-Bear Workshop Bear Hugs Foundation
Douglass S. Carr
Dr. Robert R. Cawley
Gail and Peter Cinelli
Dorothy Conforti
Joan Conroy
Vincent Conti
Count and Crush, LLC
Kathy and Bob Crispin
Cumberland County Sherriff's Office
Dale Carnegie of Maine
Daveis Family Foundation
Michele Del Tergo
Frederick Demers
Frank DePaola
Andrew Dixon
Abram Duryee
Kurt and Maria Ebrahim
First Congregational UUC—South Portland
Carl Germann and Quincy Hentzel
Goodwin Motor Group
Annette Gosnell
Imagine, Inc.
Investment Management and Consulting Group
Alisia Ives
Jane Berger Photography
Jones, Rich, and Hutchins
Junior League of Portland Maine
Linda and Tom Kelly
L.L. Bean
Michael and Carolyn Lane
Mike Lauze
Louis V. LeBlanc
Losam Fund
Tricia and Fred Madeira
Maine Magazine
Gregory and Julie McCarthy
Keane J. McGarvey
Cornelius McGinn, M.D.
Alan McIlhenny, Jr.
MEMIC Partners for Workplace Safety
Midas Auto Service
David and Brenda Miley
Dana and Janice Mitiguy
Nate Clark
Oakhurst Dairy
On Target Utility Services
One Day at a Time Foundation
Stephen C. Parker
Jared Payton
Penn State MS Hershey Medical Center
Pfizer Foundation Volunteer Program
Pine State Trading Co.
Pine Tree Hospice
PM Construction
Tom and Dena Polko
Portland Osteopathic Children's Clinic
PowerPay, LLC
Professional Disability Associates
R.M. Davis Inc.
Amanda and Mark Rand
Robert and Marcia Yanofsky Family Charitable Trust
Jonathan T. Robertson
Roy A. Hunt Foundation
Ruggles Family Foundation
Sellers Publishing, Inc.
Kelley and David Semmelroth
SmithBarney
Frederick M. Snowman
Spinnaker Trust
Systems Engineering
The Phillips-Green Foundation, Inc.
The Yoga Center
Triton Foundation
United Way of York County

Unum Matching Gifts Program
Anne Vermeil
Waterfront Concerts, LLC
Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC
Willpower Enterprises
Windhaven Investment Management
Wing-Benjamin Trust
Amy Hemmens-Wu and Jack Wu
Janice Zurlo

Healing Support (\$500-\$999)

Cathleen O'Donnell & Family
Advanced Health Media
Allagash Brewing Company, Inc.
Allen Ave. Unitarian Univ.
Donald C. Almy
Amgen USA
Paul Attardo
Michele Bailey
Baker Newman and Noyes
Beacon Charitable Corporation
Bethany Beausang
Bedford Cottage
BEIM Foundation
Brew Associates
Caecilia Caldwell
Capital Consulting Partners
Capital Pizza Huts, Inc.
Cephalon
Cogenix
Dawson, Smith, Purvis, and Bassett, P.A.
Denovo LLC
Enefco USA Inc.
Equinox Financial & Insurance Services, Inc.
Terry Esposito
Robert Ethridge
Falmouth Dental Health
First Atlantic Healthcare
Fore River Foundation
General Dynamics
Leonard & Liane Giambalvo
Golf and Ski
Sandy M. Goodale
Dan and Diane Hancock
Henry M. Jackson Foundation
Sharon Hogan
Daniel Honon
HRH Insurance
IBM
Thomas Hyndman, III
J.B. Brown and Sons
David and Jane Jameson
JustGive.org
Kaplan Higher Education Corp.
Mark Keffer
Thomas Keller
Kohl's
Scott Landry
Lee Management Company
Kara Leopold
Joe Lepley
L.L. Bean Local
John R. Lunt
Tirumala Devi Maganti
Maine Street Living
Raina Maxwell
Ellen McCahon
Peter Joseph McDonald
Joline A. McDonough
Vanessa McGee
Sharon McKenna
Troy McLain
Merrill's Investigation
Mid-Atlantic Shipping and Stevedoring, Inc.
Millennium
Brian Milliken
Morgan Stanley
John and Carol Mosley
Justin Munson
New England Offroad Outfitters, LLC.
Northeast Technical Institute
Oxford Networks
Pfizer, Inc.
Planet Dog
Port City Architecture
Portsports
Putney

Saint Joseph's Rehabilitation and Residence
JP Schwartz
Seattle Genetics
Heidi Smith
Kevin and Kathy Smith
Southern Maine Active Referral Team
Southworth International Group
Spannocchia Foundation
Springer's Jewelers
Sterling Crystal Inc.
Elaine Talevi
The Beacon Charitable Corp.
The Tim's National Advertising Program
Nancy and Tim Thompson
Thornton and Company
Town and Shore Associates
Edward and Megan Tumavicus
United Way of Massachusetts and Merrimack Valley
United Way of Mid Coast Maine, Inc.
Patrick and Cynthia Veroneau
Verrill Dana
Walsh Printing
Michael Weiss
DeeDee Wilson
Yarmouth Lions Club

Hope Support (\$250-\$499)

Allen Screen and Digital Printing
Benno Nelson and Amy Hammer Nelson
Robert J. Anderson, Jr.
Stephanie and Bill Andy
Susan Ansin
Erica A. Archer
Mary Arnold
Richard Asdourian
Autonorth Pre-Owned Superstore, Inc.
Back Country Excursions
Bailey Sign
Bath Savings Institution
Bibber Memorial Chapel
Bikram Yoga College of India Portland
Bethany Billinger
Phaedra Bond
Richard Borts
David Bradeen
Wayne Brainerd
Daniel Brazeau
Sarah Brenner
Michael Brescia
Joan Brunette
Amy Bruning
Bruzgo and Kremer, LLC
Kevin Bunker
David J. Burchill
Cabela's
Camden Harbour Inn
Anne Linden Carlisle
Beth Carter
Lawrence E. Carter
Casco Bay Veterinary Hospital
Brian Cashman
Cat Doctor
Matthew Chevalier
Dana Clark
Grace Coffin
Colby Co. Engineering
Jay Collins
Peter Connolly
Conversion Products, Inc.
Jeffrey Cook
Tim Crellin
CRH Properties
Custom Built Personal Training
Emma Dann
DBA Androscoggin Network Builders
DeBree Portraits
Michelle Ann Defusco
Betsy DiCapua
Diversified Communications
John Dugan
Joseph Edwards
Joyce Edwards
Janice Ferry
Michael Flexner
Lawrence Foley
Forest Avenue Veterinary Hospital

Impact:



Lives Changed for Families

Financial gifts kept grief support free for children and their families.

Significant support came from individuals. Groups hosted events that generated support. Foundation and United Way support was essential. With gifts recognizing the Center's 25th year of service, corporate support was strong.

The results changed lives.

Barbara and Nicholas Fowler
Suzanne Friel
Vince Furey
Orey and Cindy Gadway
Kathleen Garza
Susan Giambalvo
Eva Goetz
Good Health Systems
Peter Gottlieb
Cynthia Gray
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A complete list of donors is available at cgcmaine.org. Please note that this list includes United Way pledges made in 2011. It does not include payments made on capital campaign pledges. If you note an error on this list, please call (207) 775-5216.

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Now and Forever

We welcome gifts to the Center
 now, and as planned gifts
 that build a legacy for the future.
 Please call our development
 department for information at
 (207) 775-5216, ext. 103.

Impact:

23,000 Hours of "Powerful" Service

The heartbeat of our organization, more than 160 volunteers contributed 23,000 hours of service last year.

Their gifts of time, talent, energy, and love amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars of in-kind support. And they called their experiences "life affirming," "uplifting," and "powerful."

Thank you, volunteers.

July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012

Center volunteers complete an orientation session and a background check. Additionally, volunteers who directly serve our peer support groups complete extensive training and post-training interviews, and receive ongoing coaching and support from Center staff and consultants.

Program Volunteers

Served one or more: America's Camp, an internship, outreach support, or a Center peer support program in Portland or Sanford.

Lynn Abood
Jacki Albert
Victoria Aldridge
Sara Almy
Jackie Alpert
Peter Arndt
Sara Asch*
Paul Attardo*
Carmela Barton*
Allison Beck
Jane Begin
Henry Bliss*
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Jennifer Weber
Sue Winslow
Christine Wyman
Greta Lynn Yankiver*
Howard Yates

** Also volunteered to assist Center events or office projects.*

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Wilson Cramp
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Fred Durst
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Grace Fan
Molly Fitzpatrick, Miss Teen Maine

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Ben Foley
Lydia Fox
Celine Gauthier
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Dianne Lawrence
Colleen Lee
Julie Leeman
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OUR 2013 AUCTION AND DINNER GALA



"Love really counts," said a child at the Center.

Inspired by her words, we're creating a beautiful, memorable event. The Center's annual auction and dinner gala will take place on Friday, February 1 at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland. The best one, yet!

- Hosted by award-winning WCSH6 News Anchor Cindy Williams, with live auction by Tom Saturley, CAI, of Tranzon Auction Properties.
- Silent auction of unique items from Maine's best restaurants, crafters, jewelers, and more.
- Guests like you, from across the community and beyond, hearing Center stories of love.

Please join us—as a sponsor, auction contributor, guest, or all three. Be part of our largest fundraiser of the year to help support the families we serve. (Plus, this night's too much fun to miss!)

Enter our Love Really Counts 2013 Raffle to win \$10,000 cash. With only 350 tickets being sold (\$100 each), we hope you like your chances! Winner will be drawn the night of our auction and dinner gala.

More info at cgcmaine.org or (207) 775-5216



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a gift to the Center
before year's end.**

Online:
cgcmaine.org/donate

By mail:
**P.O. Box 1438
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Or call:
(207) 775-5216

Just Ahead

More information for you at www.cgcmaine.org or by calling (207) 775-5216. Additional contact information below.

At the Center in Portland:

Volunteer Orientation: Monthly, second Thursdays. Times vary.

Learn about peer-group facilitator training or how to become a Center volunteer in another important capacity. R.S.V.P. needed. Erin at ext. 101, or erin@cgcmaine.org

National Survivors of Suicide Day:

12-4:30 p.m., Saturday, November 17

Support, healing, and information. American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Suicide Survivors Day, hosted by the Center. Patricia at ext. 107, or patricia@cgcmaine.org

At our Sanford site:

One-Year Open House Celebration:

4-6:30 p.m., Thursday, November 8

Tours, volunteer and training info, family stories, first-year highlights. Light refreshments. R.S.V.P. to Eliza at ext. 105, or eliza@cgcmaine.org

In Other Locations:

Performance of "A Finished Heart:" 6 p.m., Thursday, November 15
Conversations between a dying man and his husband. By Elliott Cherry, with pianist Martin Perry. Discussion follows. Ludcke Auditorium, University of New England, Portland. Free.

94.3 FM WCYY's Award-Winning Markathon for the Center!

Monday, December 3-Friday, December 7

A donation to the Center gets your song on the air. Pledge at wcyy.com or call (207) 792-9299 during Markathon. Questions?

Lianna at ext. 104, or liana@cgcmaine.org



Worldwide Candle Lighting: 6:30 p.m., Sunday, December 9

Honor and remember any children who have died. St. Luke's Cathedral, State Street, Portland.

For more info: southernmaineBPUSA@gmail.com

Resolution Run for the Center, Tuesday, January 1, 2013

A great way to start a new year! Look for details on cgcmaine.org and Facebook.

**Love Really Counts: Our 2013 Auction and Dinner Gala:
5-9:30 p.m., Friday, February 1, 2013**

See above for details!