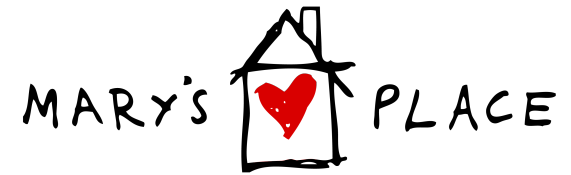


Volume 21 #2

Summer 2021



*a center for grieving
children & families*

6 Poquonock Avenue

Windsor, CT 06095

860-688-9621

www.marysplacect.org

MARY'S PLACE
6 Poquonock Avenue
Windsor, CT 06095-2507

From the Director

Dear Friends,

Maya Angelou once said "You may not control all the events that happen to you, but you can decide not to be reduced by them." Her words have been resonating with me lately, as I reflect on the way life feels now versus how life felt just two years ago. It feels different and that's because it is. Life is always changing and we are always responding to that change.

In the past 18 months we have experienced many changes and challenges as a society. In addition to continuing to live in a global pandemic, we have witnessed more discrimination, natural disasters and political and social unrest than some of us have seen in a lifetime. All of these trials paired with our own unique personal struggles have an effect on us. How could they not? My hope for us all, as we continue to navigate this ever changing world, is that we not allow all of the things that happen to us to define us or reduce us, but rather that the challenges and obstacles we face lead us to place of learning and growth. I am hopeful that we can work to become more connected by our similarities and less divided by our differences. So much more connects us than divides us and if we can focus more on that, we are focusing on the right things; the love we have for our families, our desire to be healthy and safe and to live meaningful and purposeful lives.

You help to support a place where lives are lifted up again after immense loss; where grief lives but hope lives too. They live together in the hearts of those who come here. Change may be a constant in life, but if I have learned anything from my experience at Mary's Place it is that the resilience and perseverance of the human spirit are also a constant. Though they will be forever changed by the death of their loved ones, our participants work toward healing. They come here to do the hard work to try to be whole again. Thank you for allowing the important work we do at Mary's Place to continue during these times and always.

Warmly,

Brittany Sheehan

Have you suffered the loss of a loved one during the COVID-19 pandemic or are you a young adult grieving and in need of support?

Please join us for an informative and interactive workshop to connect with others, share experiences and learn about resources available in your community.

[Coping with Grief and Loss During a Pandemic](#)

Thursday October 21, 2021 - 5:00-6:30pm

[Young Adult Grief Connection \(ages 19-29\)](#)

Thursday October 21, 2021 - 7:00-8:30pm

Both workshops are also intended to gauge interest and participation for future groups.

RSVP at www.marysplacect.org/1021workshops by 10/18/21.

Donation Acknowledgements

- ♥ If you make a donation in memory or in honor of a loved one, please share this with us. We would like to list their name in the newsletter as well.
- ♥ If you would like us to send an acknowledgment to someone, notifying them of your donation, please share that persons contact information with us; name and email or mailing address.
- ♥ When you are making a donation on behalf of someone else, please make sure to share that person's name and we will list them as the donor.
- ♥ If you make a donation through a workplace giving platform, please let us know and please share your contact information when registering. Some companies will not share your information without permission.

If your name has been omitted in error for a donation that was made, this was not our intention and we sincerely apologize. Please contact us. Giving platforms take time to process donations (especially matched gifts) and we may not receive it for several weeks or months due to the processing and disbursement process.

We offer our prayers and sympathy to members of the Mary's Place family and their families on the passing of their loved ones.

In Loving Memory of...

Mary Fournier ~ Sister of Irene Fitzpatrick Fortier

Nan Carmon ~ Mother of John Carmon

Leroy Murdock ~ Father-in-law of Deb Roncari

Steve Henderson ~ Brother of Bridgett Diene

One who blooms in our heart can never be forgotten. May you find comfort and strength in the memories you shared with your loved one.

Children's Grief
Awareness Day™

Nov. 18
2021

Children's Grief Awareness Day helps us all become more aware of the needs of grieving children and of the benefits they obtain through the support of others.

Please help us to spread the word about the services we provide, on children's grief awareness day and throughout the year.

Learn more at www.childrensgriefawarenessday.org

Karen Giorgio
Nick Vakakas Gordon
Michael Gothers
Janet Graves
Wendell Grigely, Jr.
Amy Hackett
Frances & Anson Hall
James & Margaret Hall
Julie Harrison
Roberta Hamre/Sandra HASTILLO
Robert Havens
Elizabeth Hendrickson
Marcia Hinckley
Rita Holby
Kristina Howard
Richard Hudlow, Jr.
Charles Iadaresta
Albert Ilg
Paul Jensen
Julie Johnson
Joanne Judd
Jayna Jutras
Michelle Katsaros
Gene Keen
Linda Keene
Ellen Kimball
Evelyn King
Daniel Kunhardt, Jr.
Kimberly Kwok
George Lesko
Robert Litter
Judith Logan
Lori Lowry
Jen Luongo
Tom Lusczak
Lynn McFarland
Patricia Malone
Anthony Manganello, Jr.
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Victor and Theresa Masi
McCoy Family Charitable Fund
James McDermott
George McHale
Janet Meon
Anthony Miller
John Moore
MP CPA's
Michael Novak
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Caitlin Obillo
Sharon Overbaugh
Mary Palomba
Michael and Lisa Peluso
Peoples Bank
Richard Pinard
Janice Provost
Responsible Recycling Charitable Foundation
Gloria Ridel
David Roncari
Linda Roohr
Barbara Roohr-Karas
Naomi Rothe
Kristy Rousseau
Kathleen Rybick
Margaret Ryglisyn
Keith Salamon
Kristin Salvatoriello
Sandra Salvatoriello
Salvador Sánchez Barajas
Thomas Scanlon
Michael Scazafave
James Schepker
Audrey Senghas
Brittany Sheehan
Bernard Siegel
Trudy Singer
Andrea Sponzo
St. Mary's Parish School
Hannah Stetson
The Universalist Church
Richard Thurz
Jean Tinto
Marlen Towers
Town Fair Tire Foundation, Inc.
Gershon Tucker
Gerry Turbet
Unitarian Universalist Society East
Judith Van Valkenberg
James Viola
Brian Wailgum
Cathy Walter
Tara Wexler
Windsor Federal Savings & Loan
Windsor Lions Club
George Winter, Jr.
Jenilee Wirtz
Yu Yan
Sheila Yellen
Michael Zhou

Donations received in honor of:

Danielle Caldwell, Rick Edwards, Emilea Gartrell, Barbara Karas, Mary Keane, Maura Masotti,
Will Moryto, the Petroni Wedding, Brittany Sheehan and Diane Smith

Comments from our wonderful donors:

"Thank you for your great work and dedication that you bring to so many in need."

"Thank you for your love."

Please Join Us for...
**The 8th Annual
Mary's Place Memory Walk**

Sunday, September 26, 2021

9:30 am

**Northwest Park
145 Lang Road, Windsor, CT**



This moving fundraiser brings together families, friends and the community to support programs at Mary's Place. Honor the memory of a loved one, and help make a difference in the lives of grieving children & families by joining us for this special event.

Crafts, snacks, tea cup auction & more.

Please join us alongside our presenting sponsor,

Katie's Foundation, Inc.

REGISTER ONLINE AT: <https://www.marysplacect.org/memory-walk>
Day of walk registrations are welcome, but please stay up to date on event policies/potential changes via our website.



Save the Date

12th Annual Wine Tasting

March 19, 2022

Farmington Gardens
Farmington, CT

Wine & spirit tastings, hors
d'oeuvres, live entertainment,
auction and more!

In Honor of Roger Nolte

Roger Nolte is one of the longest serving volunteers in the history of Mary's Place. Roger is always eager and enthusiastic in lending a helping hand. He does what ever he can to assist us in the most gracious way, truly giving from his heart for the benefit our children and families. He is always the first person at every Memory Walk, Family Picnic and Holiday Gathering. In addition to his hard work on event days, he works with us many months in advance and does so much behind the scenes to make our fundraisers and family gatherings possible. On June 28, we gathered at the center to honor Roger with the dedication of a beautiful stained glass birdhouse. We knew this would be a fitting dedication, given the avid nature and bird lover that he is.

Roger, we are so grateful to you, now and always.



Gifts are often given to Mary's Place in memory of a beloved family member or friend; also, to honor birthdays, anniversaries and special occasions.

We are grateful for each gift and thank you sincerely for your support.

January 1, 2021 - June 30, 2021

Gifts in memory of:

Michael Albrizio, Agaton & Mary Apanovitch, Joan Baisley, Stephanie Barry, Cpl. Stephen Bixler, Roy and Marjorie Bixler, Leon R. Brazalovich, Michael Brundage, John Caldwell, Elizabeth Ann Camilleri, Billy Carmon, Nan Carmon, Kenny Chase, Kevin W. Claffey, Barbara Pepe Clay, Sharon Deming, Ellen Moran DeLorenzo, Devito Family, Christy Fedor, Mary Theresa Fournier, Jackie Jensen-Keen, Juli Jensen-Derrig, Richard Graves, Cheryl Grigely, James O. Hall, Jr., Jack Hamre, Michael Hastillo, Bruce Higgins, Christine Perry Hogan, Richard & Ernie Hogue, Hrivnala Family, Ginger Keane, King Family, Barbara Latham, John F. Leitas, Vincent Liberti, Frank Lowry, Kenneth Malone, Lillian Manganello, John Marvin, Matthew Miller, Mary M. Miller, Raymond P. Miller, Leroy Murdock, Betty J. Nilsson, Mary G. Nilsson, John Ernst Noe, Susan Nolte, Robert & Ann Pinard, Louis Provost, Lawrence Ridel, Sr., Lawrence Ridel, Jr., Albert J. Roncari, Dennis Rybeck, Barbara H. Siegel, Adrian Serrano, Tommy Sponzo, Rick Taplin, Barry Towers, Brandon Turbet, Ruth Urso, Larry Yother, Craig Winter, Ella Xue, Wilfred Zakner

Donors:

Airways Golf Course	Richard Clark
James Allen	Heidi Colonna
Apanovitch Family	Connecticut Funeral Directors Association
John Arsenault	Timothy Connelly
Tony Atmore	Kevin and Anita Connor
Mary Ault	Catherine Cosgrove
Linda Ball	Lisa and Kevin Cosker
David Baram	Julie Crafts
David Barans	Chuck Cramer
John Barberie, Jr.	Crew Family Foundation
Al Barranco	Lisa M. Cummings
Judith Barry	Kathleen Cunningham
Thomas Barry	Patricia Curtis
Big Y Foods, Inc.	Kristen Dee
Michael Bilas	Laura Delgado-Scazafave
Linda Bixler	Matthew Delucia
Jim Bonel	Glenn Deming
Brian Bosch	Judith Devin
Katerina Bouzakis	Maurice Devin
Pamela Brazalovich	Elissa Donn
Joan Brundage	Diane Donovan
Robert Brzozowski	Scotti Easton
Clifford Burrell	Ellen Jeanne Goldfarb Memorial Charitable Trust
Carolyn Caldwell	Elm-Cap Industries, Inc.
Joseph Camilleri	Joyce Erickson
Barbara Capuano	Charles Erickson
Ark Caron	Nancy McVey Farooque
Central Connecticut Community Women's Club, Inc.	Nan Flanagan
Linda M. Chamberland	Peter and Irene Fortier
Gail Chase	Richard Freitas
Cikatz Family	Robert Gadski
Adele Clark	Vincent A. Gama

Thank you to our friends!

Kevin Kearney donated over 300 copies of "The Healing Book."

TJ Maxx in Vernon donated hand sanitizer, wipes and a variety of masks.

Sal Vernali chose Mary's Place to benefit from his fundraiser, "Jogging for Jennifer," in honor and in memory of his late wife.

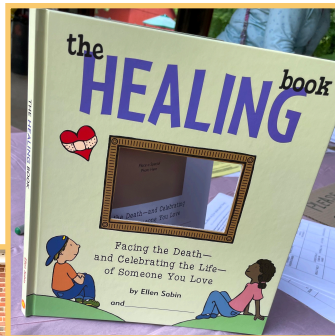
Lisa Spencer & colleagues with United Health Group Optum, Rocky Hill donated a large amount of snacks, drinks, copy paper, stamps, and gift cards.

Roy Szoka chose Mary's Place to benefit from his fundraiser through Bart's classic car cruise nights in Windsor.

We Care Computers donated several computers to our families in need.

Info shred, LLC donated their shredding services.

Loomis Chaffee students held a craft day to raise awareness and funds for the center. They also gave us beautiful handmade butterfly crafts to be shared with our families.



Recently in our groups...



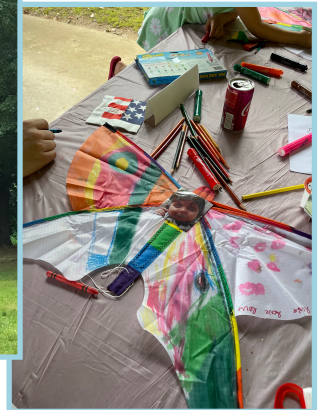
On July 25th we opened our doors for in-person groups. We reconnected with former group members and welcomed many new families to Mary's Place. Children shared memories of their special person while doing crafts and playing games. As we move forward, we are grateful to have the opportunity to continue to support all of our participants and their families, whether in person or virtually.





Family Project Day

In lieu of our Annual Family Picnic, this year we held Family Project Day on Sunday, July 11th at Northwest Park in Windsor. Our families gathered to decorate butterfly kites in memory their loved ones who have died. Each family brought a photo of their loved one to place on their kite. Although it was not a particularly windy day, kids who got a running start were able to get their kites up in the air. Overall it was a special time had by all.



Mary's Place is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization.
 Any donations made are deductible according to IRS regulations.
 No fees are charged to participating families and Mary's Place depends upon individual and community support.