



2020 Annual Report

Letter from our Founder

Dear Friends of Step Up Parents,

When Step Up Parents was merely an idea as a way to help a friend, I could not have imagined how far we would come in such a short time. My friend was raising her young granddaughter while dealing with her own daughter's struggle with substance use disorder. Although I had no experience in the nonprofit world, I had a strong desire to help "hero" kinship caregivers, like her, who had stepped up for the vulnerable children in their lives. In 2019, Step Up Parents became a reality. I am grateful to our board members, supporters and mentors for all their hard work and determination in making Step Up Parents a recognized resource to kinship families in New Hampshire, a state very hard hit by the opioid crisis.

When Step Up Parents first began operating, we believed if we could raise \$10,000 and help a few families, then our effort would be worth it. Now two years later, we have raised over \$150,000 from our extremely generous and valued donors and have helped 112 deserving families. We have stepped up for those who have selflessly taken on the enormous emotional, physical and financial responsibility of raising a second, or even third, family later in life. They need our help more than ever as they face new challenges during this unprecedented and unrelenting pandemic. Step Up Parents is committed to honoring the efforts of these caregivers, preserving their dignity and responding to their family's immediate needs.

With gratitude,



2020 Step Up Parents Board of Directors

Denyse Richter, President
Jennifer DuChene, Vice President
Katie Fontana

Stephen Morrissey, Secretary
Paul Taylor, Treasurer

Special thanks to our Mission Ambassadors

Our Mission

Even Heroes Need a Hand.



Step Up Parents provides financial assistance and support to grandparents and other relative caregivers who have stepped up to raise the children of parents struggling with substance use disorder. We hope to make an immediate, and hopefully, lasting difference in the lives of kinship families.

100% Volunteer Organization

2020 by the Numbers



80 Families Helped → \$31,340 in assistance

100 Individual Donors → \$26,019 in donations



16 Corporate Donors → \$12,508 in donations

5 Community Groups → \$4,140 in donations

6 Grants → \$57,624 in donations



Our Families

The gratitude from the families we have helped has been overwhelming. In the words of one social worker who referred a family for assistance, **“I honestly believe that Step Up Parents’ act of kindness was a catalyst to let the family feel comfortable in asking for help.”** There is no greater testament to our mission. As an organization, this story is not only heartwarming but also inspires us to expand our outreach to all of the deserving kinship caregivers in New Hampshire.

80 Kinship Families Helped



As result of Covid-19, kinship caregivers face new economic and health challenges while expected to be providers, teachers, coaches, and counselors. 85% of the families we helped are headed by grandparents.

How we help

- We helped a grandmother purchase a computer, and grandparents pay their cable bill, to ensure that their grandchildren could engage in remote learning.
- We helped an aunt make her home ready and safe when she took in her niece and nephew.
- We helped defray the court costs and legal fees for grandparents who were seeking guardianship of their grandchildren.
- We helped grandparents buy bunk beds and clothing when they welcomed four grandchildren into their home.
- We gave a grandmother a gift card to buy winter clothing for her two grandchildren when she flew them in from Arizona to live with her.
- We paid the water bill for grandparents who adopted three grandchildren and had to renovate their home to accommodate the children’s physically disabled mother.

45 New Hampshire Communities Served

Our Donors

None of what Step Up Parents has achieved could have been accomplished without our generous donors. Despite the challenges of 2020 and the ban on in-person events, we doubled our total donations from 2019. We are forever grateful and humbled by the support.

\$100,291 total donations

In 2020, because of the financial impact of Covid-19 on individuals and businesses, we shifted our focus to grants. Our biggest award was a \$40,000 grant from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, a momentous accomplishment for our young organization. Once again, it speaks to the resonance of our mission and the demonstrated needs of thousands of kinship caregivers and their families in our state.

We also launched our corporate sponsorship program and brought in seven new corporate sponsors. We also secured new partnerships with businesses outside the Seacoast, realizing a key strategic goal of a statewide presence.

Thank you to our Generous Donors

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| Andrea Gaudette-Fontneau | James Berry | Mercedes and Don Tyler | Rotary Club of Portsmouth |
| Andrea Walsh | Jane Jensen | Meredith Village Savings Bank | Sam Brown |
| Ann W. Kaiser | Jennifer and Buddy Webb | Merrimack County Savings Bank | Seacoast Rotary Club |
| Annette Gonthier-Kiely | Jennifer Thomas | Merrimack County Savings Bank Foundation | Service Credit Union |
| anonymous | John & Mary Beth Clifford | Michael and Karyn Green | Sheila Taylor |
| Art & Barbara Bruinooge | Karen Kurgan | Michael and Lisa Dumont | Sprague Energy |
| Bangor Savings | Karen Otto | Michael Thorne | St. Chretienne Educational Institute |
| Barbara Dwyer | Karla Armenti | Mike Berry | Stuart Werman |
| Barbara Richter | Kathy Terry | Monika Burns | Susan Gobron |
| Bayberry & Co | Katie Fontana | Paula and Marc Gonthier | Tate & Foss |
| Bottomline Technologies | Kennebunk Savings Bank | Pete & Marianne Anastasia | The Fuller Foundation, Inc |
| Catherine Reddington | Kevin Jack | Peter Lloyd | The Saab Family Foundation |
| Daniel and Marianne Steele | Kevin Roy Builders | Pierre and Pamela Brazeau | Thomas McGovern & Helen Crowe |
| Daryl Flagg | Ladies Philoptochos Soc of St. Nicholas | Sarah Pease | Thomas Pepin |
| David Mailhot | Laurie Gonthier | Signature Escrow and Title | Tom Coate |
| Denyse Richter | Lawrence Kane | Mr. & Mrs. Mark Sorenson | Tom Fontana |
| Diana Marra | Leslie MacGormack | NHCF | Town of Hampton |
| Donna Waldron | Lexi Leddy | Nicole Ananian | Town of North Hampton |
| Emily DuChene | Linda Hamlen | Nicole Berry | Tricia Fontneau-Ramos |
| FedPoint | Lindsey Hery | Patricia McKenzie | Vanessa Tocco |
| First Seacoast Bank | Liz Greenleaf | Paul Shea | Victor Maslov |
| Fred and Donna Seigel | Lyn Ann Smith | Piscataqua Savings Bank | Virginia Tremberth |
| Gabrielle Richter | Lynn Blume | Profile Bank | Winifred Rogers |
| Gerry Weidema | Mary Jane and Tom Keane | Rebecca Richter | YourCause NextEra Energy |
| GFWC Greenland Women's Club | Mary Schladenhauffen | Renee Nanan | |
| Goodwork | Matt and Briah Marra | Ric Perreault | |
| Henderson Family Foundation | Matt Satterlund | Richard Ananian | Exponential Squared |
| Hews Company | Meg Rotondo | Ronald Gonthier | |

Our Partners

Step Up Parents works collaboratively with an integral network of partners who expand our outreach to families statewide in a way we couldn't do alone. These partners, known as "validators", include social workers, schools, DCYF, family resource centers, health centers, welfare departments, and other organizations who have contact with kinship families. Our validators may apply on behalf of a family using a simplified application process.

When a request is too large for our organization to fund, we work with other nonprofits to fulfill the request. On a number of occasions, we have worked with the regional New Hampshire chapters of Womanaide/Womenade. Together, we have successfully assisted families in need.

We are also fortunate to be part of GoodWork, a nonprofit incubator. As a GoodWork cohort, we have benefitted from strategic support, mentoring and training on governance, fundraising, board development, marketing and budgeting.

Thank you to our Community Partners

- Waypoint
- Families First
- DCYF
- Grapevine
- CASA
- Merrimack County ServiceLink
- Granite Pathways
- Seacoast Mental Health Center
- NFI North
- Pediatric Resource Specialist
Dartmouth Hitchcock
- United Way
- ServiceLink of Rockingham County
- Kinship Navigator Program
- NAMI New Hampshire
- Office of Jeanne Shaheen
- Stafford County Community Action
- Lakes Region Community Service
- Center for Life Management
- The Upper Room
- Friends of Farmington
- GATHER
- St. Vincent De Paul – Hampton
- St. Vincent De Paul – Exeter
- Annie's Angels
- KEY/Collective
- Womanaid of Greater Portsmouth
- Womenade of Concord
- Womenade of Greater Squamscott
- Southern New Hampshire Services
- Raymond Coalition for Youth
- Schools Districts –
 - All Seacoast school districts
 - Rochester
 - Franklin
- Welfare/Human Services
Departments
 - Portsmouth
 - Hampton
 - Exeter
 - North Hampton
 - Kingston
 - Stratham

2020 Financials

Fiscal Year Ending
December 31, 2020

REVENUE

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Income | |
| Donations | 42,617.00 |
| Grants | 57,624.00 |
| In-kind | 50.00 |
| Total revenue | 100,241.00 |

EXPENSES

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Programming | 31,340.00 |
| General Expenses | 7,881.00 |
| Total Expenses | <u>39,221.00</u> |

