

A black and white photograph of several hands clasped together in a supportive grip, set against a background of dry grass. A large blue diagonal overlay covers the left and bottom portions of the image.

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

NEW HOPE
Center for Grief Support



www.newhopecenter.net
griefhelp@newhopecenter.net
248-348-0115

MISSION

Bringing Hope, Healing, and New Beginnings to adults and children grieving the death of a loved one

VISION

Our vision as a bereavement resource center for Southeast Michigan is to see those who've come through our program create a safe, understanding community for others in grief and help change the way our culture responds to grief and loss. We do this through two methods:

1. Direct grief support services
2. Community Outreach, Training, and Practical Resources

Dear New Hope Community,

The enclosed annual report is a look back at 2019 -- All we accomplished in serving the bereaved of our community here in Southeast Michigan. It was another year of growth: in programming, in people served, and in our financial outlook. As Chairman of the Board, I'm continually humbled by the outpouring of support we receive in accomplishing our mission, including my fellow board members, the volunteer facilitators, speakers, and support staff who enable us to conduct workshops, and those who provide financial support through donations, sponsorships, and grants.

2019 was our third year of consistent growth in attendance along with the growth and expansion of our programming, particularly in areas that support families and youth. We launched "Family Fridays" and performed significant outreach within Northville Public Schools in response to the death of a student. Our community of volunteers really stepped up on short notice to assist us in the Northville Schools. Amazing.

One of our goals has been to increase our involvement with the local business community. We have hosted several meetings of the DDA in our conference room. In October and November, New Hope hosted a "Healing through the Arts" exhibit that was visited by local leaders, including Northville Mayor, Brian Turnbull, MI Representative Matt Koleszar, and US Congresswoman Haley Stevens.

I have been blessed to serve as Chairman of the Board for the past 3 years alongside Rick Guttersohn, our Executive Director. It is no coincidence that New Hope experienced growth in people served and fiscal health under his thoughtful leadership. Anyone who has met Rick or had a chance to hear him speak knows what a big heart he has for our mission. As you may know, Rick resigned at the end of 2019 to take on a new role and challenge in life: full time parenting!

Fortunately, we found our next Executive Director already within our midst -- Jennifer Frush stepped forward to lead New Hope as our Executive Director. I and the rest of the board are excited by Jennifer's ideas and ability to execute New Hope's mission going forward. She is fortunate to have a strong team supporting her, and is quick to give them a lot of credit. I hope you will all join me in giving Jenn your full support.

Sincerely,
Steve Rowley
Board Chairman

2019

2019 STAFF

Rick Guttersohn, LLMSW - Executive Director
 Jennifer Frush - Assistant Director
 Valerie Brda - Program Administrator
 Amy Marmaduke - Peer Support Specialist
 Colleen Agrotis - Office Administrator



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Rowley - Board Chairman
 Tom Krause - Corporate Secretary
 Jim Pilat - Corporate Treasurer
 Kevin Bullock
 Debbie Damesworth
 Bob Kalec
 Maryellen Lewandowski
 Ashley Sword
 Alan Walthall

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chip DeClue
 Ed Doody
 Beth Voyles
 Cathy Clough - Founder
 John Baird - Founding Board Chairman

YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Reflecting on the tremendous growth in 2019, our volunteers make a difference. Because of their compassion and care we continue to bring hope, healing, and new beginnings to children, families, and adults grieving the loss of a loved one. Our volunteers serve as Ambassadors of Hope. They companion others in grieving by sharing their own personal stories of loss, caring for those finding courage to seek support, and guiding others through the grief journey bringing reassurance that the way we each grieve is unique, normal, natural, and necessary. With the help of each of you New Hope was able to make a difference in an expanding number of lives in 2019.

With your financial commitment, we raised \$277,809, and even more profound is that 16% of funds raised were volunteer led "FUN-raisers". Because of this incredible 55% increase in revenue we were able to invest in increasing program capacity, allowing us to serve record numbers of attendees at Workshops, Seminars, Peer Support Groups, Family Fridays, and Kids Camp. As we navigated the tremendous growth of 2019, you continuously offered support, encouragement and led with commitment to the mission of New Hope.

Exciting fresh additions to New Hope included visits from Michigan State Representative Matt Koleszar and Congresswoman Haley Stevens in November as we hosted "Healing Through the Arts" in honor of Children's Grief Awareness Month. Also, in our efforts to reach the community, we offered support to Northville public schools after the tragic loss of a student, supported local organizations impacted by the death of staff members, and grew our programming efforts to serve more in need.

None of this could be possible without your generous and ongoing support. Thank you for helping to make a difference in so many lives.

A very special thank you to Rick Guttersohn for his service to New Hope over the last five years. His leadership and enthusiasm brought some amazing programs and continued growth to New Hope. His energy, creativity, and love for New Hope will be missed by our community. The Guttersohn's recently grew their family with the adoption of their son Jaxson. Best wishes to the Guttersohn family!

I believe in New Hope and look forward to continuing our path to bringing healing and new beginnings in our communities. 2019 was a year of outstanding growth and I foresee a bright future with your continued support.

Jennifer Frush
 Executive Director



FROM GRIEF TO NEW HOPE

New Hope had 266 people attend our Eight-Week Workshops in 2019. We set another record with our attendance of 136 participants attending during our fall workshop. Throughout our two workshops, 56% of our participants lost someone less than six months ago. We are seeing more and more people reach out sooner after their loss occurred. This is a testament to the changes we are making within our culture and community surrounding grief and loss. We are so thankful for the volunteers (facilitators, speakers, and support team members) who are there to comfort the people that we serve.



"One thing I loved..."

"The feeling of people "just getting it" No judgement"

"Camaraderie, openness of facilitators and members"

"The safe, comforting, validating environment"

"Knowing I wasn't alone"

"Hearing the others express the same feelings"

I was having and knowing it's ok"

Moving Forward with Hope

"I commit to spreading joy and compassion to others in honor and memory of my dad"

"Embrace the happy and the sad moments but always continue to live my best life""I commit to looking to the future with hope"



WORKSHOP IMPACT

94% Better understand their grief

90% Can better communicate thoughts and feelings

90% Are able to cope with their feelings more effectively

91% Are able to talk about their loved one

61% Are less anxious about upcoming holidays or special days

96%

Are HIGHLY likely to recommend this program to others!

SEMINARS AND SUPPORT

141 SEMINAR
ATTENDANCE

We helped 141 people through our Beginning the Grief Journey and Hope for the Holidays seminars, with many inviting family and friends to participate or connecting to other programs for ongoing support.

PEER SUPPORT GROUPS

90 WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS HELPED
EVERY TWO WEEKS

We continue to see incredible attendance growth in our Starting Again peer support groups for those who have lost a spouse. Our second chapter that we launched in 2018 is growing and thriving. Between the two groups we helped on average 90 widows and widowers every two weeks! We also saw tremendous growth in attendance in our monthly widowers group, weekly suicide support group, and bi-weekly parents of hope support group for those who've lost a child.

FIRST STEPS

First Steps is our one-on-one peer support program. In 2019, we reached 38 people through individual peer support. One of the main goals of our individual meetings is to shepherd those reaching out to us to participate in one of our programs. Many of the people we meet one-on-one attend an ongoing group or workshop. First Steps provides support to people of any age with any type of loss.

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY

In 2019 Northville Public Schools experienced a tragic loss of one of their students to suicide. New Hope was honored to join PCS-counseling for services onsite in the schools acting as a support service during this incredibly difficult time. We were able to aid both the staff and students during this time. New Hope staff and volunteers offered time during the school day to support students. We were also a part of meetings for staff and parents/guardians. New Hope was able to reach 137 people through these services. The Northville High School rowing team was greatly affected by this loss and New Hope provided support to the 85 members of this team which included coaching staff and students.

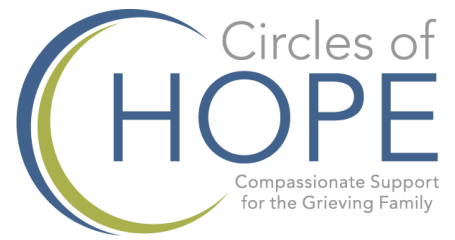


KIDS CAMP

New Hope held our Kids Camp at Maybury Farm for the second year in a row. In attendance were 47 campers, 8 high school/teen counselors, and 63 volunteers! We were so thankful to have had many wonderful sponsors to help us conduct this camp. We had police officers and fire fighters from Northville join us as well as staff from Angela Hospice. For the second year in a row, we had Bridgewater Support Services bring in therapy horses with which the kids were able to interact. The campers were also able to bond with the farm animals and therapy dogs. There were many activities such as "carry your burdens" and "crossing the line" that gave the campers the opportunity to connect with each other and share about their loss.

FAMILY FRIDAYS

In May of 2019 we launched our new Family Friday program to support families who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Dinner is provided for our participants before they break up into two separate support groups, one for adults and one for children. The kids do activities that are fun but also mix in lessons about grief, such as making "grief trail mix" or "fishing for feelings," while the adults participate in their own support group. Family Friday's has met once a month averaging 13 people at each meeting. Family Friday's has given families with young children a place to connect with others who have experienced a loss.



VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers are the backbone of New Hope's program! We have an active volunteer roster of over 170 individuals. They are our Ambassadors of Hope and we celebrated them in May at our 3rd annual Volunteer Appreciation dinner.



REACHING OUR COMMUNITY

New Hope reached 957 people through our outreach efforts in 2019! We had many unique opportunities to showcase New Hope this year. New Hope was part of many outreach opportunities in Northville such as the DDA, 100 Women Who Care, the Farmer's Market, Cooke Elementary School, volunteer trainings, and more. We have also supported the surrounding communities by doing outreach and seminars in various funeral homes.

EVENTS

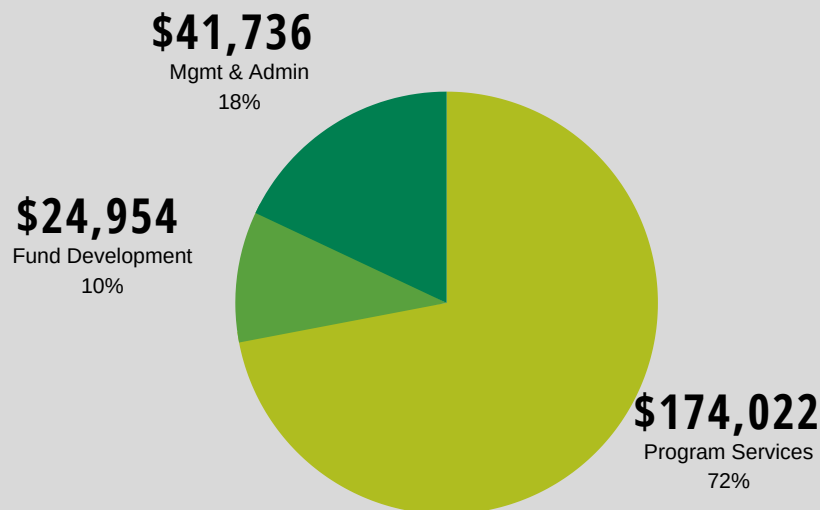
Over 300 people attended our 19th Annual New Hope for the New Year holiday fundraiser at the Northville Community Center. This year's event included a Christmas tree with memorial bulbs, a cork pull, silent auction, 50/50 raffle, and more. In total, the event raised \$30,000 and was a time for our participants and volunteers to celebrate their new beginnings.



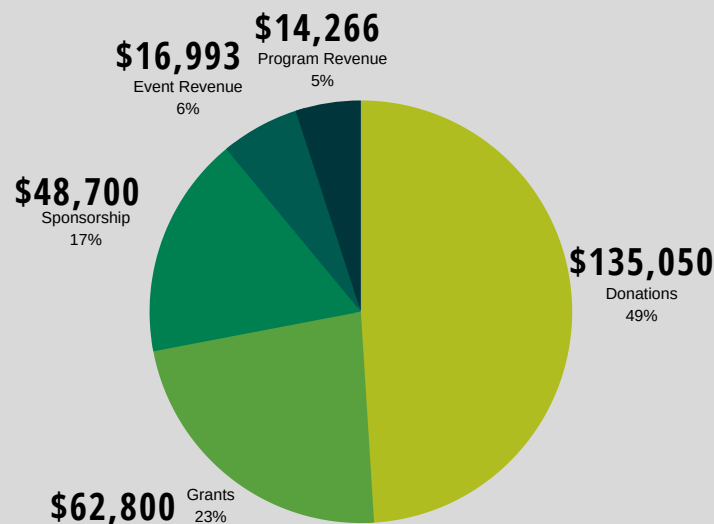
We grew our operating budget by 37% in 2019, with annual expenses coming in at \$240,712. This increase allowed us to grow our programs and ongoing support groups tremendously throughout the year. We set record attendance at many of our programs, and were able to invite families in once a month to connect, learn, and grow through activities and conversation. With the conference room space we secured in late 2018, we maximized onsite impact through programs, ongoing support groups, trainings, and hosted several outreach events. We are committed to wise stewardship of the resources with which our stakeholders have entrusted us.

The total revenue raised in 2019 was \$277,809, a 55% increase from 2018. What's remarkable about this figure was that we exceeded our 2019 revenue budget. This allowed us to continue investing in programming capacity growth in 2019. Over 50% of our revenue came from individual donations. Yet even more remarkable is that 33% of the \$135,050 was raised by volunteer- led "FUN"raisers, which is a true testament to our passionate and dedicated volunteer base.

2019 EXPENSES \$240,712

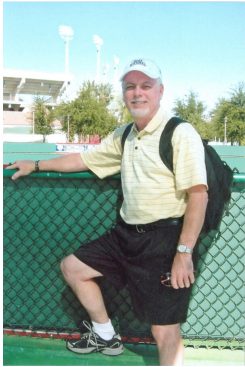


2019 REVENUE \$277,809



Total amount raised in memory of loved ones: **\$35,279.80**

ANGELS OF HOPE



Robert
Damesworth



Ann Kalec



Ute Bernicchi



Joyce Miller

IN MEMORY OF:

Michelle Avery
Reinhold Badmann
James Bauschat
Tom Bondy
Michael Brook
My Dad (of C. Bulbuk)
Deborah Carlson
Tom Carr
Vivian L Christenson
Jo Conne
Al Crosby
Debra Czyzak
Patty Delle-Monache
Douglas M. Denney
Hannah Doody
Jack Dunckley
Davis Ecker
Mary Foreman
Susan Franklin
Wayne Gardner

Kevin Gilchrist
Mary "Bernie" Grybos
Diana Guido
John Guido
Janet Guttersohn
Nina Grace Hammond
Sandra Hardesty
Lula Harwell
Becky Hilger
Margaret Honkala
Jim Lawrence, Jr.
Linda Kartes
Bill Lewandowski
Donald R. Mackinley
Jason Markley
Doris A. McConnell
Jimmy Miller
Delores Musselman
Deborah Nicholson
Tom Pearson

Ron Pilat
Mark Quay
Judy Rae
Janet Rasimas
Donna M Roe
Marian Roshirt
Henry Rotenheber
Robert Sallon
Vera & George Siefers
Colin Smith
Robert Sword
Bernard Hilado Sr.
Kyle Alex Talbot
Cynthia Lou Thompson
Laurie Wagner
Mrs. Elva Webber
Mary Jane Weidenbach
Richard G. White
Mike and Bob Wisniewski

IN HONOR OF: Judy Rae, David Skinner and Cathie Salach, and Travis Hopson

Thank you to our
SUPPORTERS

We are grateful to the following organizations for supporting our mission to bring
Hope, Healing, and New Beginnings
to adults and children grieving the death of a loved one

SPONSORS**GRANTORS****MINISTRY PARTNERS**

The Board of Directors, Advisory Teams, and New Hope Staff are committed to serving more griever and growing our program capacity as we enter 2020. As we descend upon our 20th Anniversary may this be a year to remember, one where we serve more griever than years previously, activate more healing with volunteers who serve to continue their own healing, grow programming capacity, and extend our reach into more communities.

New Hope is turning 20 in 2020! Let's celebrate the love that built this program 20 years ago, celebrate the mission we serve and helped thousands of people, and grow our impact in more communities. We need your help.... Whether you are a past New Hope participant, new to our programming, and may be a future participant, we hope you are inspired by the program that you continue your healing and serve the mission of bring hope, healing, and new beginnings to others. Lets join together to celebrate the 20 Years of lives that have been forever changed by New Hope and the ones we will help transform in 2020. Help make New Hope turning 20 in 2020 a year to remember!

2020 CURRENT PROGRAMS

Workshops and Seminars

From Grief to New Hope
Beginning the Grief Journey
Hope for the Holidays

Circles of Hope

Family Fridays
Kids Camp
Teen Group

Ongoing Groups

Starting Again (Northville, Novi,
and Dearborn)
Suicide Support Group
Widower's Group
Widow's Group
Grieving a Loss Due to a
Pandemic
Parents of Hope
Support for All Losses

First Steps Individual Peer Support

2020 CURRENT STAFF

Jennifer Frush - Executive Director
Valerie Brda - Program Administrator
Amy Marmaduke - Peer Support Specialist
Emily Ryan - Project Coordinator
Colleen Agrotis - Office Administrator



New Hope Center for Grief Support
145 N. Center St. Suite E
Northville, MI 48167



GET INVOLVED

Our ministry is growing yet there is still need in our community for more high-quality grief support and education...more than we can keep up with. We are seeing increasingly more people reaching out after experiencing a loss from suicide or overdose. We are also seeing people reach out with much more recent and traumatic losses (less than a month after a death). We are hoping to diversify our programming so that everyone can find the help they need and begin their journey towards hope, healing, and new beginnings.

Below are some ways you can help!

VOLUNTEER

You can help provide compassionate care and peer support to grieving adults and children. Or, you can help behind the scenes through event planning, administrative support, fundraising, or outreach.

<https://newhopecenter.net/get-involved/#volunteer>

DONATE

Consider making a one-time gift, joining our Heroes of Hope monthly donor program, or make a memorial gift in honor of your loved one.

<https://newhopecenter.net/get-involved/#sponsor>

SPONSOR

Your business or organization can sponsor a specific program or event, or you can support our ministry through an affinity (annual) sponsorship.

<https://newhopecenter.net/get-involved/#sponsor>

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