As we review, and report on, The Grief Center’s past fiscal year in this annual report, there is much to celebrate! As is the case for all of us, the past year was filled with ups and downs.

The fiscal year certainly had a rough start! Our dedicated, hardworking staff came back from the long July 4th weekend to find that our newly-renovated building had been burglarized. Just six weeks before opening The Grief Center for in-person and online support groups, we found a disheartening tumult of strewn, broken and missing supplies and equipment.

While we were devastated with this setback, our hearts were healed by the overwhelming support from our community as we received help replacing items and making repairs. In addition, donations that were raised to help with the recovery made it possible for us to improve our building’s security. We will be forever grateful for our supporters’ amazing response during a very difficult time.

Support groups started on schedule in our new home – The Center for Hope and Healing. After years of planning, fundraising, renovations and hard work, our wonderful donors, staff and volunteers had made our new, welcoming space a reality. It was with enormous pride that we welcomed, and continue to serve, our many guests.

After having a waiting list between September and January, we were able to meet the increased need for our services by training more volunteer facilitators and adding additional support groups.

The Center for Hope and Healing is home to providers who compliment The Grief Center support groups with grief-informed services, such as therapy and individual counseling. And thanks to several beautifully-equipped meeting rooms, we are able to rent meeting space to outside organizations and businesses for training and workshops.

The heart of everything we do and accomplish are the people who need our services to heal, share, and recover after the loss of an important person in their life.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you to everyone who provided their support, expertise, time and caring to our staff and our clients.

With sincere gratitude,

Stephanie Miller
Board President
Vision Statement
Our vision is that all grieving people will receive compassionate support needed to foster hope for the future.

Mission Statement
Our mission is to provide compassionate and safe support, understanding, healing, and hope to the grieving community.

The Four Principles
• Grief is a natural reaction to the loss of an important person for children as well as adults. • Within each individual is the natural capacity to heal oneself. • The duration and intensity of grief are unique for each individual. • Caring and acceptance help in the healing process.

[The Grief Center] is very special to me because I can be who I am when I want to be!
- 12-year-old girl whose grandma and aunt died
We had 103 volunteers help serve New Mexico’s grieving families and adults. These dedicated people help make The Grief Center a special place for children, their families, and adults to find hope and healing.

The Heart of The Grief Center

Thank You!

• Carla Anaya • Carla Anaya • Deb Barkoff • Aimeleda Mariel Angel •
• Melanie Bolton • Jack Brant • Robert (Bob) Barnes • Cheyenne Beardsley
• Susan Burns • Calysta Camp • Diane • Elizabeth Britt • Eva Buchwald • Ann Buck •
• Barbara Cotton • Katie Cunningham • Erin Damour • Josephine Darling • Joan Davis •
• Gabrielle Delgado • Lynn Demling • Paul Diwick • Maureen Doherty • Karen Dominguez • Norah Doss •
• Kerry Ducharme • Brooke Dunn • Tyler Elwell • Jan • Chase • Jacqueline Chavez • Pat Conkling •
• Leslie Garcia • Socorro Garcia • Loyola Garcia • Erin Damour • Josephine Darling • Joan Davis •
• Elizabeth (Betsy) Greenlee • Lynn Demling • Paul Diwick • Maureen Doherty • Karen Dominguez • Norah Doss •
• Sally Harris • Joan Helquist • Loni Higgins • Gay Hoffman • Sheila Hofstedt • Cynthia Florence •
• Raymond (Ray) Jojola • Ellen Kim • Mickey Kivitz • Mike Kivitz • Joyce Kolberg • Judy Labovitz •
• Adrienne Larkin • Theresa Lewis • Larry Leyva • Janet London • AdriAnne Madsen • Genevieve Martin •
• Alan Mask • Steven McHenry • Norma McLaughlin • Arnie Melnikoff • Dana Millen • Doris Moore •
• Matt Mora • Peter Moulson • Tonya Newton • Mickey Nunn • Sandy Orne • Fran Perea •
• Christen Pike • Anne Portman • Jill Powers • Mercy Rabern Jones • Karen Reinhold •
• Rachel Sams • Peggy Sanchez Mills • Paulina Saunders • Romi Saune • Jayne Schultz •
• Madi Seckler • Fallon Setter • Barbara Sias • Debbie Sleeter • McClees Stephens •
• Suzanne Stern-Brant • Cindy Stofberg • Carol Sullivan • Jeannette Swent •
• Tamara Thiedeman • Blake Thies • Chris Turner • Kathryn Turnipseed •
• Zandria Van Hoosen • Jerry Vigil • Rebecca Voris •
• Amanda Wallace Trujillo • Paula Wynnyckyj •
• ABQ Involved • US Eagle Credit Union •
• Route 66 Civitans • Goodman’s •
• Young Professional Association •
• Kiwanis Club • Rotary •
• Rio Grande Club •
• UPS • HP
544 people served via in-person and online

285 people attended our Community Educational Workshops
With your support, The Grief Center never charges grieving families and individuals for support services. Donors like you make these programs possible.
Haven Behavioral Hospital of Albuquerque
Hewlett Packard Inc
High Desert Relief
Hinkle Shanor LLP
HUB International
Hull Consulting LLC
Independent Vehicle Service
Ingrid Domonkos
J. Matt Storey
Jack Brant and Suzanne Stern Brant
Jade, Caleb and Josiah Bock
James Smouse
Jan Fike
Jane Flax
Janet McHard and Beth Mohr
Janis Randall
Jason Engel
Jerry Vigil
Jessie Barrie
Jim and Melissa Bruney
JoAnn Albrecht
Joann and Scott MacKenzie
Jody Karp
John and Morgan Topolski
Johnson and Johnson
Jon Herr
Jordyn, Asha and Ollie Whisenant
Joseph and Pamela Limke
Joseph Piltuck
Joshua and Crystal Trujillo
Joshua Casias
Josie and John Herrera
Juan Medina
Juan Samaniego
Judy Labovitz
Judy Mock
Julie Cason
June Kirkpatrick
Kanella Chronis
Kara Tirone
Karen Chalmers
Karla Barela-Lucero
Katharine Blaker
Katherine Mulberry
Kathleen and Dr. Luis Cuadros
Kathryn Turnipseed
Kathy Casaus
Katie and Andrew Stone
Keith and Helen Franchini and Natalie Harden
Kelly Mancha
Ken Mills
Kenneth and Alice Smith
Kirtland Spouses’ Welfare Club
Kiwanis Club of Corrales
Kroger (Smith’s)
La Montanita Coop Food Market
Lani Hendrix
Lara Barkoff
Laura Charles
Laura Smigielski
Laurie Kestenbaum
Lawrence Wells and Patricia Dickinson
Leonard and Elizabeth Trainor
Leslie and Edward Alter
Leslie Romero
Linda Fresquez
Linda Heath
Linda White
Linley Daly
LK Curtis Children’s Foundation
Louise Firestone
Luc Cisna
Lyle Aufdermauer and Kate Brown
Lyn Jones
Lynn B. Thurgood CLU CAS
Lynne Harms
M. Brian McDonald
Margaret Broenniman
Margaret Tannen
Mariposa Sivage
Marjorie Glenn and Ken Falkenberg
Mary Catherine Casey and Robin Connell
Mary Cotruzzola
Mary Jane Thiedeman
Mary Janet Davis
Matthew and Elaina Roberts
Matthew and Kelly Maes
Maureen Montgomery
Maureen Sanders
Maurice Amado Foundation
Max and Abigail Simmons
Maya Davidson
Melissa Jabour
Michael and Margaret Leach
Michael Bergsten
Michael Maccini and Barbara Koenig
Michael Martinez and Melissa Jabour
Michelle Nunn
Mike and Ellen Kivitz
Monica Torrez
Morgan Stanley
Mountain States Constructors, Inc.
Ms. Alice Lloyd
M’tucci’s Bar Roma
Nancy Ann Mellen Foundation
Nancy Oestreicher
Nathan Anderson
New Mexico Department of Health
New Mexico Mutual
New Mexico Trial Lawyers Association Foundation
NM Home Masters
Norma and Dale McLaughlin
Nusenda Credit Union
OMI
Optum Services Inc.
Pamela M. Galbraith
Memorial Foundation
Parnall Law Firm LLC
Pat and Mark Conkling
Patricia Christie
Patricia Oshel
Patricia Walters
Patrick and Elise Orell
Paul and Colton Casaus
Paul Hopkins
Paula Wynnyckyj
Pauline Lucero
Peggy Sanchez Mills and James Mills
Penelope Holbrook
Perry and Beverly Bendicksen
I am LGBTQ and was hesitant coming here, but after the first session I was comfortable and would recommend to others.

Circle of Hope

Circle of Hope donors provide a monthly gift of support to help sustain our programs. Thank you for always being there for our families and adults.

Anonymous
Allen Withers
Amy Boule

THANK YOU!!
Gender
Female: 68%
Male: 30%
Non Binary: 0%
Other: 0%
Not Reported: 2%

Ethnicity
White: 41%
Hispanic/Latino: 35%
American Indian/Alaska Native: 11%
Not reported: 9%
Asian/Pacific Islander: 2%
Black/African American: 1%
Other: 1%

Age
0-5 years old: 2%
6-11 years old: 20%
12-18 years old: 19%
19-24 years old: 3%
25 to 44 years old: 22%
45 to 64 years old: 22%
65 years and older: 11%
Not reported: 1%

Who died for the Adult
Spouse/Partner: 39%
Child: 21%
Parent: 15%
Ex-Spouse/Ex-partner: 8%
Other: 7%
Sibling: 7%
Friend: 3%

Who died for the child
Father: 54%
Mother: 16%
Sibling: 13%
Grandparent: 10%
Other: 5%
Step-Parent: 0%
Not reported: 2%

Length of participation
1-6 months: 48%
7-12 months: 24%
13-18 months: 12%
18+ months: 8%
No start date: 8%

Cause of Death
Natural - anticipated (terminal illness diagnosis): 26%
Substance Use: 15%
Natural - unanticipated (sudden medical event): 15%
Covid-19: 10%
Other: 10%
Suicide: 7%
Homicide/Violence: 6%
Vehicular Accident: 4%
Accident: 3%
Undetermined: 3%
Not Reported: 1%

Workshops provided - 15
7/22 Boundaries/Self-Care Workshop
7/23 Sand Tray Workshop
8/4 Back-to-School Jumpstart Workshop
9/13 Grieving Children, Grieving Families Webinar
10/8 Dia De Los Muertos
11/30 Grief in the Holidays
12/13 Grieving Children, Grieving Families Webinar
12/18 Remembrance Ceremony
3/11 Grieving Children, Grieving Families Webinar
3/21 Supporting Children & Families Following a Substance Use Death
4/22 Adult Mindfulness Workshop & Labyrinth Walk
5/5 Supporting Grieving Students
5/13 Webinar Niños en Duelo, Familias en Desconsuelo
5/31 Art Workshop
6/22 Family Movie Night

Bereavement Facilitator Training - 62 trained
In Honor Of:

Chelsea Canon
Alison Pauk
Jade Richardson Bock
Amy Miller
Greg Gonzales
Aracely Pozas
All you do!
Aubrey Hovey
The Awesome Work of the GCNM Team
Brian Colón
Michaeline Kelley-Boyet
C. Thomas Kuhnee
Colin Dimas
Charles Dimas
David Mullen
Cynthia Mann
Marcus Williams and Adrianna Williams
Dorothy Schwiedergoll
Ann Buck
Frank Spring
Philip Kaplan
Rosanne Kaplan
Rachel
Graciela Ramos
Rama Rhoderick
Rolf Nitsche
Reynaldo “Junior” Delgado
Gabrielle Delgado
Rick Frye
Anonymous
Robert Thomas
Diane Thomas
Ronaldo and Lucy Ruybal
Ron Ruybal
Rosa Steele
Linda Heath
Rose Vanlandingham
Ricca Gachupin
Ryan Daniell
David Daniell
Sally Reeves
Damiin Lara
Scott Wilson
Karen Smoot
Shaun Hanks
Stephanie Hanks Brewster
Sherry Richardson
Edwina Scinta
Silvio Dell ‘Angela
Lori Jimenez
Steven Romero
Leslie Montoya
Stew Reinhold
Norma McLaughlin
Susan Courtright
Bill Ludeke
Susan Rose
Anne Rose
Tammy Helbing Toso
Sarah Toso Geuder
Tania Marie Saunders
Paulina Saunders
Terri Lusk
Amanda Gabaldon
Timothy Kee Williams
Dorothy Schwiedergoll
Tonto
Skyler Galbraith
Tony Lamb
Diana H Lamb
Victoria Curtis
Patricia Walters
Virginia Kalynycz
John Topolski
William Bowers and Ryan Bowers
Amy Bowers
Zachary Blanchard, Ashley Zhangara, and Connor Porter
Trish Porter-Topmiller
Mary Ann Smith
Bernadette Green
Matthew King
Colleen Wall
Melissa
Troy Watson
Melissa Weber
Marsha Weber
Michael Herndon
Cathryn McGill
Mike, Mom, Dad, and Julia Marie
M. A. Romero
My Adoptive Father
Bree Morena de Santos
My Mom
Robin Nikinski
Owen Taylor
Tamara Silva
Pamela Galbraith
Jennifer Smith
Jerry Vigil
Linda Lujan
Patrick and Donna
Christine Edwards
Patrick Roha
Thomas Roha
Paul Kerschner
Alexis Tappan
Pearla Casaus
Bonnie Lee Murphy
Flora Dennis
Kathy Casaus
Pauline Chavez
Calysta and Reece Madesen, Chris
Camp, Stephanie, Joaquin and
Jesse Wells
Greg and Cindy Wells
and Spolek
Joe L. Serna
Irene Serna
Pearla Carolyn Grace Casaus
Kaitlyn Casaus
Breton Sego
Karen Duersch
Grief Center
Linda Fresquez
Chelly Weiss
Linda Orell
Dr. Paul Hopkins
Louise Firestone
Richard and Susan Hofer
M. R. Hofer
Kristin Richter
Mary Steele
Ryan Centerwall
Meghan Basso
Helen Muller
Michael Flax M.D.
Susan Lucas
Miriam Levy
Vivian Martinez
Nika Lawrie
Ramon Gutierrez
Pauline Jimenez
Pamela Galbraith
Roberta Mikus
Julie
Russ Caskey
Hospice of New Mexico
Sharon Hutson
Pearla Casaus
Steve Garcia
Rudy and Becky Diaz
Tomas Soto
The Grief Center
4125 Carlisle Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107

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Peggy Sanchez Mills

Secretary:
Gabrielle Delgado

Treasurer:
Debora Garrison

Members:
Kelly Mancha
Javier Benavidez
Judy Labovitz
Latoya Ferguson
Mary Davis
Matthew Mora
Paul Casaus

Special thanks to those who concluded their service in 2022-23:
Greg Chase
Anne Layne
Peggy Sanchez Mills

The Grief Center Staff:
Jade Richardson Bock,
Executive Director
jade.bock@childrensgrief.org

Beth Brodie,
Administrative Manager
beth.brodie@childrensgrief.org

Development:
Suzie Blake, CFRE
Development Director
suzie.blake@childrensgrief.org

Jorie Weyer,
Development and Outreach Associate
jorie.weyer@childrensgrief.org

Save the date, February 2, 2024, and join us at the Embassy Suites Hotel as we celebrate hope and healing at the 18th annual Healing Hearts Luncheon and Silent Auction.

Program:
Veronica Flores,
Bilingual Program Manager
veronica.flores@childrensgrief.org

Christina Thies,
Program Manager
christina.thies@childrensgrief.org

Kelly Geib-Eckenroth,
Program Coach
kelly.geib@childrensgrief.org

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