



# Annual Report 2023

505-323-0478 • [griefnm.org](http://griefnm.org)



# Message from the President of the Board of Directors



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

# The Heart of The Grief Center

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.

• CARLA ANAYA •  
• DEB BARKOFF •  
• MELANIE BOLTON • JACK BRANT •  
• SUSAN BURNS • CALYSTA CAMP • DIANE  
• BARBARA COTTON • KATIE CUNNINGHAM •  
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Thank You!







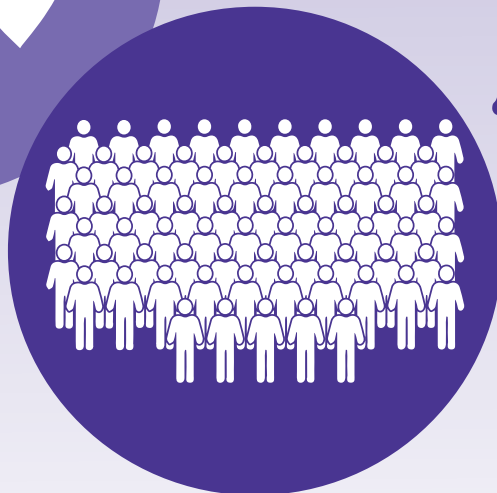
544

people served  
via in-person  
and online



285

people  
attended our  
Community  
Educational  
Workshops



# Program Donors — July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

***With your support, The Grief Center never charges grieving families and individuals for support services. Donors like you make these programs possible.***

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Melissa Jabour  
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Mike and Ellen Kivitz  
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Paul Hopkins  
Paula Wynnickyj  
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.*

Phil and Rachel Jones  
Philip Hampton  
Philip Le

**PNM Resources Foundation**  
Presbyterian Healthcare  
Services

Rachel Sams  
Rebecca and Luke Ullrich  
Rebecca Auge  
Rebecca Rodriguez  
Rebecca Voris  
Rhonda and Lane Sego  
Rich Ford  
Richard, Silas and

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Roger and Ann Porter  
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Rotary Club of Albuquerque  
Rio Grande

Rotary Del Norte Foundation  
Route 66 Civitan Club #3779

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Sandia Foundation  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Sandy Gold  
Savers

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**Sharon Miner**

Sheryl Saavedra  
Singleton Schreiber  
Southwest Family Guidance  
Center and Institute

Stephanie and Jeffrey Miller  
Stephanie Santillanes  
Stephen Smouse  
Steve Garcia  
Steve Schreiner  
Sue Ellen Personius  
Sunny505

Susan Beard  
Suzanne George  
Suzi Mattson-Scurlock  
TechSource  
The Cleanery  
The Life Center Foundation  
The NASCAR Foundation  
The Sego Family

**The Setter Group, LLC**

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Tom and Keri Antram  
Tom Riccobene  
Trish Porter-Topmiller

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New Mexico  
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US Eagle Foundation  
Viji Pillai  
Villa Myriam Coffee

**Walmart**

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of Albuquerque  
Yvette and Michael Klinkmann  
Yvonne Williams Casaus

**\* Also contributors to the Center  
for Hope and Healing Capital  
Campaign up to June 30, 2023**

### 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

Anne Layne  
Barbara Buell  
Brian, Aleli and Rafael Colón  
Christen and John Pike  
Connie Dayton  
Diann Sheppard  
Dorothy Schwiedergoll  
Dr. Adrienne Larkin and  
Robert Thomson

Frances Leshner  
Glenn and Sally Hebert  
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Hope Firester  
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Jessie Barrie

Josie and John Herrera  
Kanella Chronis  
Kelly Mancha

Kelly McDonald-Smith and  
Connor Smith

Kymberleigh Dougherty  
Leilani Foulk

Maria Globus

Mariposa Sivage

Marjorie Glenn and  
Ken Falkenberg

Matthew and Elaina Roberts  
Maureen Montgomery

Michelle Nunn

Natalia Sanchez

Natalie Williamson

Neil Ortiz

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Rachel Beam

Reyna Luna

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Sue Ellen Personius

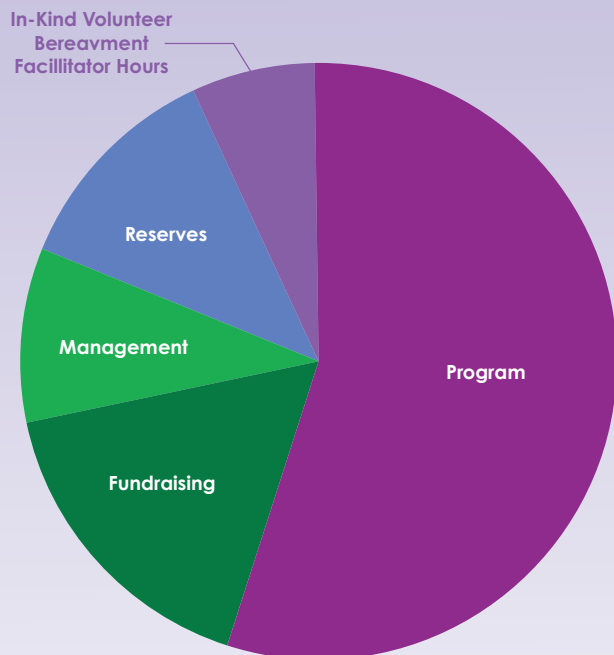
Theresa Detoli

Yvette and Michael Klinkmann

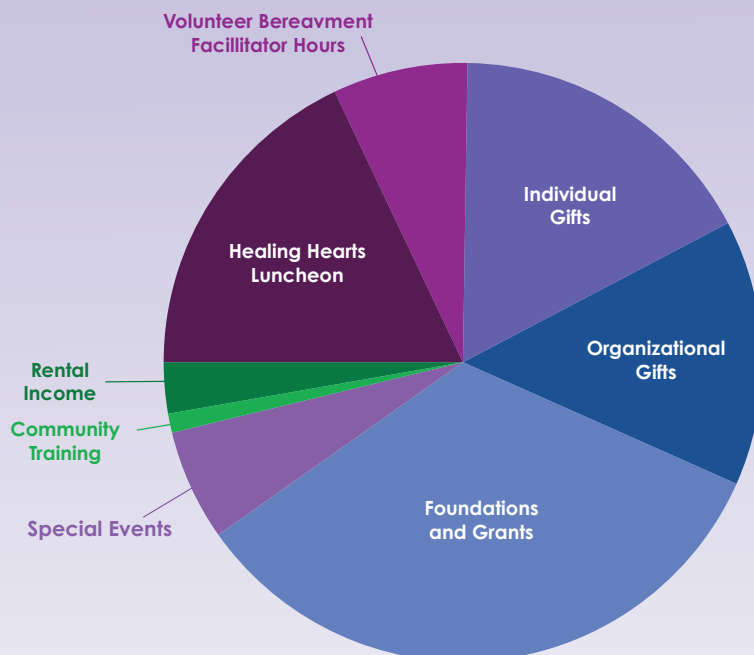
**THANK YOU!!**



## 2022 - 2023 Grief Center Expenses & Reserves \$910,809



## 2022 - 2023 Grief Center Operations Income \$910,809



### 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 Memory Of:

**Adam Lerma**

Michael Martinez

**Al and Josie Thomas**

Albert Thomas

**Alan Fulford**

Louise Maffitt

**Alison Kleven**

Oralia Kleven

**Angel Tafoya**

Jeremy Jaramillo

**Annie Montes**

Kristin Montes

**Anthony Cusatis, Jeff Cusatis,  
and Kurt Meske**

Julie Cusatis

**Ben Kivitz**

Mike Kivitz

**Blake Thies**

Graciela Ramos  
Tomas Soto

**Bobbie Batley**

Mark Powers

**Brad Harris**

Andrew Weyer

**Carolyn Gibson**

Thomas Davis

**Charles Kirkpatrick**

June Kirkpatrick

**Charles R. Williams**

Deborah Williams  
John Duran

**Charles Williams, James Wasson,  
and Michael E. Jones**

Phil Jones

**Charles Williams and Michael Jones**

Linda Lobato

**Duran Charlie Cogburn**

Katherine Mulberry

**Chris Eaton**

Jordyn Whisenant

**Christian Ross McMahon**

Michael Bolice

**Christina G. Smith**

Margaret Broenniman

**Cliff and Marilyn Rutherford and Yoder**

George Rutherford

**Collins Caskey**

Russ Caskey

**Connor O'Loughlin Mantsch**

MacKenzie Mantsch

**Cooper Gray and Meghan McBrayer**

Chrisann Gray

**Courtney Harlan**

David and Havi Graeber

**Cyprian Preut**

Jordyn Whisenant

**Daniel Garcia Jr.**

Loyola Garcia

**Danielle Garcia**

Linley Daly

**Danny McCarthy**

Katherine Owen

**Dathan Turlington**

Deborah Barkoff

**David Fike and Timothy Kee Williams**

Jan Fike

**David Mullen**

Emily Howard

**David Tighe**

Adrienne Mielke

**Dawn**

Alexandria Rakes

**Denise Linn**

Michelle Rusk

**Dolores M. Herr**

Jon Herr

**Dorothy and Santo Caleca**

Mary Jepsen

**Dr. Alvin Weiss**

Linda Weiss

**Dr. and Mrs Alick Osofsky**

William Osofsky

**Edward Romero (Socorro, Diego,  
and Alex)**

BrieAnne Stout

**Elijah Riche**

Brenda Padilla

**Erika Roth**

Stephanie Telles

Jessica Roth

**Erina Marie Bell**

Steve Simon

**Ethel Tweedy Maurer**

Kathy Tweedy Mawyer

**Flora Rita Mora**

Matthew Mora

**Fonda Kay Kirchmeyer**

Rod Kirchmeyer

**George Edward Montgomery Jr.**

Rose Montgomery

**Hal, Armie, Bernie, and Dolly**

Susan and Chuck Paine

**Hannah Burkhart**

Ann Pierret

**Helen and Otto Jensen**

Elizabeth D. Jensen

**Hunter Phillips**

Agatha Allen

**In memory of Clyde and Emmett**

Barbara Worthen

**Jack Henry Stuart**

Renee Davis

**Jack Scott**

Lynne Scott

**Jacob Olivas**

Heather MacNeil

**James Jackson**

Kelli Johansen

**James R. Falkenberg**

Thomas Clark

**Jared Trueba**

Rebecca Auge

**Jesse and Sherry Richardson**

James Jacobson USMC

**Jim Foley**

Susan Foley

**Joel Barkoff**

Carolsue Barkoff

**Joe Serna**

Nancy Bearce

**John Michael Baca**

Lara Barkoff

**John Michael Kincaid**

Ginger Stalker

**John Sanchez**

Theresa Sanchez

**Joseph Cotruzzola**

William Geer

**Josh Jacobs**

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**Mike, Mom, Dad, and Julia Marie**  
M.A. Romero

**My Adoptive Father**  
Bree Morena de Santos

**My Mom**  
Robin Niklinski

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**Silvio Dell `Angela**  
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**Stew Reinhold**  
Norma McLaughlin

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Bill Ludeke

**Susan Rose**  
Anne Rose

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Sarah Toso Geuder

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John Topolski

**William Bowers and Ryan Bowers**  
Amy Bowers

**Zacharay Blanchard, Ashley Zangara,  
and Connor Porter**  
Trish Porter-Topmiller

## 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

**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**  
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**Chelly Weiss**  
Linda Orell

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Louise Firestone

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M. R. Hofer

**Kristin Richter**  
Mary Steele

**Ryan Centerwall**  
Meghan Basso

**Helen Muller**  
Michael Flax M.D.

**Susan Lucas**  
Miryam 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**  
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*Save the Date* ♥ *Feb. 2, 2024*

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.



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