



# CREATING HOPE

FOR 25 YEARS

New Hope for Kids  
2021 Annual Report



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### Looking back with gratitude and looking forward with optimism.

One of the things that has been proven to make a difference in our quality of life is an “attitude of gratitude.” Intentionally finding things to be thankful for shows us there is light to be found, even in dark times.

Looking back on 2021, reasons to be grateful were all around us. Even though Covid-19 affected the budgets of many households and businesses, the generosity of our community continued to bless us financially. Volunteers remained loyal, helping in whatever ways they could. Progress was made on important projects. Our biggest fundraisers of the year, Art of the Vine, and our BMW drawing of chance were incredibly successful, in spite of the pandemic’s trail of disruption.

We were reminded of the importance of our mission each time a parent asked for our help with their child. Grieving families affected by Covid-19 came to us, and we were honored to provide the meaningful support they needed. Zoom allowed us to continue providing children and adults a way to connect with others for support group meetings. Creative ways were found to hold gatherings at our facility, allowing grief and wish families to safely drive through and receive fun crafts and treats during special times throughout the year.

Yes, we do miss pre-Covid days, but we know there is a lot to be thankful for every day. We’re looking forward to 2022 with an enormous amount of optimism. And that hope is built on the confidence that our community will help us remain strong for all who need us in the coming year and beyond.

**Dave Joswick**  
Executive Director



# About Us

Since 1996, New Hope for Kids has been helping Central Florida children in need. Our purpose is to bring hope, healing and happiness to children and families suffering from grief, loss or life-threatening illnesses. New Hope for Kids achieves this through two programs:

The **Center for Grieving Children** helps children and families cope with the feelings of grief and loss after the death of a loved one.

**Wishes for Kids** grants wishes to children up to the age 19, diagnosed with a life-threatening illness.

Funding comes primarily through charitable donations by individuals, corporations, foundations and community service organizations in Central Florida. No funding is received from government agencies. We currently do not receive government funding. New Hope for Kids is a registered 501(c)(3) organization.

New Hope for Kids is governed by a volunteer board of directors from the Central Florida community. David C. Joswick, serves as the Executive Director. He is known in the Central Florida community as an advocate of children, focusing on the difficulties associated with grief and loss.



**New Hope for Kids mission is to support children and families grieving the death of a loved one and to grant wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses in Central Florida**



# DIVERSITY EQUITY INCLUSION



“We’ve been through a lot as individuals and as a community over the last 12 to 15 months. One of the issues we’re all facing as we move forward is ensuring we give far greater attention to creating spaces and opportunities welcoming to people of all colors, ethnicities, races, religions, genders, and orientations. To that end, New Hope for Kids has created a diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiative. Spearheaded by board member Barbara Peckett, the DEI committee is setting us on a journey towards becoming an organization, at all levels, that reflects the diverse community we serve.

## We are proud to share with you the New Hope for Kids Formal Statement on **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

The mission of New Hope for Kids is to support children and families grieving the death of a loved one and to grant wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses in Central Florida.

**We recognize** that each person’s life experiences are influenced by their personal identity and their interactions with others.

**We understand** the importance of maintaining knowledge of and sensitivity to the impact of race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, physical disability, and more on staff, volunteers, associates, and the children and families encompassed within our organization.

**We embrace** the differences of each person, as these differences make us better as a whole.

**We acknowledge** that Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are required in order for the hope we offer to be accepted and integrated into the lives of those we encounter.

New Hope for Kids pledges to build a culture where diversity, equity, and inclusiveness is more than a statement. It is embedded in all aspects of our operations, programs, policies, and procedures.

**We support** an inclusive environment where ALL feel empowered to share their experiences and ideas.”

**Geo Morales**  
Board Chair





# OUR GRIEF PROGRAM

New Hope for Kids' Grief Support Program provides a safe and supportive environment where children grieving the death of a loved one can share their experience with others facing the same feelings of loss. Offering a unique opportunity for children to begin and continue their grief journey, New Hope for Kids strives to provide our families with hope, healing and renewal.

We also extend support for the entire family through parent support groups, community awareness projects, information and referral services, as well as family events and summer camps throughout the year.



## Little's Groups

Ages 3 to 6



## Middle's Groups

Ages 7 to 12



## Teens Groups

Ages 13 to 18



## Parent Groups

## WHAT ARE NEW HOPE FOR KIDS VIRTUAL GROUPS LIKE?

With our world going virtual in so many ways during the pandemic, you may have wondered how this affected the experiences of children and families attending New Hope for Kids grief support groups. A handful of kids in one of our younger groups recently shared their feelings about it, and we wanted to pass along their observations to you!

Being here [in virtual group] is helping me A LOT! I get to be with other kids, and I get help to go through this. And I really, really like the coloring activities. All of the coloring activities



John, 7 years old

## YOUNG ADULT PROGRAM

An atmosphere of compassion and confidentiality allows young adults ages 19-25 to become empowered and equipped with tools that will help them journey through the grief process.

This safe virtual setting is designed to provide young adults with an environment where they will be supported by peers and given the opportunity to participate in conversations to help them heal and adjust to their new normal.

Journey to Hope offers a place to express feelings and concerns, to ask questions, and to learn ways to better manage the stress and sadness of grief alongside other young adults with similar experiences.



# HOW WE GRANT WISHES FOR KIDS

In 1985 the Children's Wish Program was founded as a not-for-profit charity and is the longest running wish program in Central Florida. Children's Wish was created to provide hope and a once in a lifetime experience to children fighting a life-threatening illness. New Hope for Kids Wishes for Kids Program continues the legacy by providing wishes for children that other organizations, in the Central Florida area, are not able to serve.

Wishes for Kids grants wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses who have not yet reached their 19th birthday nor had a wish previously granted. A life-threatening illness is defined by New Hope for Kids as any illness which will in all likelihood shorten the child's full life expectancy.

Although the Wishes for Kids Program is not able to cure the life-threatening illnesses of their wish children, it is proud to grant wishes and go beyond the wish - offering support, resources and community for these special families. New Hope for Kids Wishes for Kids Program uses it's resources to lighten the burden for the wish child and their families and strives to improve the quality of time remaining in the child's life.

Unlike other wish-granting organizations, Wishes for Kids is not affiliated with a national organization, but is an independent, locally based charity that focuses on Central Florida children. That means the money that is raised by Central Florida community members goes right back into our economy.



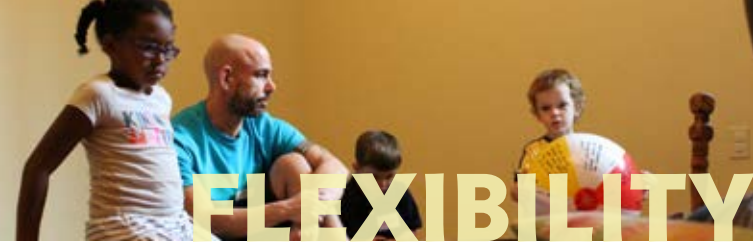
**FOCUS**

Because most of our wish recipients live in the vicinity, New Hope for Kids is able to provide additional services and support beyond the wish itself. We call ourselves the New Hope Kids Family, because we join together for regular activities to have fun, share resources and provide emotional support. These activities are designed to prevent the isolation and sense of hopelessness that often accompanies grief and illness. Families help each other while forming lasting relationships.



**FOLLOW-UP**

New Hope for Kids is able to meet a wide spectrum of needs through wishes and community resources. We follow guidelines, but consider each wish on a case-by-case basis to ensure that the child's best interests are being met.



**FLEXIBILITY**



## Mason's Wish

"It was so nice to spend time together we had so much fun!!! Thank you for everything! We loved Give Kids The World and the kids ate ice cream everyday. They rode the carousel everyday too, everyone was so sweet!" -Mason's Mom



## Declan's Wish



Look at the smile on Declan's face! He had an amazing time at the Universal Studios Theme Parks. Declan's wish was for an annual pass so he could enjoy the thrill of the theme parks all year long.

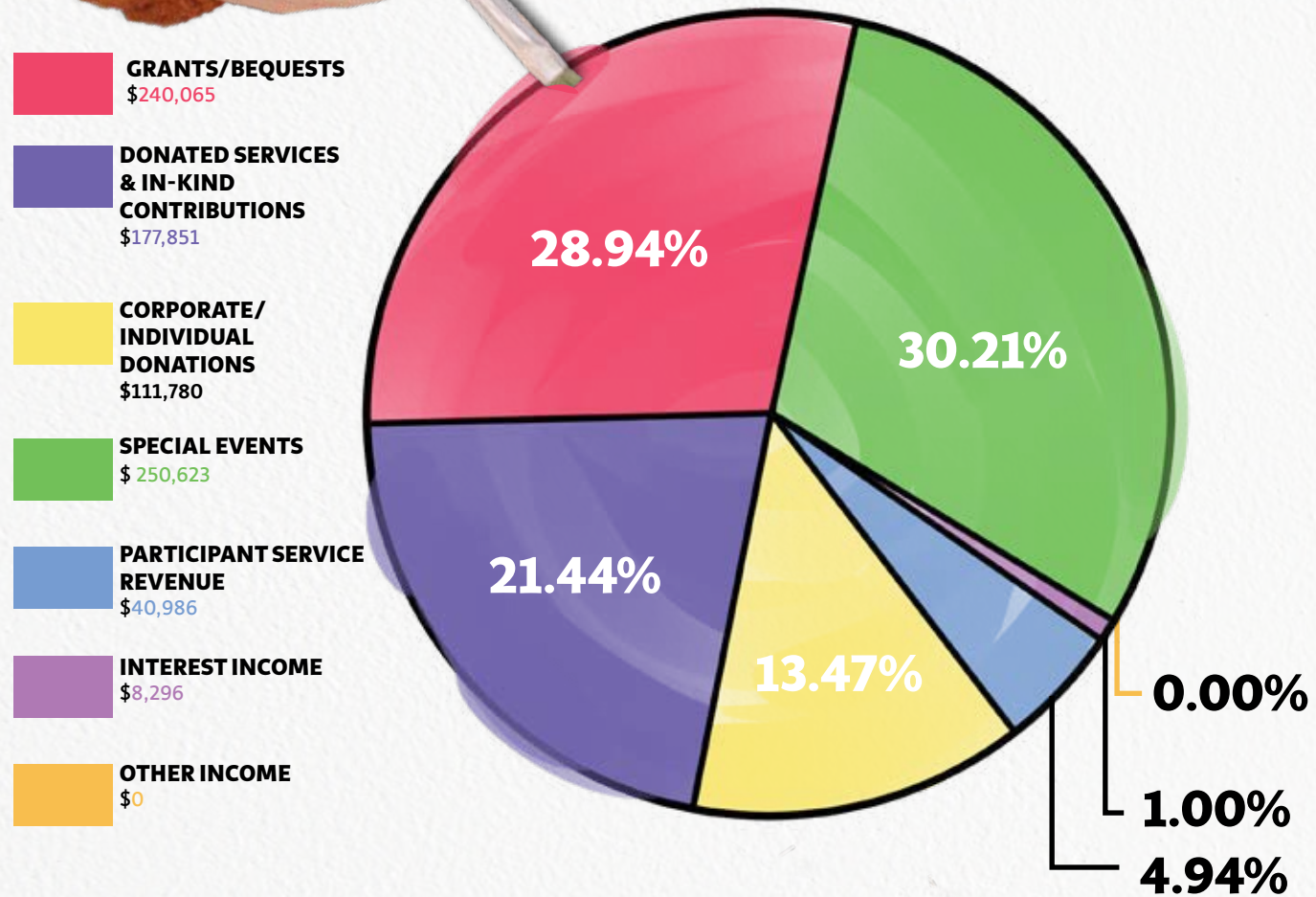
**20**  
Wishes  
Granted

**5**  
Types of  
Wishes



Name: New Hope For Kids

Subject: FINANCIAL SUMMARY



New Hope for Kids has one of the highest efficacy rates of non-profits in the area.

**Over 90% of our aggregate revenue goes directly to program services.**

In comparison, many major national non-profits only send 70-80% of their revenue to their programs, with the rest going to administrative costs. In other words, every dollar you donate to New Hope for Kids makes a real difference in the lives of Central Florida's children.

Revenue	\$829,601
Expenses	\$1,084,297
Difference	-\$254,696*

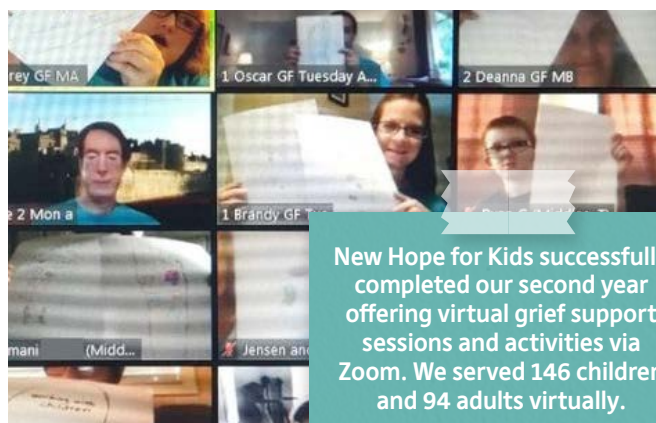
\* Surplus from 2020 was allocated to 2021 program and service expenses in light of the decline in donations due to Covid-19 impacts on the community. As such, New Hope for Kids was able to provide the same level of programs and services during the year.



# MILESTONES



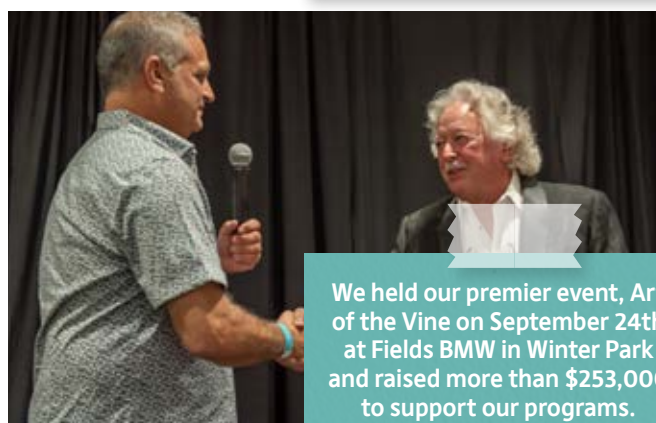
New Hope for Kids formed a DEI committee comprised of staff, board members and clients to study and improve diversity in our organization through policy initiatives.



New Hope for Kids successfully completed our second year offering virtual grief support sessions and activities via Zoom. We served 146 children and 94 adults virtually.



New Hope for Kids held our 2nd annual virtual Fun Run from July 17-24th with a live component for children attending our programs.



We held our premier event, Art of the Vine on September 24th at Fields BMW in Winter Park and raised more than \$253,000 to support our programs.



We raised total revenues of \$829,601 through grants, individual giving, fundraising events and service organization in 2021. These funds supported our children's programs and contributed to our success.



New Hope for Kids held its annual toy drive in December. 2578 were collected and were distributed to 362 children or stored in our Birthday Room for children attending our programs throughout the year.

## Giving Tuesday Garden of Hope

New Hope for Kids offers a unique and much-needed service: support for children, young adults, and parents who are grieving the death of a loved one due to illness, accident, suicide or homicide. Sadly, we have seen our enrollment continually increase as families experience COVID19 -related deaths of parents, grandparents and other loved ones.

Your donation will help us reach more children and families in need of services this holiday season and beyond. Every hour that a grieving child spends receiving support at New Hope for Kids increases their resiliency and gives them tools to utilize now and well into the future.

November 30th was Giving Tuesday, a day for providing a meaningful gift that will keep on giving. In 2021 we focused our Giving Tuesday efforts on our newest project: The Garden of Hope. It needs help to grow! This unique space will offer a wide variety of opportunities for grieving children and adults to experience nature through peaceful moments spent together in the garden as well as building new friendships with others who are grieving.

Tending to plants, honoring loved ones, playing games, and sharing feelings...these things and more will be experienced in the Garden of Hope. The colorful environment will lift grieving hearts. The sound of play will be life-affirming for all who hear it. The healing effects fill the senses with the smell of flowers and healthy soil, the taste of harvested fruits and vegetables, and the feel of the sun and fresh air on the faces of all who step into the garden. All senses will participate within the boundaries of this special place.

Will you help us encourage hope to grow in the lives of grieving children?





**\$253,000**  
**RAISED**

On Friday September 24th, New Hope for Kids celebrated its 20th Annual Art of the Vine in style at the newly renovated Fields BMW Winter Park dealership. Two other significant milestones were also celebrated: the 50th anniversary of Fields Auto Group, and the 25th year of New Hope for Kids. The success of this annual event is critical as funds raised contribute to New Hope fulfilling its mission each year. 2021 Art of the Vine was indeed a great success!

Event chair, Tony Martin, expressed his sincerest thanks to guests and donors who helped make this 20th year so special, including John Mantione and the Fields Auto Group whose longstanding generosity and support have made all 20 years of Art of the Vine possible. Tony reminds us: we do this for the kids! And this year's very successful Art of the Vine ensures the kids who need New Hope for Kids support will continue to receive it.



## EVENTS

### Oh So Many Valentines

The unexpected challenges we faced last year showed us that New Hope for Kids is strong, determined, and has a solid foundation. Weathering a storm like 2020 could have knocked us down, but it did not.

We can't tell you how grateful we are to those who stepped forward with their support during such a trying time. We know that many businesses and families were financially affected last year, and yet you still found a way to share what you had with us. We cannot say it enough... we are thankful for you, and we remember your generosity every time we help a child who comes to us looking for hope.



### Mascot Games Virtual 5K Fun Run

We flipped the script this year and instead of fans cheering for Mascots at the Mascot Games, the Mascots cheered for runners on their 5K adventures! The Mascot Games Virtual 5K is the chance for your team of families, friends, co-workers and neighbors to come together with a dual purpose—to support New Hope for Kids and to stay connected with the Mascots that you know and love. Runners were able to choose any day between July 17-24 to strap on their walking or running shoes, gather their team, and follow the routes they created in their areas to show their Mascot spirit. A few teams added a fun element and had everyone dress in their favorite mascot team color: red, blue, yellow and green!





# MEET OUR STAFF

Pictured from left to right  
 Dana Duffie, Gloria Capozzi, Marla Sullivan,  
 Niahm Creasey, Tezmon Oehler, Rhonda Schuh,  
 Tamari Miller, Dave Joswick  
 Missing: Rebecca Young

## Board of Directors

New Hope for Kids is governed by a volunteer board of directors from the Central Florida community.

### Geo Morales

*Chair*, Orlando Health

### Chris Tribbey

*Treasurer*, Ball Janik LLP

### Barbara Packett

*Secretary*, iHeartMedia, retired

### Anthony Martin

*Past Co-Chair*, Victoria Equities

### Pat Michaels

*Past Chair*, OneBlood

### Dave Joswick

*Executive Director*, New Hope for Kids

### J. Gordon Arkin

*Director*, Foley & Lardner, retired partner

### Wendy Connor

*Director*, TRUE Marketing

### Steven Engel

*Director*, Congregation of Reform Judaism

### Laura Fernandez Wooten

*Director*, Orlando Sentinel, retired

### James Gallagher

*Director*, Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits

### Ian Gesundheit

*Director*, Orange County Public Schools

### Brian Gruber

*Director*, Bank of America

### Todd Husty

*Past Co-Chair*, Physician

### Brian Nobie

*Director*, Florida Emergency Physicians/TeamHealth

### Dominic Nori

*Director*, Central Parc Group

### Elena Pathak

*Director*, KTH Architects

### Pam Saffran

*Director*, Licensed Mental Health Counselor

### Elizabeth Schneider

*Director*, GRB Enterprises, INC

### Sarah Sequenzia

*Director*, Amaryllis Cremation

### John Soapes

*Director*, WESH 2 TV

### Scott Sutherland

*Director*, AdventHealth

## Directors Emeritus

### Ruby Homyssi

*United States Navy, Ret.*

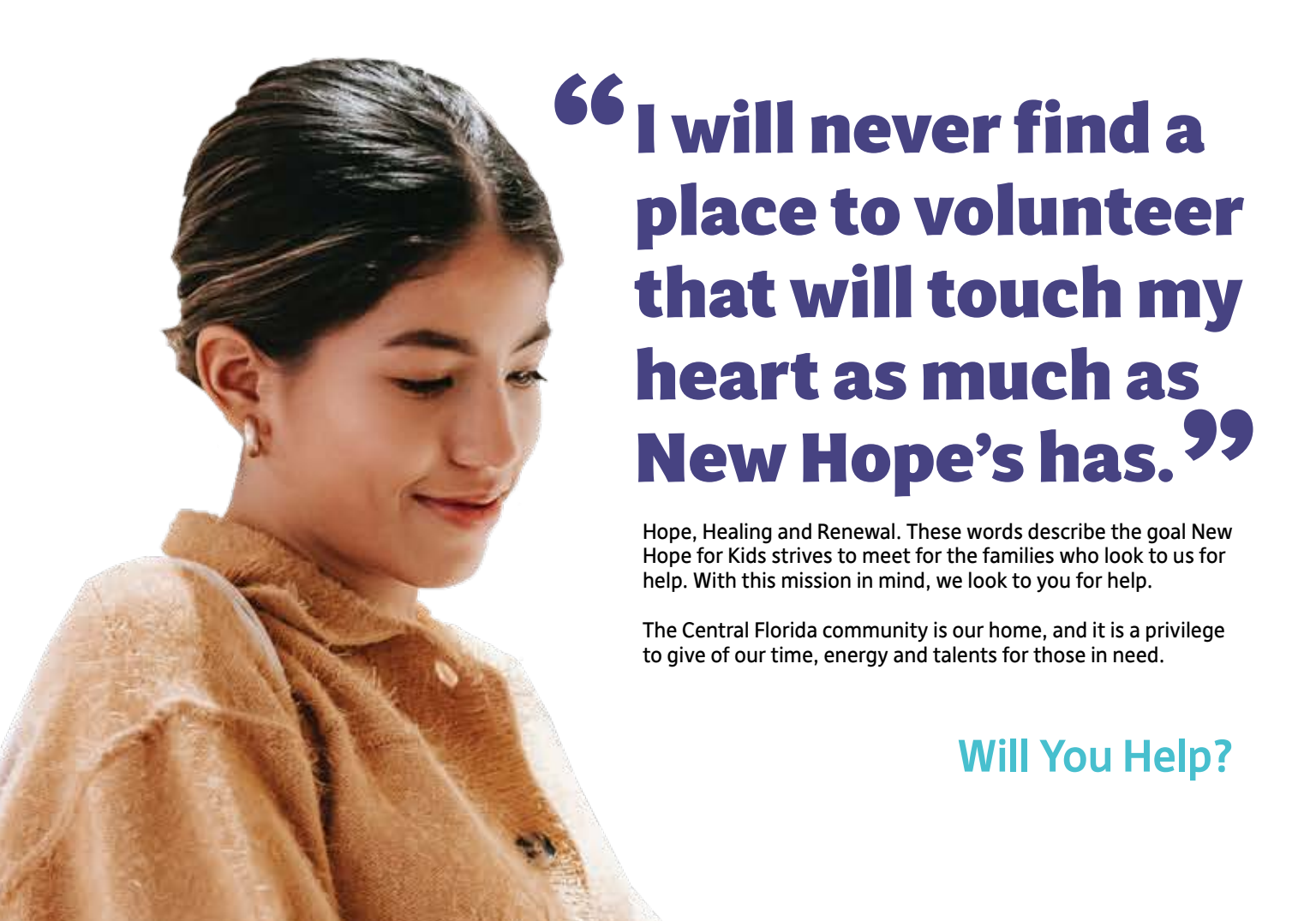
### John Mantione

*Fields BMW*

### Andrew McEachron

*Retired Developer*





**“I will never find a place to volunteer that will touch my heart as much as New Hope’s has.”**

Hope, Healing and Renewal. These words describe the goal New Hope for Kids strives to meet for the families who look to us for help. With this mission in mind, we look to you for help.

The Central Florida community is our home, and it is a privilege to give of our time, energy and talents for those in need.

**Will You Help?**



**4786**

**Total Miles**



**723**

**Passionate Volunteers**



**5610**

**Total Hours**

We could not exist without our amazing family of volunteers who come from all walks of life. They donate valuable time, energy and talent in a myriad of ways that reflect their personal skills and gifts. Our needs exceed our supply of volunteers, though.

**FIND OUT MORE**

<https://newhopeforkids.org/ways/volunteer/>





# CREATE HOPE WITH US

## Donate

New Hope for Kids is funded through charitable donations by individuals, corporations, foundations and community service organizations throughout Central Florida.

We also look for help to provide products or services to New Hope for Kids, such as printing, lawn care, house maintenance and repairs, etc. or from a list of our most frequently needed items.

For more information on other types of funding contact our Development Director, Marla Sullivan, at 407-331-3059 x12 or marla@newhopeforkids.org.

## Make a Wish Come True

Anyone can be a part of a New Hope for Kids wish through fund raising, donations or by sponsoring or hosting a wish. Visit <http://newhopeforkids.org/wishes-kids/> or call Tezmon Oehler at 407-331-3059 x14.

## Refer a Family

Help New Hope for Kids spread the word! If you hear of a child who has experienced the death of someone close to them, or know of a child between the ages of 3 and 18 who might qualify for a wish, tell their parent or caregiver about New Hope for Kids. Let them know about our website, or share our phone numbers or brochure with them.

## Sponsor a Grieving Child

It costs approximately \$1,000 for one child to participate in our grief program for one year. Many families who attend have more than one child in our program and are often in financial distress because of medical bills or loss of income. New Hope for Kids does not require any family to pay for services, although some make donations when they are able. You can help in the healing process by sponsoring a grieving child or family.

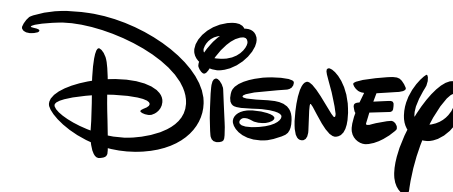
## Become a Grief Facilitator

The children who attend the Center for Grieving Children are guided along the path of healing by trained facilitators. You can be a part of this journey by volunteering as a trained grief facilitator and experience the fulfillment of helping children find ways to cope with their grief and move towards hope, healing and happiness. Call 407-331-3059 x15 to find out about our training schedule.

There are so many ways in which we welcome your help!

Visit <https://newhopeforkids.org/ways/>

# THANK YOU! to our proud SPONSORS





**“ Memories are like  
creating a masterpiece.  
Sometimes things get a  
little chaotic and messy,  
but the end result is  
breathtaking.”**

*- Anonymous*

## Contact Us

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[information@newhopeforkids.org](mailto:information@newhopeforkids.org)

