





GRANTING WISHES
FOR CHRONICALLY
AND SERIOUSLY ILL
CHILDREN IN NH

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HIGH HOPES

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www.HighHopesFoundation.org

301 Daniel Webster HWY Merrimack, NH 03054

Spring / Summer 2011 Newsletter

Spring is the season of re-birth and hope. As parents, we hope that when our children are born, they will be healthy. As our children start to walk, we hope they do not hurt themselves. As they enter the first grade we hope there will not be any learning disabilities and their love for learning will be strong. Hope and lots of prayers get us through the teenage years. Some parents do not get the opportunity to hope or dream as their children have been diagnosed with a debilitating birth defect or disease. For those parents, there is no 'spring'. There is just a 'long winter' with moments of intermittent sunshine. When you cannot hope for your children, you start to wish.

The High Hopes Foundation of New Hampshire, established in 1983, is committed to making those wishes come true. Wishes granted to- date...nearly 550! Since January, we've granted two wishes - a wheelchair lift, and a trip to Disney World to see the princesses. We currently have ten (10) wishes 'on the books'. We will need to generate at least \$50,000 to fulfill these wish requests, but keep in mind, it's only April! We are sure there will be other wish requests requiring at least \$5,000 per request.

In May we celebrate Mother's Day and in June we celebrate Father's Day. It is our hope that you will realize your good fortune, as you do have hope for your children and that you are grateful you are not 'wishing' for hope. Please consider sharing a bit of your good fortune by either volunteering your time for some fund-raisers, or making a donation so that parents who have lost hope may provide wishes for their children with the help of the High Hopes Foundation of New Hampshire.

~Angela Roberge, President

2011 Wishes, so far....



"Skyler woke up every day with a smile and went to bed every night with a smile!"

~Beverly Tarmey, Mom

Skyler Tarmey's Wish has been to meet the Princesses of Disney for over four years. This past April, she was able to do just that. Skyler and her family were invited to stay at 'Give Kids the World' for a week of magic. Skyler is pictured to above with her favorite Princess Ariel!



Tanner Brand's Wish was to get an adaptive van that gives him more freedom to get around and keep up with his active family. Thank you to Ride-Away Equipment for assisting with Tanner's wish! Tanner is pictured below with his mom Donna, sister Ashley and brother Hayden and Wish Manager Anne Winn.



"I am able to take Tanner out on my own."

~Donna Brand, Mom

New Office Manager- Karin Whitford



Jonathan Dube and Karin Whitford

On April 25th, Karin Whitford was named our new Office Manager. Karin resides in Nashua with Jonathan Dube. They are currently renovating a home they recently purchased and are looking forward to the day they can move in. When Karin isn't renovating her new house or working at the High Hopes office she is also a volunteer at the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester as a docent.

"What drew me to this position was the ability to make a difference in someone's life." In addition to her office duties, Karin will be representing High Hopes at community outreach events. In her short time with the organization, Karin has established a relationship with the Red Coat Rally who have selected the High Hopes as their beneficiary for their upcoming "Ride with Friends for Charity" event. This event, in past years, has raised over \$8,000 for their selected charity. She is already making a difference!

Please feel free to call or meet with Karin and welcome her to the organization. Karin is also a Notary Public. The office hours are: Monday and Wednesday 9am-4pm and Friday 9am-3pm.

~~ In Memoriam: Dakota Dumas July 8, 1991 - April 23, 2011 ~~

~~~~~ High Hopes wish recipient 2010 ~~~~~

Do you shop on-line? Do you want to help the High Hopes Foundation without spending a dime? Next time you are shopping on-line, go to <http://www.highhopes.mallofgiving.com> and shop at any of the stores listed and percentage of the sale will go to High Hopes. You will have helped our organization with the click of a mouse. Please share this with your friends!

Our Mission has always been to grant the wishes of NH's seriously ill children. Over the years we have helped dreams come true for roughly 550 children, but we haven't done it without help. We have had help from community partners since the first Balloon Festival and even before hand. Help from people like the Chappell Family of Milford, companies like Hampshire Hills, and organizations like the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce.

One of those organizations is British Cars of New Hampshire (BCNH). The BCNH started with a small car show at the Balloon Festival many years ago. While the Festival is in the past, BCNH is alive and strong and now has a two day event in Wolfeboro all to support High Hopes. They are not alone. Many have worked over the years to support us as hosts, sponsors and volunteers.

Companies like Shaw's in Merrimack that have the Shaw's Family Fun Fest every year or the Independent Karate

School are kind enough to host demonstrations by working together to make possible our first Fall Festival in 2010. As many know, Sarge Thibodeau and Bruce McComish started the High Hopes Golf Tournament 20 years ago and have had the help of many sponsors such as All-Metals, Ameriprise, and Olympia Sports. Let's not forget organizations like the US Marine Riders, the Manchester Motorcycle club, and the NAM Knight club that make our Poker Run such a success. In addition they come and support us by going to breakfast fundraisers hosted by the Free-Mason's of Milford or Bob's Pizza of Nashua. We also can't forget that many companies are like family and welcome us into their businesses for mutual support. Most notably are Lisa & Steve Hardy with Strikers East in Raymond who have held a 3 day bowling tournament every year for us with the full support of their staff for the past nine years.

~ Alina Karle, Director of Fund-raising

*Thank you to all of the companies, organizations, and people that have supported us through out the past 30 years.*

Airmar  
All-Metals  
American Legion Post 8  
American Steel Erectors  
Authur Murry Dance Studio  
BAE  
BCNH  
Belletetes  
Ben Franklin's Crafts  
Bob's Pizza  
Boot Scootin' Boomers  
Bradley Jackson Excavating  
Budweiser  
Buzz Durkin's Karate School  
Casington & Leach  
Chappells, The  
Cirtronics Corporation  
Citizen's Bank  
Cholesterol Consultants of NH, LLC  
Crotched Mountain Golf Club  
Cruz'n Knights Car Club  
D.D. Bean & Son's  
Dan's Floor Store  
Davis & Towel Insurance  
Degree Controls  
Delta Dental of NH  
Delta Pilots

Donovan Spring Company Inc.  
Eric Folia - Ameriprise  
Fisher cats, The  
Florence's Restaurant  
Fratello's  
Free Mason's of Milford  
GenCorp Foundation  
Granite Industrial Glass  
Hayden Family Foundation  
Hampshire Hills  
Hannaford Supermarkets  
Han-Son Construction Company  
Harris Pelham Inn  
Hudson Cycle  
Impact Science & Technology  
Independent Karate School  
Innovations Hair Studio  
Interactive Digital Workshop  
International Chemical Workers Union  
Irving Gasoline  
James Masticola Elementary School  
K.A. Electric  
Knights of Columbus  
Lakes Region Big Band  
Law Office of Wyskiel, Boc & Tillinghast, PA  
Lord Abbet Funds

Lucent Technologies  
Manchester Motorcycle Club  
Merrimack Chamber  
Merrimack Street Volvo  
Merrimack Street Garage  
Metherson Companies Paving  
Millard Group  
Nam Knights  
Napa Auto Parts  
New England Imprints  
Newport Country Club  
NHBB  
Nixon  
Ocean Bank  
Olympia Sports  
Palace Theater, The  
Partner's in Health  
PC Connections  
Pecor Pest Control  
Peterborough Basket Company  
Peterborough Oil Company  
Peter's Auto Center  
Raiche Manning  
Reynolds Construction  
Ride Away Equipment Corp.  
Right Option Realty  
Roy A. Hunt Foundation, The

Saint-Gobain Industrial Ceramics  
SDE Inc.  
Shaw's Supermarket  
Souhegan Valley Chamber  
Southern NH Medical Center  
Southwest Airlines  
Sparton Technology  
Steven's Foreign Auto Service  
Stonebridge Country Club  
Striker's East  
T-Bones  
Town of Merrimack  
Twins Smoke Shop  
UBS Financial  
UPS  
US Marine Riders  
USA Golf  
Valley Automotive & Tire Center Inc.  
Veloce Imports  
VFW Hudson  
W.P. Carey  
Wal-Mart  
Wichendon School Golf Club  
WMUR-TV

## New Partnerships

### Get your engines started!!!

Northeast Performance Diesel of Milford, NH has invited High Hopes to attend their open house on May 21 and 22. They are holding a 50/50 raffle and High Hopes will be the benefactor! Northeast Proformance Diesel is located at 61 North River Road Milford, NH. For more information see their website [www.northeastperformediesel.com](http://www.northeastperformediesel.com) or call the shop at 603-878-6000. Our thanks to Northeast Performance Diesel for your kindness.

### High Hopes Foundation and One More Referral - Connect

High Hopes has been selected as the Community Service Partner recipient of the One More Referral organization for 2011. One More Referral is a business networking organization that has locations in the Portsmouth and Manchester areas. We thank One More Referral and their membership. Your generosity are appreciated. For more information about OMR, contact Melissa Lesniak, [mlesniak@kw.com](mailto:mlesniak@kw.com).

### The Red Coats are coming!!!

A special thank you to the Red Coat Rally for choosing High Hopes as the benefactor for their 2011 donation! The Red Coats "ride with friends for charity," was held on June 4th. About 40 bikes showed up on the windy Saturday morning for a weekend of fun, while helping High Hopes raise funds. The is ride 200+ miles in two days. For more information please email Jim Ford at [jford@sunnen.com](mailto:jford@sunnen.com) or call 603-203-8700. Way to go Jim and Lisa Ford and all their biker buddies!

### 3 Year Annual Report for High Hopes

In recent years, the nonprofit landscape has seen some changes, and with those changes, more challenges have arisen. The economic downturn has had a significant effect on charitable contributions from NH families, and as a result, High Hopes has experienced some rather rough years of financial performance.

#### High Hopes Annual Report - 3 year trend

In spite of the net losses experienced in recent years, our cash position remains very strong. Over the years, we have built up a reserve of liquid assets and long term cash equivalents to protect the foundation against 'down years' and ensure that we can continue our valuable service to NH's children. For the fiscal years ending 8/31/09 and 8/31/10, our cash position totaled approximately 166.0K and 152.2K respectively.

The change in economic outlook has had the biggest impact for High Hopes in the donations category, with charitable contributions being less of a consideration for most NH families. We have taken steps to control our expenses in these recent years by moving to a new, smaller facility and scaling back our need for paid employees, lowering overhead costs.

We explored some new options for fundraising events in Fiscal year 2010, and we anticipate tighter control over such expenses in coming years. One metric that we remain committed to constantly improving is that of our wish percentages (the total amount of money spent on wishes compared to other expenditures).

To meet our financial objectives, we need your help! Spreading the word to your contacts, your employers and your families helps a great deal. We will improve our revenues, we will control our costs, and we will commit as many pennies on the dollar directly toward impacting the lives of NH's special children.

~ Jeff Maistrosky, Treasurer

| (\$ K)                                          | Fiscal Year ending<br>Aug 31, 2008 | Fiscal Year ending<br>Aug 31, 2009 | Fiscal Year ending<br>Aug 31, 2010 |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                                   |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| Donations                                       | 25.0                               | 22.0                               | 8.5                                |
| Fund-raising                                    | 40.0                               | 32.1                               | 39.1                               |
| Grants                                          | 5.0                                | 5.1                                | 4.0                                |
| Other Income                                    | 7.4                                | 5.1                                | 2.9                                |
|                                                 | <b>\$ 77.4</b>                     | <b>\$ 64.3</b>                     | <b>\$ 54.5</b>                     |
| <b>Expense</b>                                  |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| Administrative                                  | 67.4                               | 34.7                               | 35.7                               |
| Fund-raising                                    | 6.4                                | 6.7                                | 12.5                               |
| Wishes                                          | 21.8                               | 28.2                               | 15.4                               |
| Other Expense                                   | 7.8                                | 6.2                                | 4.6                                |
|                                                 | <b>\$ 103.4</b>                    | <b>\$ 75.8</b>                     | <b>\$ 68.2</b>                     |
| <b>Net Income (Loss)</b>                        | <b>\$ (26.0)</b>                   | <b>\$ (11.5)</b>                   | <b>\$ (13.7)</b>                   |
| <b>Percentage of Expenses related to wishes</b> | <b>21.1%</b>                       | <b>37.2%</b>                       | <b>22.6%</b>                       |
| <b>Wish Expense (% of Total Income)</b>         | <b>28.2%</b>                       | <b>43.9%</b>                       | <b>28.3%</b>                       |

### Whatever Happened To The Balloon Festival???

The last Balloon Festival was in June 2006 and was held in Merrimack, NH. The following were some of the reasons we decided to end the fundraiser:

- The weather during that weekend proved to be incompatible with flying balloons. Windy and rainy weather keeps customers away.
- The event had grown so large that it needed to be relocated from its original spot in Milford to Merrimack. The fees for services grew exponentially to the point where it was no longer profitable.
- This event was labor intensive. It took about 20 volunteers one week prior to the event to set up and one week to breakdown. It took the coordination of many, many outside organizations and year long planning to make this happen.
- One of the biggest deterrents was the down-turn in the economy.

**We would love to entertain the idea of bringing back the Balloon Festival, but we need volunteers! Lots and lots of volunteers! Won't you join today?**



**"Why I Volunteer"** ~ Submitted by Donna Ducharme

I do not have children, but I feel that they are the most important gift in life. I have been looking at different charity organizations thinking that it's time to devote time to one. I chose High Hopes because of the children and believe that I can make a difference.

**Independent Karate School Students Volunteer for High Hopes** ~ Submitted by Jeff Maistrosky

Special thanks to IKS students Hannah St. George, Savannah Nguyen, Andrew Berry, Matt Correia and Anna Correia. These five students recently spent a good deal of time helping to organize a mountain of documents and files for High Hopes. The IKS is a sister organization of High Hopes and keeping these documents in order and easily accessible is critical for us to continue granting wishes and raising spirits of NH's chronically and seriously ill children. Once again, IKS volunteers go the extra mile to support the community. Way to go, all of you!

**"Why I Volunteer"**

~by Alina Karle

I hadn't thought about volunteering, I was always too focused on work, but I was soon recruited by a family member that has volunteered with High Hopes for many years, so I went because I felt I had a legacy to uphold. However, when I started I knew I had found the right place. The people here are upbeat, positive and caring but also have a drive to see wishes granted. I look forward to each meeting as it brightens a bad day and makes a good day even better.

Most of all I enjoy seeing the goal reached and the lives of children made a bit happier. Every chance I get to go to an event to volunteer, or a meeting to get updates on the wishes we granted. If you are thinking of volunteering, please come for an hour and see why I love it so much.

**2011 High Hopes Foundation of New Hampshire, Inc.  
Board of Directors**

**President**, Angela Roberge  
**First Vice President**, Christine Malloy  
**Second Vice President**, Beusha Pelkey  
**Treasurer/Immediate Past President**, Jeff Maistrosky  
**Secretary**, Samita Parikh  
**Fund Raising Chair**, Alina Karle  
**Wish Manager**, Anne Winn  
**General Member**, Chris Forkey

High Hopes Foundation, Inc. 301 Daniel Webster HWY Merrimack, NH 03054

**Up Coming Events for 2011**

**June 4th-** Family Fun Fest at Shaw's in Merrimack, NH exit 11 off of Rt. 3  
10am - 4pm (Rain date 6/5/11)

**August 6th & 7th-** BCNH Show of Dreams  
Wolfeboro, NH

**August 20th-** HHF Golf Tournament  
Crotched Mtn. Frankestown, NH

**August 21-** Poker Run Hudson, NH

**October 21st -23rd-** Strikers East Pro AM  
Raymond, NH

**November** - HHF & IKS Autumn Auction  
Nashua, NH

**November 24th - December 24th-** High Hopes for the Holidays,  
Manchester & Merrimack

*For more information please call 800-639-6804 or visit our website at [www.highhopesfoundation.org](http://www.highhopesfoundation.org)*

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