



**2017**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

“Think of giving  
not only as a duty,  
but as a privilege.”

- John D. Rockefeller

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# 2017

July 2016 — June 2017

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers

Marc Lamontagne  
*President*

Tim Nelson, *RN*  
*Past President*

Dan Cote  
*Vice-President*

Open  
*Treasurer*

Megan McMahon  
*Secretary*

Adam Aucoin, *CPA*  
Diane Frenchette, *RN*  
Pamela Smith, *Esq.*  
Terry Bennett, *LCSW*

### Staff

Genevieve Gardner, *LCSW*  
*Executive Director*

Patrice Leary-Forre  
*Program Director*

Nancy Harrison  
*Community Coordinator*

Shannon Briggs  
*Community Educator*

Sheri Morrison  
*Accountant*

Kathy Angel Lee  
*Grant Writer*

# WELCOME

Kids Free to Grow is a small non-profit with a big mission: to prevent Child Abuse and neglect by empowering children and families in York County.

When looking back on the 2016-2017 school year, Kids Free to Grow worked hard. They educated over 3,000 students in local public schools in 16 towns across York County. Over 775 fifth and sixth graders were educated in “Break the Silence”. 1060 students completed “Personal Body Safety and Empathy” training and parents learned about better parenting skills through evidenced-based parenting classes and they were able to share their experiences with other parents in their communities. Kids Free to Grow participated in United Way Rallies, Hall of Flags at the State Capital, Period of Purple Crying Campaign and held a Summer Institute for professionals.

As we know, true commitment to generosity is delightful. For this reason alone, your financial investment is inspiring and worthwhile. Kids Free to Grow had another successful year of fundraising with the 22nd Bid Against Child Abuse Auction, Golf Event at the Webhannet Golf Club in Kennebunk and received donations through the annual giving campaign. They work hard with grant funders and our efforts continue to pay off. I would like to personally thank those local businesses and organizations who have gone above and beyond to support us this past year:

- Biz Compass
- Connections For Kids
- Elmina B. Sewall Foundation
- Kennebunk Savings Bank
- Maine Children’s Trust
- A Component Fund of the  
Maine Community Foundation
- Margaret E. Burnham Charitable Trust
- P & C Insurance Company
- Saco Biddeford Savings Institute
- Sam L. Cohen Foundation
- United Way of York County
- The Virginia Hodgkins Somers Foundation

We know how to make a difference in a child’s life - through our committed supports, quality programming and a mission that is worth supporting. For this year – 2018, I encourage you to take a step back, reflect on what it means to be truly generous and think about supporting our mission. On behalf of our Board of Directors, we thank everyone who has provided Kids Free to Grow with the necessary funds to succeed with their important mission.

Regards,  
Marc Lamontagne  
*President, Board of Directors*

# OUR HISTORY

Kids Free to Grow (The York County Child Abuse Prevention Council) was established in 1978 by Marilyn Anderson, a child protective supervisor for York County at the Department of Health and Human Services. She began by going to speak at the Congregational Church in Saco, Maine. After a heartfelt speech, a group of professionals emerged that shared a similar commitment to children's safety in York County. It was then that the Child Abuse Prevention Council was established.

From 1980- 2001 the Council became incorporated and Marilyn Staples was hired as the Director. From 2001-2006 Kate Stern became Executive Director and moved the agency from the basement of a dentist office in Biddeford to its well established Kennebunk, Maine location. The Board of Directors changed from 24 members and over 80 volunteers who served on a several standing committees to a more sophisticated model of board government positions. From 2006-2008 Susan Lamb was hired and became the Executive Director where she developed Friends of Children, and other important funding resources.

Over the years, many people have worked hard to spread the mission of the council and in 2000 the name changed from York County Child Abuse Council to Kids Free to Grow. Then in 2008, Laurie DuPaul became the Executive Director until the summer 2012. Without an Executive Director for most of 2012, the committed Board of Directors stepped in to run the agency.

In 2013 Kids Free to Grow Board of Director created an innovative affiliation with Connections for Kids, a fully licensed mental health agency in South Portland, Maine and Genevieve Gardner, LCSW was named the Executive Director of both agencies. She had been Connections for Kids Executive Director for many years and was well diverse in running non-profits. This unique affiliation presented with opportunity to combine resources and create a network of strong non-profits.

In June 2016 Kids Free to Grow moved to 57 Portland Road, Suite 4, Kennebunk, Maine and continues to serve the children and families of York County with child abuse prevention education and resources.

**Mission:** To prevent child abuse and neglect by empowering children and families of York County.

# OUR PROGRAMS

Kids Free to Grow conducts educational programs in schools throughout York County. In the 2016-2017 school year our programs reached over 3,000 children, families and professionals working with children.

## PARENTING PROGRAMS

### **Community Café**

This parenting group helps parents to build protective factors, promote deep individual self-reflection and provide peer-to-peer learning.

### **Active Parenting & Parenting 0 to 5**

These Active Parenting Programs emphasize cooperation, self esteem, and responsibility and promote non-violent discipline.

### **Nurturing Parenting Program**

This parenting program is held in a group setting in which parent(s) or caregiver(s) learn and develop skills such as empathy, self worth, empowerment, roles and expectations plus discipline with dignity.

### **Supporting School Success**

This parent education program offers proven strategies and practices for supporting children through their school experience.

### **1,2,3 Magic**

1,2,3 Magic offers parents and caregivers alike a simple and gentle-but-firm approach to managing the behavior of 2 to 12-year olds.

## SCHOOL BASED PROGRAMS

### **Empathy & Healthy Relationships**

Kids Free to Grow utilizes books, video, songs, and activities to help children develop empathic skills and practices. (PRE K - GRADE 2)

### **Personal Body Safety**

Kids Free to Grow offers age appropriate educational opportunities to help young children understand personal safety. (PRE K - GRADE 4)

### **Healthy Relationships Project**

This program offers a healthy sexuality education and child abuse prevention curriculum for children. (PRE K – GRADE 8)

### **Break The Silence**

A DVD presentation in which kids speak out about abuse by telling their own stories in a video that is designed to empower students to get help for themselves or a friend in need. (GRADES 5 – 6)

### **Baby Think It Over**

Baby Think It Over uses computer simulator “babies” to assist in teaching parenting and child abuse prevention skills. (GRADES 7 – 12)

## PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

### **Strengthening Maine Families**

Child care providers learn to approach parents as the expert on their own children, to listen openly to their concerns and ideas, and to work together with parents to find answers to questions and concerns about child development.

### **Mandated Reporter Training**

We educate those who work with children about the laws regarding reporting, how to report, and why it is important to do so.

### **Summer Institute**

The Summer Institute is an intensive training that covers the topic of child abuse from a professional’s perspective.

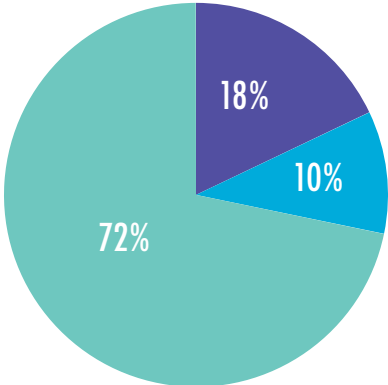
# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Grants to support our programs are becoming even more difficult to secure and United Way dollars are spread more thinly throughout the community. Ten years ago, private donations made up only 10% of the council's revenue; this year, private donations accounted for 18% of revenue.

We are working hard to continue to maximize the impact of each dollar by decreasing overhead costs and increasing the percentage of each dollar that goes to program. Operating expenses were \$224,120 for 2016-2017.

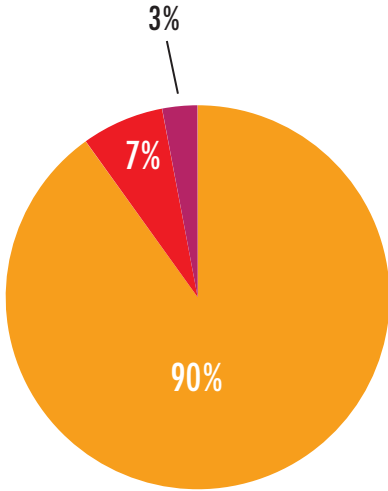
## REVENUE

● Donations Fund Raising	\$42,751
● Direct and Indirect Public Support	\$24,641
● Grants	\$171,015
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$238,407</b>



## EXPENSES

● Program Services	\$202,909
● Fund Raising	\$15,114
● Management and General	\$6,097
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$224,120</b>



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July 2016 — June 2017

## FRIENDS OF CHILDREN CIRCLE

Individuals who have committed \$1,000 or more for child abuse prevention.

Andrew & Elizabeth Mantis

## GRANTS

Elmina B. Sewall Foundation  
A Component Fund of the  
Maine Community Foundation  
Margaret E. Burnham  
Charitable Trust  
Maine Children's Trust  
Sam L. Cohen Foundation  
The Virginia Hodgkins  
Somers Foundation  
United Way of York County

# OUR DONORS

## \$500 +

Anonymous  
Baker Newman & Noyes  
BizCompass  
Guy Campbell  
Connections for Kids  
Customers of Cummings Market  
David & Claire Genest  
Ed & Linda Hodgdon  
Kennebunk Savings Bank  
Marc Lamontagne  
Andrew & Elizabeth Mantis  
P&C Insurance  
Saco & Biddeford Savings  
United Way of Greater Portland

## \$100 - \$499

Anonymous  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
Adam Aucoin  
Ralph & Suzanne Austin  
Bangor Savings Bank  
Dan & Linda Cote  
Virginia S. Crowley  
Bruce & Debbie Donath  
Robert Gowen  
Ginger Grantham  
Haley's Metal Shop  
Ken Labrecque  
Kathleen Lee  
Lincoln Financial  
Megan McMahon  
Tim & Susan Nelson  
J Douglas Saurman  
Carrie Shaw  
Spurling Training Systems  
Paul Sullivan

## \$50 - \$99

L. Dianne Barbour  
Bruce Cote & Nikki Day  
Cecile & Hobart Harnden  
William & Holly Kany  
Conner & Wendy Moore  
David & Jane Smith  
Bill Soucy  
Ann Spaulding  
Patricia Swennes

## \$1 - \$49

Kathy Barstow  
Richard Corriveau  
Anne Daly  
Christopher Gable  
Bernadette Marcotte  
Alalia Thaler  
Traip Academy  
United Way of Massachusetts Bay  
and Merrimack Valley Donors



# HONOR ROLL OF GIVING

The prevention of child abuse requires everyone's involvement. Our efforts would be impossible without the generosity of so many individuals, businesses, services organizations, schools, churches, and municipal groups. We take this opportunity to gratefully acknowledge those people who have provided in-kind contributions.

Agren Appliance  
Angel Designs  
Amtrak Downeaster  
Applebee's Restaurant  
Ralph & Suzanne Austin  
Barnacle Billy's Inc  
Big Daddy's Ice Cream  
Allison Brunette  
Cape Neddick Country Club  
Cape Porpoise Trading Company  
Carla's  
Casco Bay Lines  
Compliments Gallery  
Connections for Kids  
Cranmore Mountain Resort  
Create 2 Resonate  
Custom Built Certified Personal  
Training  
Daytrip Society  
Destination Hospitality  
Barbara Dresser  
Diane Dutremble  
Ruth Fernandez

Fleurant  
Genevieve Gardner  
Golf & Ski Warehouse  
Hackmatack Playhouse  
Hearth and Soul  
Heart's Desire  
It's a Dog's World  
Jessica Reed Designs  
Kennebunk ACE Hardware Store  
KRC - Kennebunkport Resort  
Company  
Mark Lamontagne  
Callie Lavoie  
Lincoln Financial  
Lucinda's Day Spa  
Mail-It Unlimited  
Marc Motors, Inc  
Mark Jones Photography  
Mike's Clam Shack  
Andrea Moore, Prize Candle  
Sheri Morrison  
Ogunquit Lobster Pound Restaurant  
Ogunquit Playhouse

On The Marsh Bistro  
P&C Insurance  
Pattie Locke Photography  
Pineapple Ketch  
Portland Sea Dogs  
Portland Stage Company  
Portland Symphony Orchestra  
Quest Fitness  
Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution  
Saco Valley Credit Union  
Sandbaggers  
Spurling Fitness  
Stonewall Kitchen  
Story Land  
Studios 2 Go  
Tiny Dancer's Tutus, etc.  
Vacationland Bowling Center  
Village by the Sea  
Walt Disney World  
Warren's Lobster House  
The Weathervane  
WMTW NewsChannel 8  
York's Wild Kingdom

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## SUPPORT FROM MUNICIPALITIES

Acton  
Alfred  
Arundel  
Biddeford  
Hollis  
Kennebunk  
Kennebunkport  
Lebanon  
Limerick  
Limington  
Lyman  
North Berwick  
Shapleigh  
South Berwick  
Waterboro  
Wells  
York

# OUR VOLUNTEERS

Adam Aucoin  
Terry Bennett  
Alli Brunetti  
Steve Cloutier  
Dan Cote  
Kaylee Daly  
Gregin Doxsee  
Diane Dutremble  
Josephine Ek  
Jeff Furbish  
Courtney Hebert  
Kerry Jamieson  
Marc Lamontagne  
Elise Leary-Forrey  
Meghan Mahoney  
Elias Matso  
Megan McMahan  
Tim Sevigny  
Pam Smith  
Starr Soul-Mcdonald  
Deb Sykes  
Jasmine Webber  
McArthur Library Knitting Group  
Nifty Needleworkers of the Berwick Library  
The Yard Divas of the D. A. Hurd Library  
Trafton Center Knitters  
Raw Center Knitting Group  
Dyer Library Knitting Group  
Springvale Library Knitting Group





“It’s not that successful people are givers; it is that givers are successful people.”

- Patti Thor



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[KIDSFREETOGROW.ORG](http://KIDSFREETOGROW.ORG)