



Gerard's House
...for grieving children



2017 Stewardship Report

Above: Dalia and her one-year-old baby boy Joshua having fun in the Nuestra Jornada Young Parents/Teen Mom group. Dalia and Joshua have been coming to the group since he was only few months old.

Gerard's House Mission, Basic Needs and Sustainability

Gerard's House is Santa Fe's children's grief center. When a child or teenager experiences the death of or separation from a parent or other loved one, Gerard's House is there with free grief support services. Our primary focus is Santa Fe's most vulnerable grieving youth: kids who have emigrated from violent, impoverished regions, kids who are homeless and kids who have attempted suicide. In 2017, we served 1,671 grieving children and teenagers in northern New Mexico and 361 grieving adults. Services included 28 weekly peer grief support groups, a mobile unit, suicide-prevention programs, individual sessions, summer programs and support for parents/caregivers and other adults. All services are free of charge for youth ages 3 – 21 and for their parents and caregivers. We also provide free grief support groups for adults in English and in Spanish.

Grief is tough for kids. The death of a parent, best friend, sibling or other important person is a life-changing experience. Separation is also very difficult. And it's even harder to deal with shock and grief when you don't have food, shelter or other basic needs met. So though our core mission is grief support, we also assess families in our programs for basic needs. We provide some emergency items directly (such as food, childcare, clothing, diapers and toiletries). More importantly, we connect kids and families with our collaborative partners who provide mental health needs such as family counseling and trauma treatment and ongoing basic needs such as food, housing, clothing, medical care and legal services.

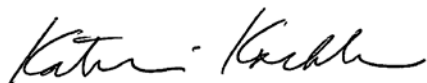
For many years, we have been expanding our services to meet pressing needs of grieving children, teenagers and families in

Santa Fe and northern New Mexico. While this steady growth has been exciting and important, it is now time for us to strengthen the foundation that will allow us to meet our community's needs into the future. This means pausing program expansion to focus on sustainability and on the infrastructure needed to support increased services and more new programs.

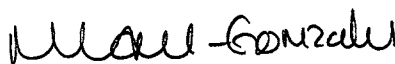
The need for our services has never been greater. We have not always met that need by caring for ourselves first. It's hard to do that sometimes when we hear the stories of kids who are on waiting lists and we know how much they could benefit from a grief support group. Our first impulse is to meet that need. But depleting ourselves and operating on the edge of our financial capacity is not the answer either.

Instead, we are now committed to putting on our oxygen masks first so that we have more breath to care for the kids we are with. You are making this possible. With your continued partnership, Gerard's House will be here for another 20 years. We have a wonderful, caring community of volunteers. Our board members and volunteers are devoted, gifted people who collectively donate thousands of hours of time each year to support grieving families. And we have an amazing staff. Each person is passionate, hard-working and beautifully suited for their positions. We are all called to do this work. Our vision is that the volunteers, staff and board will be supported and cared for and no kids will have to wait to be in a grief support group. We know we can make this vision a reality together.

Year	Gerard's House Annual Income	Total Number of Youth Served	Youth Served Through Long-Term Ongoing Grief Support	Youth Served Through Short-Term Grief Support Crisis Response
2008	\$163,267	223	124	118
2015	\$268,853	584	227	390
2017	\$354,053	1,671	526	1,099



Katrina Koehler
Executive Director



Nicole Maes-Gonzales
Associate Director



Meet Our New Board President

Imagine the person who loved and cared for you the most died. Then imagine you're a child. There can be no greater loss. Studies prove that unresolved grief in children leads to suicide, drugs and horrific life choices. Gerard's House's work saves these delicate lives and for that reason I'm so privileged to be able to donate to this caring and amazing group of people.



Board President, Rick Reider

Gerard's House Programs, All Free of Charge to Families



Nuestra Jornada (Our Journey)[†] provides weekly grief support groups for Latino immigrant students in Santa Fe schools who are grieving the death of—or separation from—a parent or other family member. This past year the Nuestra Jornada program served 230 participants through 235 support groups in 11 schools, plus 2 weekly year-round groups and summer programs at Gerard's House



Grief Connections[†] weekly peer grief support groups at Gerard's House and in schools for children and youth who have experienced the death of a parent or other loved one. Concurrent support is also provided at Gerard's House for parents and adult family members. In 2017, 37 volunteers devoted over 1,700 hours to our Grief Connections program, facilitating 199 weekly groups for 266 grieving youth and 99 weekly groups for 68 parents and caregivers. Camp Rainbow and other summer programs served 34 bereaved children and teens.



Grief support groups for adults[†] are offered year-round for all adults grieving the death of a loved one. Last year, 119 adults received grief support in weekly groups in English and Spanish.



Stepping Stones[†] mobile unit goes to the homes of children, teens and families who are coping with a life-threatening illness. The Stepping Stones team traveled 742 miles and devoted 290 hours to families in Santa Fe and northern New Mexico, providing support to 40 youth and adults in 2017.



Crisis Response services[†] respond when a youth suicide or other death affects students. In 2017, Gerard's House responded to 14 crises throughout Santa Fe and northern New Mexico and provided support to 1,253 youth and adults, often in partnership with the Postvention Team of Northern New Mexico.



Suicide-prevention[†] includes the Semicolon group, a weekly peer support group for youth who have attempted or contemplated suicide. Semicolon is a collaboration with the Sky Center/New Mexico Suicide Intervention Project. In 2017, 29 teenagers attended the group. No group members attempted suicide.



Grief support groups for homeless youth^{*} are provided on-site at two Youth Shelters and Family Services locations for children, teenagers and young adults experiencing homelessness. In 2017, 87 teenagers with unstable housing received grief support in 2017.



The Young Parents/Teen Mom Nuestra Jornada Group[†] supports young Latino parents, parents-to-be and their babies and children by meeting their basic needs and helping young parents connect with each other, share their stories and receive nurturing, support and important resources. Throughout 2017, 17 babies and 21 young parents participated in the support groups. Thousands of diapers were distributed as well as baby food and clothes.

* Mobile, †bilingual



Nuestra Jornada Director and Her Immigration Journey



Roxana with her family

My name is Roxana Melendez, I was born and raised here in Santa Fe, a daughter of immigrant parents. My mom is from Guatemala and my dad is from El Salvador. They both came to the U.S when they were only 18 and 19 years old, leaving behind the places they called home and the people they loved.

Their trips were not

easy. They both risked their lives more than once. Both had to walk through deserts for days not knowing if they would survive. What would make two teenagers endure such terrifying and difficult trips? The love for their daughters.

Although in different countries at the time, both my parents faced the same challenge: they were unable to support their children because of extreme poverty in their home countries. Moving to the United States to earn money would allow their daughters to survive. But the journey here was such a dangerous one that they decided not to risk my sisters' lives. Instead, they each made the painful choice to have family members raise their daughters while they sent money back to support them. I can't imagine having to make that choice.

My parents met here in Santa Fe. They had three children together and I am the oldest. But part of their lives remained back home. There was so much grief in my family that none of us ever understood. We only felt the effects of it. Looking back, I can see how unsupported grief impacted my parents. It came out in many different ways that were hard for all of us. For me, as I grew older, I wondered if I would ever be able to meet my two older sisters in person. Some families never get to have that reunion. But after twenty years, my parents were legally able to return to their native countries to see their daughters again and I was able to meet both of my sisters, too.

Just like many of the Nuestra Jornada participants, my family and I share a story of profound grief and loss, much of which was buried because my parents were focused on surviving and supporting their children. It wasn't until I came to Gerard's House as a volunteer that I understood the huge impact this had on my parents, my siblings and myself. It was so clear. But we never saw it. It was just a part of life and that was it. We were just trying to survive. I feel honored to now be able to provide grief and loss support to such a strong, passionate, hard-working and resilient community of children, teenagers and adults that often remind me of myself and my family.

Roxana Melendez
Nuestra Jornada Director

Donations Made in Memory of

Ana
Adilene Andujo
Pete Armijo
Mr. B
Barney
Brian
Butch
David C. Castaneda
Jessica Cessieux
Charles
John Clayton
Sappho Clayton-Racette
Angie Clifford
Mr. Coleman
Denise
Clarence Dorsett
Mary Dorsett
Tom Dorsett

Elvie Enriques
Paul Finley
Granny
Anton Gress
Harry
Jeff
Jane Koehler
Bessie Lindquist
Leonard Lindquist
Walter Lindquist
David Lloyd
Mable Lloyd
Anthony "Tony" Lopez
Richard Maes
Maggie
Mama Mia
Beverly Manzanares
Anita G. Martinez

Diego Martinez
Reyna Martinez
Richard Mobbs
Mom
Elvira Morales
Lucille Nix
Norma
Robert Ortega
Salvador Perez
Pokey
Ron Porat
Jacqueline Proulx
Ron G. Rael
Rosas Ricardo
Gloria Richard
Norman Richard
Leora Salters
Peggy Schell

Paul Schoff
Peter Sharrow
Irene Y. Silva
Karla Smail
Albert Sorenson
Andrew Sorenson
Margaret Sorenson
Damon Trujillo
Andrew Carr Uhlemann
Doris Mae Uhlemann
Herbert Max Uhlemann
Rosa Varela
Vern
Heather Vigil
Victor Villalpando
Michael Weiler
Linda Willborn

This tree is painted on the wall in our front room at Gerard's House. In 2017, volunteers and program participants purchased leaves in memory of a loved one who has died.



We want to share with you our primary funders in 2017. We thank them for their support.

GREATER THAN \$25,000

The Thomas Cannon Fund
City of Santa Fe Children and Youth
Commission
East West Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

The Brindle Foundation
CHRISTUS Health Fund
Liberty Ranch Infinite Possibilities Fund
Christus St. Vincent Regional Medical
Foundation
Doris G. Walbridge Foundation Inc.
Dorothy M. & Fred Hamilton Foundation
Teen Court of Santa Fe County
The Frost Foundation
Irene Ritter Foundation
Santa Fe Community Foundation
Gale Family Foundation
HFK Foundation
Holloway Kersting Family Fund
CHRISTUS St. Vincent Regional Medical
Center

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Evercore Foundation
David & Mary Beth Koehler
Doris Sanchez & Norman Koppel
Los Alamos National Bank
Hutton Broadcasting
Susan & Conrad DeJong Fund
Rotary Club of Santa Fe
Pearson Family Foundation
New Cycle Foundation Fund
Thornburg Charitable Foundation
W. W. Jones and Anne Jones Charitable
Trust

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Anderson Charitable Foundation
Elisabeth Bennett
Marilyn Brodie
Ark Foundation
CHRISTUS St. Vincent Regional Medical
Center
Jason Fenchuk
Kathy Fennema
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Vernon and Valerie Hamilton
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Foundation
Matthews Children's Foundation
Minneapolis Foundation
Kevin C. Myers & Sarah McGrath

Richard & Alison Reider
Rivera Family Funerals and
Cremations
Patricia Ann Rudy-Baese
Patrick Samora
Santa Maria de la Paz Catholic
Community
Nancy Schwanfelder
Joseph D. Shurbet
Dion Silva
Southwest Care Center
St. Bede's Episcopal Church
State Employees Credit Union
Statements in Tile
Sulica Fund
Janet Tellatin
Jeffrey Thomas
Margaret Thompson
Judge Michael Vigil & Carla Lopez
Wells Fargo Foundation
Sharon L. Woods
Your Song

\$500 - \$999

Roderick & Lee Berardinelli
Berardinelli Family Funeral Services
Ross Chaney
Zella Cox
Kay & Greg Croach
Thomas G. Dolan
David Griego
Patrick & Cheryl O'Rourke
Guadalupe Credit Union
Gregory Frank Harris
David & Nancy Henry
Daniel Jones
Katrina E. Koehler
Shawn McCoy
Graphic Sky Printing
McKittrick 2027 Fund
Mark Padilla
Billy Peterson
RKW Enterprises, Inc
Sherry Sullivan, CPA

\$200 - \$499

Amanda's Flower Shop
Mary Ellen Amuso
Helen C. Axton
Jillian Bartley
Kent Chou
Arturo Delgado
Daphne Dennis
Victoria Frigo

Ross Hammock
Bobbi Heller
Douglas Heller
High Hope Haven
Laura Hudman
Cameron Humphres
Sandra Ingerman
Charlotte A. Jaramillo
Patricia Johnson
Diane Karp
Annette Kelley
Kingston Residence of Santa Fe, LLC
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Gail Williams & Owen Kunkle
John R Schoemer & Maureen
McCarthy
Betty V. Montoya
Nicole Maes-Gonzales
Katy Morton
Quality Inter-Connect Systems, Inc.
Wallen Eloisa Family Fund
Rabbi Jack Shlachter
Kurt R. Stalzer
Spencer Terrell
Kim A. Uhlemann
United Way
Sheila J. Vaughn
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Josh & Jennifer Weybright
Zaplin Lampert Gallery, Inc.

Volunteers

Alex Vaz
Allyson Anaya
Ana Morelos
Andel Trujillo
Ann Beauchamp
Anthony Trujillo
Beth Clayton
Bob Dorsett
Bob Kristy
Brean Reiley
Camilla Pineda
Craig Stamm
Deidra Yearwood
Diane Fessenden
Diane Hamamoto
Dyanne Salazar
Ellen Elfriede
Emily Erwings
Emily Everhart
Francine Kern
Greg Crouch
Immelda Chavez

JJ Tellatin
Joan Zenker
Joseph McKenna
Judith Carr
Karina Castro
Kay Crouch
Kevin Myers
Laura Schoff
Lee Walters
Lisa Cat
Louisa Putnam
Mardel Trujillo
Margret Anaya
Mark Rael
Marla Nowak
Maxine Swisa
Michaelena Kyrala
Mickey Bishop
Nancy Ellin
Owen Kunkle
Raquel Koch
Richard Feldman
Richard White
Rosario Torres
Ross Chaney
Ruth Delay
Saraj Baxter
Sherry Coopwood
Stephanie Holt
Susan Feiner
Terese Sanchez
Ulrike Porat
Veronica Rigales
Virgina Dwyer
Yessica Aguiar

Board of Directors

Rick Reider, President
Richard White, Board Chair
Thomas Carr, Treasurer
Rick Berardinelli, Secretary
Arturo Delgado
Raymond Lucero
Carol Rose
Jeff Thomas
Paul Thompson

Staff

Katrina Koehler, Executive Director
Nicole Maes-Gonzales, Associate
Director
Roxana Melendez, Nuestra
Jornada Program Director
Marycruz Parra-Lozoya, Bilingual
Coordinator

2017 Financial Update and 2018 Budget

Special Events and Financial Update: On the occasion of our 20th Anniversary in 2017, we held a \$20,000 individual challenge grant and our first (and not last!) Pop Music Festival at the Eldorado Hotel on September 30th. Thanks to the support of scores of individuals, the challenge grant was a resounding success, resulting in total net income of about \$51,000. Additionally, the Pop Music Festival, under the able direction of our Chairman Richard White, exceeded our expectations in every way, netting some \$31,000. Planning for these events for 2018 is underway. These two activities were key to our financial stability throughout 2017.

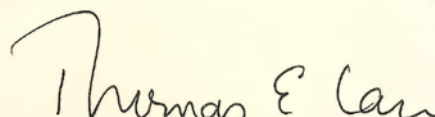
Below is a comparison of our 2017 results with the budget adopted for 2018. In order to give a valid comparison for the 2 years, we have ignored a \$25,000 contribution that was intended for 2018 but donated in 2017 for tax reasons. We have moved that \$25,000 into the budget for 2018.

SUMMARY 2017 FINANCIAL RESULTS AND 2018 BUDGET

LINE ITEM	2017	2018
INCOME:		
Unrestricted:		
Churches	\$2,050	\$3,500
Corporations	10,403	10,750
Foundations	187,473	240,000
Individuals	93,823	90,000
Subtotal: Unrestricted Contributions	\$293,749	\$319,250
Restricted:		
Churches	\$4,000	\$4,000
Corporations	7,800	0
Foundations	21,000	15,000
Governments	27,230	38,000
Subtotal: Restricted Contributions	\$60,031	\$57,000
Miscellaneous	\$273	\$1,200
TOTAL INCOME	\$354,053	\$402,450
EXPENSES:		
Personnel	\$243,991	\$282,955
Facilities	37,317	39,834
Other Operating Expenses	47,619	55,600
Special Event	17,328	22,500
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$346,255	\$400,889
NET CASH FLOW	\$7,798	\$1,561

Budget: The financial challenges we face continue to be (i) that our personnel, facilities, and other operating expenses are essentially "fixed," (ii) the continuing increases in our personnel expenses reflect the inevitable need for more paid staff that accompanies the exponential increases in both the scope and amount of services we are providing over levels as recent as 5 years ago, (iii) after years of program growth, it is time for our organization to focus on sustainability and (iv) networking and fundraising need to be more and more of a "call" upon the time of our Executive Director and Associate Director, both of whom now spend significant time providing direct services.

While at first glance it appears we are extraordinarily optimistic about increasing foundation contributions in 2018, we can identify approximately \$60,000 of increased foundation funding commitments that are virtually certain this year. So the real issue presented is whether or not we can maintain the existing foundation contribution base so that the combination of the two enables us to make our budget.


 Thomas Carr, Board Treasurer

Testimonials and Evaluation Results

Someday I would like to start an organization like Gerard's House in Mexico because I know there is a huge need for this type of support. Not long ago I found out one of my neighbors from Mexico died, they told me his children were asking where he was. His youngest daughter, after seeing his body, wanted to wake him up. Just talking about this right now I feel a knot in my throat. But even more, I want to find a way to help all these people who are in need of the support Gerard's House gives. Just like the family I was talking about, I know there are many, many more. A lot of the youth who do not know how to express what they are feeling. It's painful and difficult for them to know someone who is so important to them will no longer be there.

—Crystal Guzman, Nuestra Jornada past participant and current volunteer facilitator



Crystal Guzman volunteering in a Nuestra Jornada group

"I don't have any friends at school, only in the Nuestra Jornada group. That's why I always want to be here."

—5th grade participant when asked why she comes early to her group

2017 Grief Connections youth participants evaluation results:

71%
said they don't feel as alone.

75%
said it's easier for them to concentrate at school.

91%
said, overall the Nuestra Jornada program has helped them deal with their loss.



Bob Dorsett, PhD
Adult Grief Group Facilitator

Participation in the grief group led by Bob Dorsett has brought me deep inner healing. The group is safe place for me to express emotion related to the death of both parents, who died within 6 months of each other this past year. I have not received this kind of loving support from anyone else outside the group. Bob has been a caring and capable facilitator and I'm so grateful to him and to the support provided so that the grief group is available to people in grief like me. Thank you for making this special group at Gerard's House a reality.

— Adult grief support group attendee

Additional Major Funders

The Thomas Cannon Fund
EAST WEST Foundation
Irene Ritter Foundation
Gale Family Foundation

Doris G. Walbridge Foundation Inc.
HFK Foundation
Holloway Kersting Family Fund
Liberty Ranch Infinite Possibilities Fund



EVERCORE



A City that Cares about Kids!



Many thanks to our presenting sponsor, Los Alamos National Bank and to all our sponsors for helping us celebrate our 20th anniversary!

Rotary
Club of Santa Fe



STATEMENTS
TILE / LIGHTING / KITCHENS / FLOORING



SOUTHWEST CARE CENTER
Health Care Every Person Deserves

Thornburg Foundation



Hutton Broadcasting LLC



Liberty Ranch

Your Song



Guadalupe Credit Union | Sherry Sullivan, CPA
Amanda's Flowers | Kingston Residence of Santa Fe
Zaplin Lampert Gallery | Graphic Sky Printing

THE FROST FOUNDATION



2018 Challenge Grant

Double Your Gift

Three individual donors have pledged to match up to \$20,000 from individuals who donate from May 15th through July 15th. Be on the lookout for our postcard or check our website for details.

\$20,000



Heartfelt thanks to the Buckaroo Ball team and all its supporters for caring about kids in our community who are coping with trauma, grief, suicidal feelings and other challenges. Gerard's House is so grateful to be a grantee for the 2018 Buckaroo Ball this year. And we are honored to be in the company of the other three amazing 2018 grantees: Solace, the Sky Center and Mountain Center. We love these collaborative partners and greatly respect their work.



AUGUST 4, 2018 | 5PM

**AT THE PUEBLO OF POJOAQUE'S STUNNING
LA MESITA RANCH**



The 2018 Buckaroo Ball will be held in our legendary cowboy-style tent on this beautiful ranch with our signature live & silent auctions and a fabulous western style BBQ catered by the Hilton Santa Fe Buffalo Thunder Resort.

Dance to the music of Will Banister & The Modern Day Ramblers under our clear tent showing the beautiful skies of La Mesita Ranch and wrap up your evening knowing that you have helped to support thousands of "at risk" children in Santa Fe county!

**TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE NOW BY CALLING THE LENSIC AT
505-988-1234 OR VISITING WWW.TICKETSANTAFE.ORG**

**TICKETS ARE \$125 EACH OR BUY A HOWDY NEIGHBOR TABLE
FOR 10 AT \$1,125**

for more information call Carol Thompson @ 505-603-0833





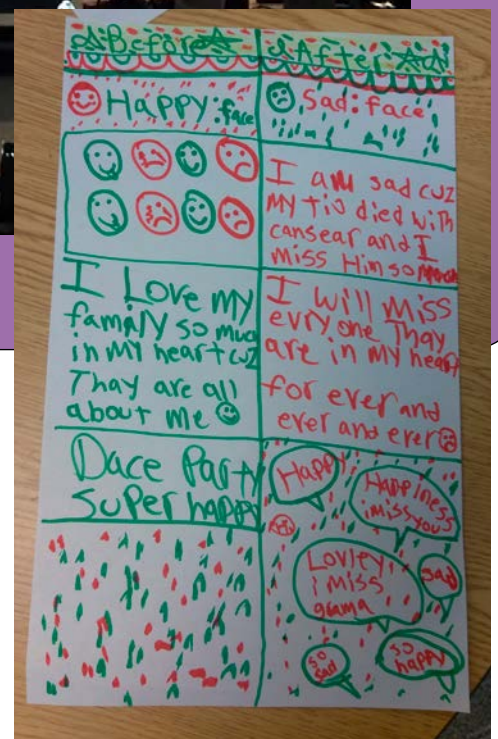
SAVE THE DATE!

2nd Annual Pop Music Festival Fundraiser

October 15th, 2018, Eldorado Hotel and Spa



2017 Pop Music Festival, singing YMCA - this could be you!



Nuestra Jornada participant's art project about life before and after losses