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**Annual Appeal 2022**

As always, 100% of all your donations go towards impactful grants and educational programming!

**DONATE TODAY!**

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**A Brave and Dedicated Mother's Lasting Legacy**

In 2021, Parmenter provided funding to a new grantee organization, Runway for Recovery, which provides families with a continuum of support along their journeys with breast cancer. Our grant award was directed in part to a legacy video project to help terminal moms make lasting keepsakes for their children.

**Finding Joy in a Black Hole**

Joy Fisher Williams' partner of 20 years, Brent, and father to their two young sons, died unexpectedly and suddenly from a heart attack in November 2017. Brent loved to share his curious nature about all things, especially his interests in music, youth hockey, and science. Joy and her sons, Fisher and Ruben, went to The Children's Room (TCR), a Parmenter grantee organization two months after Brent died.

**Read Full Story Here**

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A Modern Take on Loss Includes Humor and Practical Advice

We confirmed firsthand that a discussion on grief and loss does not have to be somber or depressing at our "Modern Loss" event on November 2. Held at the Weston Community Center and attended by more than 60 people from all over MetroWest this lively and poignant conversation on grief, healing and resilience was headlined by Rebecca Soffer.

Read Full Story Here

A Growing Library of Resources

Last year, The Parmenter Foundation developed and launched a five-part video series, "Unconditional Love, Unique Loss," to support the ever-expanding number of families that are grieving the deaths of their beloved pets. The videos filled a glaring gap for content in this area of grief support and garnered an overwhelmingly positive response.

Read Full Story Here

Grace Johnson Volunteer Appreciation Awards

For nearly 20 years, The Parmenter Foundation has honored outstanding volunteers in our community with our Grace Johnson Volunteer Appreciation Award. This award commemorates Grace Johnson, a long time Wayland resident and a beloved, passionate, and devoted Parmenter volunteer. Grace was a very active and hands-on volunteer, committed to hospice and compassionate care, and she served on several nonprofit boards including the Parmenter Board of Trustees. She was dedicated to making her community a better place to live and earned the respect and admiration of all who knew her.

This year, we have presented Grace Johnson Volunteer Appreciation Awards to four outstanding volunteers:

Emily Cohen, Volunteer, Runway for Recovery

Driven by the personal desire to give back to a cause that dramatically changed her own life, Emily Cohen mentors a 14-year-old Runway for Recovery grantee, Athena, whose mother died from breast cancer. Emily has gone above and beyond for this young woman, as she has created a fund help with Athena’s school tuition and arranged for tutoring to help ensure her success. Emily frequently checks in with Athena and cheers her on at school events. Emily also gives her free time to five other Runway for Recovery families, all with unique needs and challenges and on different paths of their grief.

Read the full story here!

After their son died in 2014 at the age of 20, Dan and Joan Scott turned their grief into action and kicked of years of volunteer work for Jeff’s
Dan and Joan Scott, Volunteers, Jeff’s Place

Dan joined the Board of Directors as treasurer and then engaged in intensive training to become a co-facilitator of a caregiver support group. Dan’s wife Joan also facilitates bereavement support groups to help children and families at their most difficult times. As a former librarian, she constantly looks for new books that will engage and connect with the kids. Together, Joan and Dan provide immeasurable grief support, as they identify all too well with challenges of navigating bereavement.

Read the full story here!

Jane Quercia, Volunteer, Samaritans

Jane Quercia’s commitment to the needs of suicide loss survivors has spanned 34 years, beginning after her own losses to suicide. She has been instrumental in the growth of Samaritans’ Grief Support Services, having led SafePlace Groups for more than 27 years and helping to launch the Survivor-to-Survivor Network home visits. Jane has been involved with Samaritans’ 5k Run/Walk for Suicide Prevention since it began. She started ‘Tommy’s Team’ for her family to join and participate in Samaritans’ mission. Jane was also a valuable member of the Samaritans Board of Directors for 16 years and is an active participant and organizer of the Annual Memorial Event.

Read the full story here!

Debbie Whitehill, Volunteer, Wildflower

Debbie Whitehill has played a pivotal role in the creation of Wildflower’s program model and has been an active Board member for 18 years. As a professional social worker, she has provided clinical support and referrals to families and was one of the first volunteers to look beyond the summer camp scholarship model to an approach that considered all the needs of bereaved children and families, including financial and mental well-being. Debbie also led the Program Committee, supervised and trained new family liaisons, and helped build a phenomenal team of human services volunteers.

Read the full story here!
Each month, we partner with a business to share a special offer with our Parmenter friends. You must "Follow" or "Like" The Parmenter Foundation, on Facebook or Instagram, to take advantage of these deals and make sure not to miss them as they come up.

This month's business partner, Elephant Books, is a monthly book club for kids that delivers brand new, hardcover children's books to your door. The entire experience -- from the books wrapped in exclusive, fun and colorful packaging to the engaging reading tools for children and parents -- is designed to create special reading moments for families and deliver life-long memories that generations can enjoy. Give the gift everyone feels good about this holiday season!

Follow us on social media to take advantage of a special Comfort in Commerce offer from Elephant Books!

In this memoir, actor Rob Delaney writes about his son's death, and his own grief, with honesty and levity: "A Heart That Works" Book

Rob Delaney discusses grief and the above memoir with Stephen Colbert: "The Late Show" Episode

Announcing a new running program for people who have experienced the loss of a child, culminating in the running of the Newport Half Marathon on April 15, 2023. If interested, email Myra Sack at msack@chjs.org.

Getting through the holidays while you are grieving: modernloss.com

Helping children who are grieving through the holidays: GriefShare