

THE WEBSTER HOUSE NEWS

SERVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SINCE 1884

FALL 2020



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The year 2020 has been one for the books! Our home has had many ordeals over the past 136 years, but I must believe this year ranks as one of its most chal-

lenging one. As difficult as it has been with the COVID Pandemic and the addition of- remote learning we were still able to have many blessings to help us through the months of restricted activities and social distancing. Like so many others in need, good folks stepped forward and helped.

Webster House was treated to delicious home cooked meals courtesy of the incredibly talented Kiwanis Club members, and a surprise visit from the Kona Ice Truck, thanks to a generous community member. We were also happy to christen our new gazebo that was constructed by Rotary Club members with donations of time and materials from *Blue Ribbon Fencing, Boisvert Brothers Tree Service, Home Depot, Lowes, Rumford Stove, Arties Electric, Redimix, Affordable Vinyl and Window Siding and Mast Road Building Supply*. What a great addition to our yard and a great illustration of the community coming together for us, while preserving a piece of Webster House history by utilizing a tree that has been here longer than the program has.

We were also helped out by the Pass Along Project and the NH Foster and Adoptive Parent Association to assist with clothing for the kids and funding for activities, along with many other good friends who donated through our wish list on our Facebook page and website (www.websterhousenh.org). We have always had strong, needed support from the community and this past year really showed the great depth of the compassion and generosity of our supporters who know that we simply can not succeed without their help and involvement.

We were also extremely pleased to have a very cooperative group of children who adapted quickly to all



Webster House

BUILDING CHILDREN'S FUTURES TOGETHER



Staff pictures: Lindsey, Courtney, Blair, Lou, and Kurt, all helped wrap and sort all of the gifts.

the changes that came into being. Hats off to a great group of kids who rolled up their sleeves and made the summer the success it was. One of our main goals during this time frame has been to keep the children healthy both physically and emotionally.

We all had to deal with all the new pressures surrounding us while dealing with all the new rules and restrictions, so we made it our mission to have serious fun throughout the summer.

Our staff and kids put together one amazing summer, starting off with 4:00 in the morning trips to Hampton to enjoy moonlight swimming and catch the sunrise. We did numerous activities like turning the backyard into a drive-in all night movie, camping trips, beach trips, biking and many fun trips up to the White Mountains. Thanks go out to all that helped to make this summer work for us.

Blair is excited to announce the development of our home-based therapeutic (HBT) services which we will be offering in 2021. Blair is currently pursuing her Master's in Social Work to meet our clinical needs within the home and saw an opportunity to assist the program to meet the needs of kids in the community. These services will allow the Webster House to provide therapeutic support to individual kids and their families in the community that may need additional support and coaching to function effectively to preserve their family. These services will also allow us to successfully assist with transitioning many of our current residents back into their homes and communities.

CHANGES:

They say the only constant is change and after 36 years the change happening at Webster House is my retirement. It is bittersweet and will be hard to say good-bye after the New Year but it is time for the home to have its next chapter written. I know myself that I will leave Webster House with a host of great memories of amazing children that I've met over the years.

- ~ **To the kids**-You have forever been my motivation. I admire you all.
- ~ **To the staff**- you have been the foundation that has kept us alive and moving forward.
- ~ **To the Kiwanis Club**- You saved our home back in the 70's and have been with us ever since.
- ~ **To the Board of Directors**- you have been our faithful pilots.
- ~ **To our donors**-you have been our life line.
- ~ **To the community**- You have always been there for us.

I thank you all, proud to know so many great people. With that said, I know the home is in great shape and will continue to provide the love and care for children now and well into the future.

Happy holidays from all of us here at Webster House!

LOU, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HOLIDAY WREATHS

Our wreath fundraiser is back per donor request! Share some holiday cheer with these beautiful decorations for your home or office while supporting a great cause! Profits from all sales will benefit holiday gifts and activities for the children currently in our care. Orders will be available for pick up on December 1st.



Thank you for supporting the kids! <https://Three-RiversFundraising.com/fund/whnh-wreath2020>

VIRTUAL GIVING TREE

There is nothing like a Webster House Christmas.

This year we will be offering individual Amazon wish lists made by the residents where donors can select a youth, shop for them, and have the gift directly mailed to Webster House. Updates will be on Facebook. Last year we received so many creative and thoughtful gifts that the kids were overwhelmed with excitement. If you are interested in shopping for a child please email blair.stairs@websterhouseh.org.



AMAZON SMILE

Do you know your regular purchases on Amazon could help support Webster House? **Signup**



for Amazon Smile and designate Webster House as your charity of choice. A percentage of your eligible purchases will benefit the kids. You can also check out the Webster House Amazon wish list can be found at: <http://a.co/aqENQog>



Please donate online at:
websterhouseh.org



or text "GIVE" to make your donation to
(351) 200-7077

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Super Raffle 2020

The \$5,000 winner – Steven Laroche!!

Our Super Raffle went virtually this year. Although circumstances were different, the annual Super Raffle was a hit. Thank you to everyone that participated. All proceeds will go towards supporting the Webster House mission. The April Super Raffle was postponed due to the pandemic and was rescheduled for October 14th, 2020 drawing.



Some of our residents enjoying a day up at Diana's Bath. Cold water but lots of fun!



Our beautiful new Gazebo.



Staff and kids adjusting to the new challenges of covid with first day of remote learning



Thrillville aerial challenge course and off road tour at Alpine Adventures



John and Roxanne Mann presenting a \$10,000 check from this years Paul Reed Smith Guitar Raffle, Courtesy of John Mann's Guitar Vault, Bedford, New Hampshire. "Music to our ears."



Bikes were donated by Arthur Sullivan from Brady Sullivan Corp. This is the second year they donated a bike to every kid.



WISH LIST

Movie Passes
Pizza Gift Cards
BJS & Market Basket Gift Cards
Skyzone gift Cards
Walmart/Target Gift Cards
Barnes and Noble Gift Cards
Full-size Hygiene Products
for males & females,
Towel Sets
Twin Sheet Sets
Twin Mattress Protectors
(bed bug proof/ waterproof)
Heavy-Duty vacuums



Happy Thanksgiving!
Merry Christmas!
Happy Hanukkah!
Happy Holidays!

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Ronald Anctil	Tyler Anderson
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Our Amazon wish list
can be found at
<http://a.co/aqENQog>



— A special thanks — TO ALL OUR FRIENDS, DONORS, AND SUPPORTERS.

Everyone's help is greatly appreciated. All donations mean a great deal to us. A heartfelt thank you to our donors, Board of Directors, volunteers and to the hundreds of individual supporters who faithfully continue through our newsletter requests. To all whose names do not appear on the list, and those who keep us in their hearts and prayers, we thank you.

The following is a partial list of our donors who have helped us over the past year.

Anne Slade Frey	Eliza B. Green Trust	Merchants Automotive
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