



Monadnock United Way

# Imagine What We Can Do Together

2023 Annual Campaign



## Building Stronger Communities: The Impact of the Monadnock Alliance of Families

Follow us on our social media!



Your support transforms lives and creates lasting change for families throughout the Monadnock region.

Dear MUW Supporters,

Every day, the Monadnock Alliance for Families works to realize its vision that all families in the Monadnock Region have access to high-quality services that strengthen parenting and promote optimal child development. To meet that vision, the agencies are collaborating to:

- Increase the number of families accessing services in the region through a shared outreach coordinator
- Improve the quality of the services through shared professional development goals for home visitors
- Prevent child abuse and neglect by implementing the Strengthening Families Protective Factors into all aspects of their work

The Monadnock Alliance for Families (MAF) is a collaborative backed by Impact Monadnock. The Alliance is composed of Healthy Starts at Home Healthcare Hospice & Community Services (HCS), The Grapevine Family and Community Resource Center, Monadnock Family Services (MFS), Rise for Baby and Family, and The River Center Family and Community Resource Center.

Thank you for creating opportunities with us.



### Calling all Volunteers!

MUW is in need of a volunteer who has written communication skills to help with various short writing projects. If you are interested, please contact Sophie Carney-Brenner at [sophie@muw.org](mailto:sophie@muw.org)

### NEW!

To maximize the impact of your donation, we are transitioning to electronic thank-you letters. Please provide an



## Regional Impact

An objective of the MAF is to ensure young children (0-8 years) are safe, healthy, and resilient. To meet this objective, the MAF identified strategies that are reported on twice a year. In 2023, the following impact was made:

Strategy: Connect at-risk youth and families to high-quality, appropriate, coordinated supports and services

- 857 families served
- 474 (55%) are new home visiting clients

Strategy: Address basic needs that support children's success

- 1,996 clients participated in parent education and enriched engagement services
- 1,697 (85%) reported an increase in at least 3 protective factors\*

Strategy: Improve community climate for children and families

- 30 staff members (100%) are thoroughly trained in embedding the protective factors into their work

\*Survey questions focus on areas like parental resilience, social connections, concrete supports in time of need, and children's social and emotional competence.

## Work In-Action

**In 2020, the joy of first-time parenthood was marred by tragedy for Amber and her husband when one of their twin sons was stillborn and the other needed to stay in the hospital for two months.** Amber describes it as a scary time with COVID-19 since their son was vulnerable and could not get sick. "Not being able to go out and see people made it really hard, especially since we were grieving the loss of our other son," said Amber.

After a year, Amber felt it was safe to venture out with her son to connect with others. Despite seeking solace in grief groups and spaces for sharing her loss, Amber often found that other group members were indifferent. Fortunately, another parent introduced her to the Better Beginnings program at the

email address to [thankyou@muw.org](mailto:thankyou@muw.org) so we can continue acknowledging your generosity! Be assured that your privacy and security are of utmost importance to us, and none of the personal and financial information provided to MUW is shared outside our organization.

If you have any questions regarding this initiative or are unable to provide an email address, contact [sophie@muw.org](mailto:sophie@muw.org) or (603) 352- 4209 ext. 24.

Grapevine. **"The Grapevine has become my village,"** Amber remarked gratefully. **"Here, I have a haven where I can entrust my child to caring adults while I connect with fellow parents."** Amber reflects on this as the first time she and her son separated. She found support and a nonjudgmental atmosphere in her Grapevine parent group. "I also appreciate what a difference it makes having a group facilitator like Carol. She helps build conversation and facilitates an environment for sharing."

What would Amber say to other parents and caregivers looking for a connection for themselves and their children?

**"Parenting communities can be full of labels and sometimes feel divisive,"** Amber concluded, **"But the Grapevine is a place that feels safe and full of acceptance."**



**Sincerely,**

Chris Coates, Cheshire County Administrator  
Larry Monson, General Manager, Monadnock Ford  
Rose Novotny, Bank of New Hampshire  
*Imagine What We Can Do Together General Campaign Co-Chairs*

**Thank you for helping to ensure that every individual and family, like Amber's, has the resources they need to thrive.**

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