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The Michael H. Flanagan Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization

To donate, please visit our website at: www.mikesfoundation.com or contact us at P.O. Box 708, Barrington RI 02806
To inquire about financial assistance available through our grant program, please contact your social worker.



THE
Michael H. Flanagan
FOUNDATION

The Michael H. Flanagan Foundation was established by the Flanagan family in 2002 in memory of this young man, who at the age of 19 was diagnosed with leukemia. Michael strived to live his life with courage, integrity and faith during his three and a half year struggle with leukemia which included two bone marrow transplants. He received the very best in medical and nursing care at both The Miriam Hospital in Rhode Island and the Tufts Medical Center in Boston.

Bone Marrow transplant patients spend weeks and sometimes months in isolation while they struggle with complications and wait for their new immune system to develop. After witnessing Michael's time in the hospital, his family decided to establish this foundation as a way to keep his memory alive and to support other patients facing the same difficult journey. It is the mission of the Foundation to provide comfort to these patients and their families during this very challenging time.

The Michael H. Flanagan Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. Find out more at mikesfoundation.com.

OUR MISSION

The Michael H. Flanagan Foundation Newsletter Fall 2018/19 | Volume 16

In this Issue:

- Campaign for Comfort
- 2018 Benefit
- Boston Marathon MHFF Superstar

Flatbread Providence Join us on February 11, 2020

PORTION OF PIZZA PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE
MICHAEL H. FLANAGAN FOUNDATION!



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

During this season of Thanks & Giving, do you know why we are so thankful for you?

In 2018 we funded 52 grants totaling over \$36,000.

In 2019 we have funded 36 grants totaling \$26,000 to date.

Since 2018 we have delivered over 200 Comfort Bags, bundles and bundles of Teddy Bears to children of patients, been holiday helpers for patients too sick but wishing to shop for their families and we provided Christmas morning gifts to patients in the hospital.

You are all helping to make a difference. Please feel good about believing in our work as we are all in it together, helping one patient and family at a time. For 18 years they have been able to count on us because we can count on you!

With much appreciation,

Christine
Christine E. Griffin

Comfort Updates

Do you see what we see? Beautiful new blinds soften afternoon sunshine and still allow the beautiful Boston view from our Family Room on North 8 at Tufts Medical Center. Those little details make a big difference when comfort is our mission.



Our Team Is Growing

The Foundation proudly announces the addition of two additional hospital partners: **Roger Williams Medical Center** in Providence, RI and **UMASS Memorial Medical Center** in Worcester MA. Comfort Bags are now distributed to new patients and the grant team was incredibly thankful for the opportunity to participate in our grant program. The Foundation is grateful for the opportunity to expand support to even more leukemia and bone marrow transplant patients and their families.

How Sweet

Thank you to board members **Kate Lentz** and **Diane Stratton** and kids for cooking a Valentine's Day dinner for families at **Ronald McDonald House** of Providence in 2018. This is one of our favorite things to do!



We LOVED Marathon Monday!

MHFF is the very grateful recipient of \$10,000 thanks to the incredible 26.2 mile efforts of our board member, **Laura Foley Ramsden**. Laura chose to join the **Golf Fights Cancer** team as an opportunity to run the Boston Marathon 3 days after she turned 50 and most importantly, run for a cause.

"Sadly, cancer has impacted too many friends and family who are dear to me. They are battling all types of cancer with courage, grace and strength. When the opportunity arose to join **Team GFC** to fundraise to fight cancer, I jumped at the chance because it was time to run for others rather than myself. Running Boston has been a dream of mine and doing it for this tremendous cause makes marking a half a century on this planet all the more fulfilling." Not only did she train, with bouts of pain, for hours, weeks and months, but she had amazing fundraising success. Her birthday goal became

quite a special gift. "The true heroes are the Flanagan's who turned their devastating loss into an incredible Foundation that helps so many. I know gratitude is a term that gets thrown around a lot these days, but every time I receive a grant request I am filled with gratitude for being part of the Foundation team. It has also been a constant reminder that there are people fighting huge battles and my bad day



at work or small life issues can't begin to compare to the patients we serve battling for their lives. Thank you for giving me perspective and the opportunity to help. "

Thank you **Laura** for all you have done to support MHFF. As a board member you put your heart into following our mission with care and compassion. As a goal getter, WOW...we and the patients we help are lucky to have you on our team!



Evening of Thanks & Giving raises over \$48,000!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who attended and donated to make our **Evening of Thanks & Giving** on November 16, 2018 a tremendous success. We extend gratitude to our growing number of loyal and generous supporters, our business sponsors, the 2018 Event Committee, **Kevin and Susan A Farley** for sharing their story, **FatFree Bob** for providing our music, **Rhode Island Country**



Honored Guests, **Kevin & Susan A Farley** and their journey with Susan's battle and their connection with the Foundation. Kevin's words captured the heart of our mission.

Club for hosting us once again, and our 200+ guests. We are proud to say that we raised over **\$48,000**. The Michael H. Flanagan Foundation can continue to say yes to these requests and many more thanks to your support and generosity. THANK YOU!!!

2018 and 2019 Educational Advancement Fund Recipients

Congratulations to the 2018 recipients of The Michael H. Flanagan Foundation's Educational Advancement Fund award from Tufts Medical Center in Boston, Taylor Maffett and from The Miriam Hospital in Providence RI, Tracy Carraggi. Congratulations also to the 2019 recipient of The Michael H. Flanagan Foundation's Educational Advancement Fund award from Rhode Island Hospital, Allii Fontaine. The Flanagan family was so pleased by the care Michael received from the nurses at The Miriam Hospital and Tufts Medical Center that they decided to establish a fund in Michael's name. Nurses are the backbone of our healthcare system and furthering education is essential and often very expensive. We are proud to establish The MHFF Educational Advancement Fund in Michael's name. This fund is awarded

2018-19 HAPPENINGS



Thank you to all of our loving and generous supporters!

Thank you to Fat Free Bob for returning AGAIN to provide music at our event. Lucky us!

Thank you to Joseph Case Junior High School Faculty and Staff for having a Dress Down Day in honor of MHFF!

Thank you to Jane Martelino and the International School at Dundee in Greenwich, CT for having a Friday Breakfast Benefit in our honor!

Thank you to Love your Melon and Turtle Fur's Project Warmth for donating awesome hats for our Comfort Bags!



Thank you to The Guild and Bent Water Brewing Companies for donating beer for our Evening Under the Stars!



Thank you to all of the generous folks that donated to our Raffle- for a complete list check out our website www.mikesfoundation.com!

Thank you to Perry Davis and Violet Gagliano for tending to raffle ticket sales and Fund a Need Necklaces!

Thank you to M.E.Patton who led the decoration design and the talented group of ladies who put the MHFF touch on RICC!

PATIENT LETTERS & THANK YOU'S

to an RN/BSN who has gone above and beyond when providing patient care in the area of Oncology. The recipient, who must have also shown excellence in patient safety and clinical skills, receives \$500-1000 to use toward furthering their education in the field of Oncology. Congratulations to Taylor, Tracy and Allii!

For the 2020 application and information, visit our website. Applications must be received by April 3, 2020.

Thank you to the following individuals for their thoughtful donations in Memory of loved ones.

Brooke Greenberg by Jody Klessel

Scott Greenberg on behalf of Paige and Kyle Greenberg

Michael Fiorillo

by Mike & Kathy Flanagan

Family of Martha Cabral

Chris Cerullo, Maureen Kegan, Christine Tarnowski, Charmy Patel, Hayley Nichols, Jenna Lin, Kayla Delvalle, Nadine Daou

in memory of Roseanne Buckley

Heather Brassell and Scott Colley by Carrie Carbone Flaherty

Sam Swidey by Mary Swidey

Jack McFarland by Susan McFarland

In honor of *Madison Healy Ellis' 30th birthday*

Patient Letters

"My name is Dennis Thomas and your foundation recently sent a check to cover 2 months of my rent. I've been waiting to thank you for this incredibly kind gesture, but as you likely know, time tends to pool and move beyond traditional ideas of designation when one is fighting cancer. Please accept this modest note as a representation of my sincere appreciation.

Thank you so much!"

Dennis

"Thank you so very much for the generous gift card you blessed our family with this Christmas. You're a gift to so many and the good you bring to the lives of patients on North 8 is appreciated more than you know. You have taken a heart-break in your own lives and created something beautiful for others. God bless you all.

With love and gratitude and wishes for a very Merry Christmas and blessed new year."

The Foster Family

November 2019



Dear Friends,

This year we thought we would time our **Campaign for Comfort** with the release of our annual newsletter. This way you can read about the past years and all that the MHFF has accomplished which will hopefully inspire you to support us in all our hopes for the year to come!

Grants are increasing, Comfort Bags continue to be distributed all over New England and projects at many hospitals and community organizations are always in progress!

You have always been there to keep us growing and we cannot thank you enough. We also extend thanks on behalf of the patients and families that we are able to assist!

Since you just read the newsletter, there is no need for a lengthy report. Rather consider our simple request that you will remember the MHF Foundation as you plan your annual giving. Together, we can make a lasting difference in the lives of many patients facing leukemia.

We do not have our event this year, but look forward to celebrating with you next year in person. With that in mind, please give our **Campaign for Comfort** your special consideration!



I want to help The Michael H. Flanagan Foundation.

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation:

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other _____

NAME _____ EMAIL _____

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CITY / STATE / ZIP _____

Please enclose a check payable to The Michael H. Flanagan Foundation. Or donate with a credit card by visiting our website at www.mikesfoundation.com

I want to save MHF Foundation a postage stamp – you may acknowledge my gift via email.

Many thanks to our generous sponsors for helping us make this evening possible!

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