

Dear Friends – You are receiving this annual report because of your connection to the Children’s Grief Center. Your gifts continue to change lives, even years after the grieving children who attend this program “graduate.” The following is part of a letter I recently received from a father who attended groups several years ago with his son Dominic after his wife, Dominic’s mother, died unexpectedly. With Adam’s permission, I can share with you his insightful, heartfelt, and uplifting update....

**“I truly feel that without the Grief Center that Dominic would be a very different person today. Losing a loved one can affect someone from loving again in the future. The grief blocks the potential love that we can feel. The Grief Center gave Dominic a place to express himself to those who could truly understand. Thanks to the Grief Center, Dominic has more freedom with how he deals with life and love for the past, present and future.”**



**Dominic, Valerie & Adam**

“Dear Jade,

Valerie and I got married on November 14<sup>th</sup>. It was a great (big!) wedding. Dominic played his flute while Valerie walked down the aisle. Later, during dinner Dominic’s sax quartet played for about half an hour. He was in his tux because he was one of my groomsmen. He looked fantastic.

I’ve always known that the Grief Center was an incredible gift for both Dominic and myself, but I hadn’t quite realized how much it helped Dominic until the wedding. **I knew that speaking with his peers helped Dominic to deal with his grief. It gave him coping skills that he just could not have acquired in any other manner. What I didn’t know was how it helped him deal with other parts of his life.**

Dominic never really told me what he talked about at the Grief Center. He always felt that it was private and I respected that (it’s one of the ideals of the Grief Center). So it was with some interest, these few years later, that I discovered a little bit of how much he learned from his experience there.

The day of the wedding a groomsman named Chris was staying with us. Chris had not seen Dominic in about eight years, so they had a lot of catching up to do. They went for a walk in the morning and they talked about Dominic’s mother, Gabriella, and also his soon-to-be-step-mom, Valerie (as well as the thoughts of me getting married again). Chris asked Dominic how he was dealing with all of that. He asked him if it was hard to go through. Dominic said that it *would* be hard, except for all of the help that he got from the Grief Center. I don’t know the details that he told my friend, but he talked about how much help he received and that it was because of that help that he is able to accept and love Valerie so easily. Chris was really amazed by this! Please thank everyone involved with helping all of the children (and the adults!).

**Let them all know how important and special they are to all of the people that attend. The Children’s Grief Center isn’t just a place...it’s a way of giving back life to those who attend.”**

Thank you for being a part of this legacy of hope and healing. Please continue to give to the Children's Grief Center. Your dollars translate into true growth and recovery for hundreds of grieving children and families like Adam’s.

Warmly,

Jade Bock, Executive Director

# Children's Grief Center of New Mexico Annual Report

Fiscal Year July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

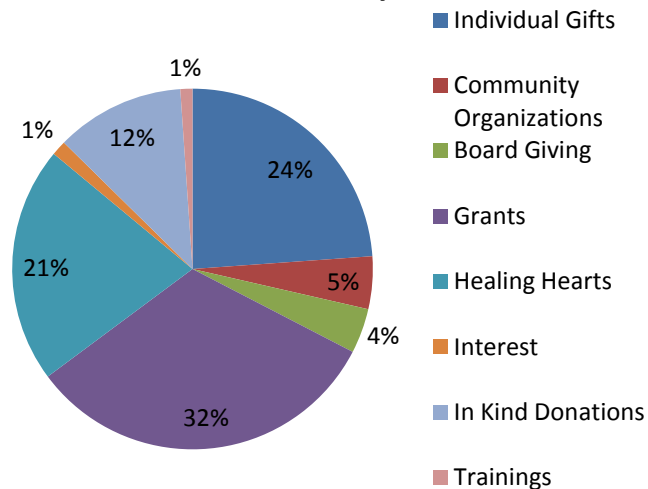
The Children's Grief Center provides specialized peer support groups for young people ages 5 – 25 who are grieving the death of a caregiver or sibling. In order to support the grieving child, groups are also provided for their adult caregiver. A meal is served prior to group – to ease the transition from a hectic day into a special time where they share details about what is usually the worst thing to have happened in their lives – the death of a mother, father, sister or brother. All services are provided at no charge to families, thanks to donations from the community, granting organizations, and dozens of volunteers from all walks of life who complete a 2 day accredited course to facilitate grief groups.

In Fiscal Year 08-09, **276 people** attended support groups at CGC, the most served in one year thus far. Families may participate in support groups as long as they like – some for 2 or 3 years – but most attend for about a year.

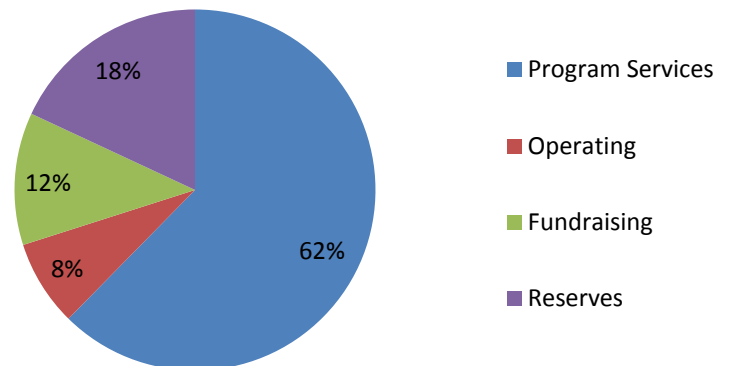
### Demographics of 08-09 Attendees

Male:	44%
Female:	56%
Adult:	42%
Elderly:	1%
Youth:	41%
Teen:	16%
Caucasian:	33%
Hispanic:	52%
Asian:	1%
Native American:	4%
African American:	8%
Other:	2%

## Income: \$149,700.24



## Expenses & Reserves: \$149,700.24



Thank you for your past and future support, which is vital to continuing our mission.

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