



Impact  
Report

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# Ele's Place Capital Region

**KRISTINE** Kuhnert

Director

I am thrilled to have the opportunity to inform you how you impacted our Ele's Place families in 2018. Currently in Michigan, one in 12 children will experience the death of a parent or sibling by the age of 18. That statistic equates to 12,120 minors impacted in our area. Our services are provided at no-cost to the families and schools because of you.

This is what you are making possible:

- ♥ In 2018, we served more grieving children and teens than ever in our history.
- ♥ We continue to grow in our school based program and served 359 students in 2018.
- ♥ We provided 587 clinical consultations to families beginning their grief process.
- ♥ We met with 55 individuals to provide support in response to the death of a community member or persons looking to learn more about children's grief.
- ♥ Initiated a new way to reach grieving children with a pilot program that provided grief backpacks and tool boxes in the Mason school district.

Some of the feedback from our school based program when asked what happened in group that you liked?

- ♥ That I was allowed to cry.
- ♥ That people understood.
- ♥ I could talk about the person who died.
- ♥ I liked the memory boxes. (They decorate a wooden box, donated from RJ Scheffel Memorial Toy Project. The box is used to keep special pictures, notes or other items from the person who died in their life. This was noted many times).
- ♥ The caring people in my group and from Ele's Place.
- ♥ I don't feel alone with my grief anymore.

Feedback from families that have attended our on-site bereavement programs:

- ♥ "I have seen a huge difference in my grandson since attending Ele's Place. He didn't even have the words to express his feelings after his father died and now I feel very confident that he does. One of his favorite "words" that he learned was SMAD - sad and mad."
- ♥ "Ele's Place is exactly what my son needed to help move through the grief of his grandpa's death. It offered a safe place to talk and a warm, supportive environment. So grateful for all Ele's Place does."
- ♥ "Ele's Place allowed Josef to express his grief by making crafts, writing down feeling words and drawing pictures. He was also able to talk about his sister and hear about his friends share their stories. This was a springboard that helped us to talk more freely about our feelings with one another at home."

There will always be a need for our services. We are immensely grateful for your investment in our families. We operate on a budget of more than one million dollars with a low administrative expense of 17.05%. Volunteers provided over 30,000 hours of service last year. I use this phrase often, "many hands make light work." We are thankful to you for your time, talents and treasures that help us serve grieving children and teens. Death happens every day. With death comes grief. And grief is the price of love.





- Program Services
- Fundraising
- Management



# Capital Region 2018

## Family-Based Bereavement Support Program

370 children  
271 adults  
**Total = 641**

## In-Person Clinical Consultations

207 children  
171 adults  
**Total = 378**

## Off-Site Support

30 children  
25 adults  
**Total = 55**

## Phone Consultations

209 adults  
**Total = 209**

**Overall Total = 587**

During 2018, Ele's Place Capital Region provided support group services to a total of 1000 people: 729 children and 271 adults.



Ann Arbor | Capital Region | Greater Flint & Genesee County  
West Michigan

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A healing center for grieving children and teens

