



A healing
center for
grieving
children
& teens

CAPITAL REGION

2020 IMPACT REPORT

2020

**A year where
almost everything was
canceled but grief and
♥ love. ♥**

Ele's Place Capital Region - Kristine Kuhnert, Director

It is my honor to share how your commitment impacted our Ele's Place families in 2020. Currently, in Michigan, one in 13 children will experience the death of a parent or sibling before the age of 18. This equates to more kids than ever in need of our support. We can do so at no cost to our families and schools because of you. Our audit revealed that we continue to hold administrative costs to 17%. You are making an impact on those who need us most and we are grateful for the time, talents, and treasures shared with Ele's Place to help us serve grieving children and teens in our community. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.



TOGETHER, we accomplished the following during 2020:

- ♥ Served 1400 grieving children and teens.
- ♥ Served 171 students in our school-based program, Ele's Group.
- ♥ Provided 496 clinical consultations to families beginning the grief process.
- ♥ Provided clinical support (off-site) to 28 individuals in response to the death of a community member.
- ♥ Provided grief backpacks to the Lansing School District.

So much of life as we knew it had been canceled in 2020. For sure, one thing which has not is grief. Grief affects all of us at one time or another, including children across our region. With the Coronavirus Pandemic, there are new and additional layers to the grief families are experiencing. Many did not have the opportunity to start the grieving process with a funeral, family gathering, or other healthy goodbyes. Perhaps they were not able to be with their person when they died. Grief is isolating. Now, more than ever, our families need Ele's Place. We must address childhood grief.

— ♥ —
*"I know Ele's place has made a huge difference in my child's life and his ability to grow through his grief. He has a sense of belonging."
-Mom of Ele's Place kid*




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Ele's Place exists as a safe place for grieving children to talk about their person who died. "ELE" also represents the organization's philosophy of Embracing Loss Effectively. We continue to provide our peer-to-peer support groups virtually while looking forward to the day when we can return to our building. We have found that while the children and teens can participate in the comfort of their own familiar space, they often share more intimate aspects of their grief.

As the world reawakens, we must continue to embrace the grief process and support our children, teens, and families as they journey through it. We are so thankful that you stood with us in supporting the more than 1400 grieving children and teens in our community. Unfortunately, death is not an aspect of life that can be avoided. With death comes grief. And grief is the price of love. Thank you to our community for continuing to support the vision of Ele's Place and helping to ensure that no child grieves alone. A community that provides for the vulnerable is a stronger community.

With immense gratitude,

Kristine Kuhnert
Director


"It has been extremely beneficial to our family by giving my child the ability to identify and express how she is feeling. She has even taught me methods on how to deal with my anger or sadness"
-Mom of 5-year-old Ele's Place kid



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Total Served in 2020:



SUPPORT GROUPS - 777 (505 CHILDREN AND 272 ADULTS)

Family based programming, onsite at our facilities (conducted via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic.) Provides peer support to kids 3-18 and an optional support group for their caregiver.



SCHOOL GROUPS - 171 STUDENTS IN 22 GROUPS

Peer support groups within the school setting, primarily in Middle School and HS. Conducted in partnership with school staff.



CLINICAL SUPPORT - 496 PEOPLE

Phone, virtual or in-person one-to-one grief support, conducted by a licensed Ele's Place staff person. Includes the initial intake for families to coordinate attending onsite programs.

All services are provided free of charge to families, schools and all members of our community.



Auto-Owners Insurance Thanks Ele's Place During Virtual Breakfast



Our Friends at Izzo Legacy Celebrating Giving Tuesday

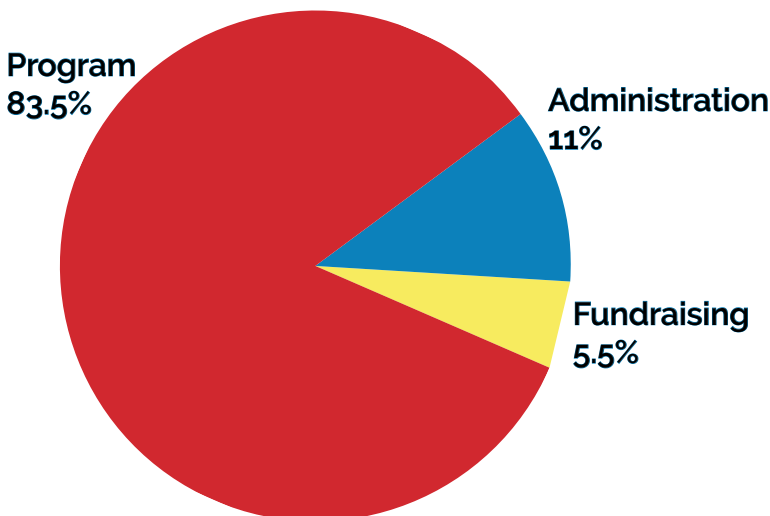


Participants in our 5K Virtual Race

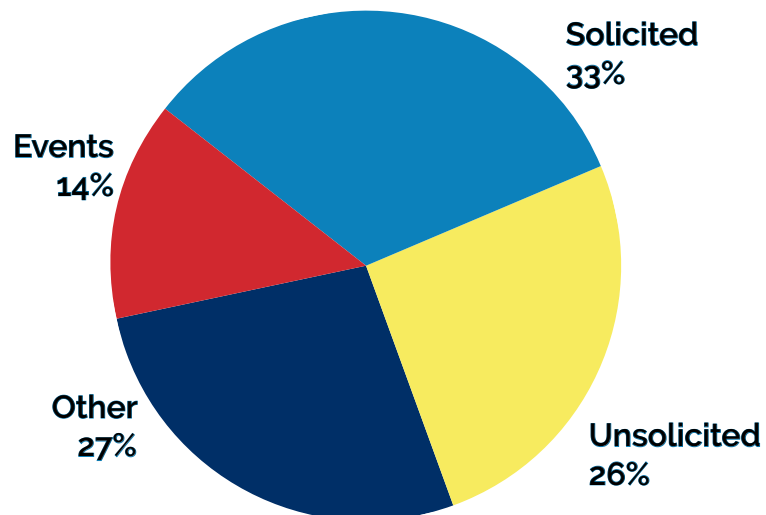


Our Staff Working from Home During Pandemic

Ele's Place Capital Region Functional Expenses



Ele's Place Capital Region Income*



*Additional expenses were offset by a Payroll Protection loan and other income



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Ele's Place Capital Region
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Thank You to Our Community Sponsors

