



A CENTER FOR GRIEVING  
CHILDREN, TEENS, AND ADULTS

5905 Brecksville Road  
Independence, Ohio 44131  
216.524.4673

**GALA@CORNERSTONEOFHOPE.ORG**

Dear Friends,

With our biggest year approaching, 15 years of serving individuals after the death of a loved one, how blessed are we to be able to walk alongside those who grieve! For 15 years we have been blessed to offer hope and healing for more than 32,000 grieving individuals. We would not be able to do this if it weren't for your help. We realize you get solicited by many organizations throughout the community, yet we think you will find this one very unique.

We have been very blessed to have this Gala each year, as it financially gives breath to our organization to provide the much needed support to those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

Our 2018 Gala will include a live auction, silent auction and a number of raffles. We are contacting you to humbly request any donation you might be willing to contribute to the event. **Donations must be received by February 1, 2018 to be included in the program.**

All donors are acknowledged in our event program that is given to all attendees, as well as to donors upon request. We hope you will support us, for without your generosity, we would not be able to continue serving grieving families and individuals in northeast and central Ohio.

Cornerstone of Hope is a qualified 501(c)3 nonprofit organization (Tax ID# 34-1945499), and your donation is 100% tax deductible. Remember, all proceeds from the Gala go directly to support the programs and services we offer to those who are grieving. If you would like to make donation arrangements or need additional information, please contact us at 216.524.4673 or visit our website at [cornerstoneofhope.org](http://cornerstoneofhope.org).

Donations can be mailed directly to Cornerstone at:

Attn: Gala, Cornerstone of Hope  
5905 Brecksville Road  
Independence, Ohio 44131

Your time and consideration are most appreciated. We wish you health, happiness, and success always.

Most Sincerely,

*Christi and Mark Tripodi*

Christi and Mark Tripodi  
Founders, Cornerstone of Hope



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# 15th Annual Benefit Gala

at a glance

## Mission Statement

Cornerstone of Hope is dedicated to providing support, education, and hope for the grieving. Guided by Christian values of compassion and service, we welcome and serve all seeking support after the loss of a loved one.

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## History

In May of 2000, Christi and Mark Tripodi experienced the sudden loss of their three-year old son, Bobby. Along their grief journey, they recognized a tremendous need for a center that was totally dedicated to bereavement care. Responding to God's call, the Tripodi Family founded Cornerstone of Hope in 2003. Since opening, Cornerstone has served more than 32,000 individuals through a variety of professionally led programs.

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## Core Programs

Cornerstone of Hope offers the following critical services: Grief Counseling, Art Therapy, Support Groups, School Programs, Memorial Ceremonies, Youth Grief Camps, Education and Training, Resource Library, Crisis Intervention and Volunteer Opportunities.

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## Who We Serve

Cornerstone of Hope serves children, teens and adults who seek support after the death of a loved one. We also support professionals in the community through continuing education and outreach. Social workers, counselors, funeral directors, church leaders, hospital and hospice staff, human resource personnel and civic leaders rely on our assistance when needed.

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## Locations

Cornerstone of Hope has three Ohio office locations: Independence, Columbus and Lima.

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## The Gala – Our Signature Event

The Gala is attended by 800 guests from Northeast and Central Ohio. The 15th Annual Gala will be held on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at the Embassy Suites in Independence, Ohio. The evening includes fellowship, entertainment, dinner, raffles, silent and live auction items and, most importantly, real stories from families who have directly benefited from Cornerstone of Hope's services.

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## What are Funds Used for

This year's proceeds will benefit Cornerstone's Compassionate Care Fund, providing affordable counseling services for grieving children and their families in need.

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## Auction Items Needed

New and unique items, experiences, vacations, weekend get-a-ways, jewelry, tech items, tickets to local events, VIP tours, gift certificates or memorabilia to be used for the event auctions and raffles. Each gifted item will be recognized in our program.

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## Gifts are Tax-Deductible

Cornerstone of Hope is a registered 501 (c)3 charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible under tax identification number 34-1945499.