

CREATING A WORLD WHERE NO GRIEVING PERSON JOURNEYS ALONE.



2021

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

CLEVELAND • COLUMBUS • LIMA



**Cornerstone
of Hope**

A Letter From

CORNERSTONE OF HOPE'S

CEO, Mark Tripodi



Cornerstone of Hope ended 2020 with tremendous momentum which accelerated throughout 2021, making 2021 the year of "RE." REOpening - REcovery - REbuilding - REstoration - RENovation!

With a clear focus on serving griever, Cornerstone of Hope recovered from the pandemic adaptations. We were able to fully restore individual counseling services and support group sessions that had been paused and minimized during the height of the

pandemic in 2020.

Several programs were renovated and refreshed to better align with the needs of griever. Pampering Day became Brushes and Brunch, a new option for self-care was held. Additional programming for grieving Grandparents became a reality, Yoga for Grief debuted for those seeking alternate ways to express grief, and support group reunions were instituted. Also, Wait with Hope, an innovative new support group offering ministry to those waitlisted for individual counseling services due to the unprecedented demand for assistance, was conducted.

Through the generous support of the mental health boards in Crawford-Marion and Delaware-Morrow counties, we were able to initiate a program for immediate support, resources, and companionship to the growing numbers of survivors of suicide and overdose loss through the formation of the Mid-Ohio Traumatic Loss Response Team. Volunteer advocates are central to the success of this program and we continue to build this team.

In order to deliver these new services, we were also very busy rebuilding our caring, compassionate team of clinicians, administrative personnel, interns, and Board. In 2021, we hired an incredible eighteen new team members who are currently providing professional services to griever. We also trained five new interns and have retained several who serve as counselors and group facilitators. Our Board of Directors experienced some renovation with the appointment of a new Board Chair and the addition of five new members in Cleveland and two new members in Columbus. Fresh new ideas are flowing, along with passion and commitment to serving from all who are new to the Cornerstone team. And, for that, we are so grateful.

Individuals experiencing the loss of a loved one are WHY we do what we do, but you, our **generous donors** and **committed volunteers** are the reason we CAN do what we do! Your support in 2021 enabled us to conduct over 10,000 counseling sessions, hold 56 support group sessions serving over 440 support group clients, minister to 149 grieving youth through our summer youth bereavement camp programs, and hold numerous memorial services allowing more than 3,000 griever to memorialize their loved ones. Your continued generous support will help us take our message and programs of hope beyond what we ever dreamed possible, reaching more who so desperately need hope and carry out the Cornerstone of Hope vision of **Creating a World Where No Grieving Person Journeys Alone**. Along with the Cornerstone team and all the griever served, I thank you for all that you do, always.

With HOPE,

Mark Tripodi | CEO & Founder

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OUR MISSION

Cornerstone of Hope is dedicated to providing support, education, and hope for the grieving. Guided by Christian values of faith, compassion, commitment and passion, we welcome and serve all seeking support.

OUR VISION

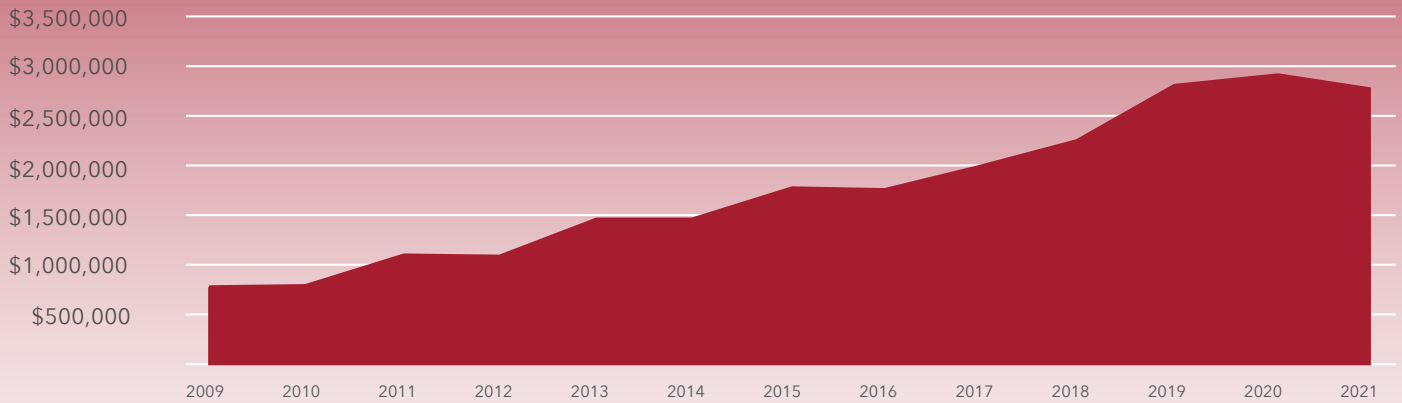
Creating a World Where No Grieving Person Journeys Alone

OUR CORE VALUES

Faith, Compassion, Commitment & Passion

2021 Financial Summary

TOTAL HISTORICAL INCOME



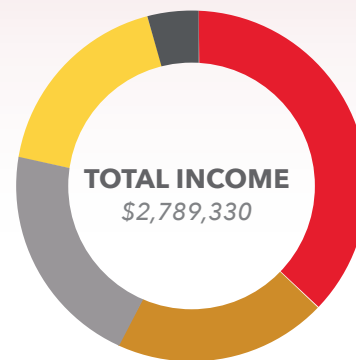
TOTAL EXPENSES

\$2,180,571

75% PROGRAMS & SERVICES

12% ADMINISTRATIVE

13% DEVELOPMENT



Events

Clinical Services

Contributions

Grants

Other

TOTAL INCOME

\$2,789,330

ASSETS	2021	2020
Current Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalent		
Unrestricted	\$1,956,354	\$1,551,590
Restricted for Endowment Fund	\$330,893	\$305,968
Accounts Receivable - Current	\$58,215	\$57,688
Prepaid Expenses	\$11,435	\$0
Total Current Assets	\$2,386,897	\$1,875,246
Accounts Receivable - Long Term	\$25,000	\$66,667
Property & Equipment	\$1,980,244	\$2,186,554
Investments - Restricted for Endowment Fund	\$1,452,690	\$347,413
Total Assets	\$6,164,304	\$4,475,880

LIABILITIES & EQUITIES	2021	2020
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$24,307	\$27,552
Other Current Liabilities	\$114,363	\$81,832
Total Current Liabilities	\$138,670	\$110,374
Long Term Debt - Net	\$39,059	\$87,680
Total Liabilities	\$177,729	\$198,064
Total Net Assets	\$5,986,575	\$4,277,816
Total Assets	\$6,164,304	\$4,475,880

*All 2020 and 2021 data is from Rea & Associates, Inc. Cleveland, Ohio Independent Audit Report dated September 1, 2022.



Camps and Programs

Camp Cornerstone

Camp Memory

Camp Erin

Grief Transformed Workshop

Mother's Day Tea

Grandparents Grieve, Too

Brushes and Brunch

Holiday Grief Support

Yoga for Grief

In-School Programs



Fundraising Events

Annual Benefit Gala

Cornerstone Clambake

Cornerstone Cup

Taste of Hope

Shop for Hope Holiday Market

Rich DiGeronimo Memorial Golf Outing

Grieve with Hope Virtual Concert

Hope, Tea, and Chocolate

Fall Festival of Hope



Memorial Ceremonies

Memorial Butterfly Release

Paver Dedication Ceremony

Candles of Hope

Christmas Candle Lighting and Remembrance Ceremony

Christmas Ornament Workshop



Training and Education

Support Group Facilitator Training

Survivors of Suicide Loss Conference

Suicide Loss Education Series

Grief Matters Education Series

Courageous Parenting Workshops

2021 Champion of Hope

DOLORES KURTZ *By Mark & Christi Tripodi*

If you ever wonder about the value and importance of using your later years for good and for the glory of God, our 2021 Champion of Hope, Dolores Kurtz, will both inspire and motivate you. No stranger to grief through the years, Dolores has not only caught the vision for how essential the services are that Cornerstone provides, but has remained a faithful supporter since our inception. Now, at 90 years young and still beautiful on the inside and out, Dolores continues to be a light in the community. She is a source of encouragement and hope as one of Cornerstone's biggest supporters. While raising seven children, Dolores helped her husband, Mel, start and run Kurtz Brothers. Along with her incredible children, Dolores continually seeks to give back and leave a legacy of compassion, generosity, and love. We are beneficiaries of all of those gifts, and it is our honor to call Dolores Kurtz our 2021 Champion of Hope!



Our Partners

"Cornerstone of Hope is a premier agency working across Ohio to help those experiencing grief and we are proud to provide funding to empower their work in Cleveland. Community West Foundation focuses on six areas of grantmaking, one of which is supporting non-profits that provide programs and services that promote mental and physical health. Cornerstone of Hope is an essential grantee partner delivering assistance in this area."

Martin J. Uhle, President and CEO
Community West Foundation



MID-OHIO Traumatic Loss Response Team


In 2021, Cornerstone of Hope began forming the Mid-Ohio Traumatic Loss Response Team in response to the increased need for grief support due to the dramatic rise in suicide and overdose deaths in Ohio since COVID-19 began.

Made possible through the generous support of ADAMHS boards in Crawford-Marion and Delaware-Morrow counties, this team will train Volunteer Advocates to provide support, resources, and companionship to people soon after losing a loved one to suicide or overdose. These advocates are comprised of professionals, clergy, community members, and individuals who have experienced traumatic loss. Additionally, volunteers will bring hope to grievors by serving on the team in various roles such as data management, community outreach, administrative support, and more.

Made possible by the generous support of:



**Delaware-Morrow Mental Health
& Recovery Services Board**



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Columbus Signature Event



Cornerstone Clambake

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2021

Our 2021 Columbus Signature Event, Cornerstone Clambake, was a casual and enjoyable evening held outdoors at The Club at Tartan Fields with over 200 participants supporting the silent auction, raffles, and the Open Your Heart campaign. Once again, our sponsors, donors, volunteers, and staff eagerly answered the call to serve by generously supporting this successful evening of HOPE.

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Chasing The "WHY?"

Survivors of Suicide Loss Conference

Saturday, October 30, 2021

Our 2021 Survivors of Suicide Loss Conference was an astounding success! With 93% of registrants attending, its need was obvious. Our day started with an exciting break-out discussion moderated by Cornerstone of Hope's Education Director, Julia Ellifritt. Her topic, "Why We Chase the Why," was well-balanced with an encouragement to "Chase the Peace."

The next segment included two powerful documentaries, each followed by a moderated panel of three discussants. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's acclaimed documentaries The Journey and The Journey Revisited tell the stories of a diverse group of suicide loss survivors.

Our lunch keynote address was delivered by Rev. Dr. Patrick L. Hunt. Pastor Hunt is Pastor of Heritage Congregational Church, Berea Police Department Chaplain, and a survivor of suicide loss. He skillfully talked about the importance of grieving in community, and not in isolation, based on the Psalms.

The afternoon session started with the introduction of a new working model for extended group support, presented by Cornerstone of Hope's Community Outreach Pete Bliss. It was followed by a very moving memorial tribute to those we have lost.

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Candles of Hope TO-GO BAGS IN LIMA

Grieving the loss of a loved one over the holiday season can be difficult, as their absence is often felt more deeply.

Our Cornerstone of Hope Lima team assembled and distributed over 100 Candles of Hope to-go bags to individuals grieving the loss of a loved one. These bags included supplies to help them create a candle that represents their loved one as something tangible to remember and honor their memory.



NEW FOR 2021!

SHOP FOR HOPE HOLIDAY MARKET

Cornerstone of Hope hosted its first Shop for Hope Holiday Market on November 30, 2021 - Giving Tuesday! With a variety of vendors and over 150 shoppers we were able to raise nearly \$2,000 in support of our vision of creating a world where no grieving person journeys alone.



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2021 Taste of Hope

TOAST OF THE NIGHT AWARD RECIPIENT MICHAEL TOMASONE

The 2021 Toast of the Night Award was presented to a passionate, committed hard working individual, Michael Tomasone. Michael's support of Cornerstone of Hope dates back to 2005, just after Cornerstone of Hope moved into our original home on Old Schaaf Road. Since that time, both Southwest Companies and Cornerstone of Hope have continued to expand. As Cornerstone of Hope grew, so did the generosity and support from the Tomasones.



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Counseling
Sessions



56 Support
Groups

1140
Phone Intakes

440 Support
Group Clients

149
Cornerstone
Campers



19 In-School
Programs
171 In-School
Participants

CEUs

72 Programs
2,783 Participants



10 Memorial
Programs

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