



Monadnock United Way

# Stronger Together

## 2021 Annual Campaign



### A Campaign Update from Liz LaRose

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For more information about IM and The Pyramid Model [click here](#).



Monadnock United Way

### PACESETTER

DEDICATED • IMPACTFUL • INSPIRING

A big “thank you” to our Pacesetters! Their campaigns help MUW get a jump-start on our new annual campaign.

- **Hamshaw Lumber**

Dear Friend of MUW,

One of the trends that MUW’s Impact Monadnock (IM) staff and agencies are monitoring closely is the effect that Covid-19 has had on the social and emotional health of children. Children are especially vulnerable to the stresses, anxiety, and isolation brought on by the pandemic. While the full impact of these stressors is not yet fully known, a few disturbing findings point to the toll Covid-19 has wrought on our youngest residents.

Unfortunately, these behaviors are affecting young children’s ability to concentrate, learn, and function in pre-school. According to New Hampshire’s Preschool Technical Assistance Network (PTAN), referrals related to disruptive behaviors rose by 214% from the last half of 2020 to March 2021, from 3.5 to 11. It is suspected that the drastic increase in requests for assistance is in relation to trauma sustained during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Annie Dintino-Cucci, IM Project Manager and PTAN Consultant said:

*“It’s undeniable that Covid has increased isolation and unpredictability in schedules for children. For some children, Covid increased the likelihood of experiencing various traumas from losing a loved one to domestic unrest.”*

Fortunately, IM has a powerful tool to combat these disruptive behaviors, thereby limiting the number of suspensions and expulsions from pre-school: [The Pyramid Model](#).

In 2018, an IM-led team was among five collaboratives across the state to be selected for a multi-year, federally funded award to help implement the Pyramid Model in our community. This model is a professional development system that assists early childhood programs in supporting the social and emotional development of all young children, including those with challenging behavior. The Pyramid Model practices are considered positive behavior intervention methods and are designed for teachers, caregivers, and other professionals who work with young children and their families.

The first Pyramid Model implementation sites are:

- Keene Day Care Center (KDCC),
- The Children’s Learning Center (TCLC) at Cheshire



You are now able to look up past issues of this newsletter!

Click [here](#) to see prior issues from 2021!

### Not yet a donor?

There are some easy options for you:

- [Text MUW to 41444](#)
- [Donate online](#)
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23 Center Street,  
Keene, NH 03431

#### PLEASE NOTE:

With the importance of social distancing, we are limiting the number of hours that our staff come into the office to process gifts received via US Mail. We are asking donors to use our safe, secure [donation portal](#) whenever possible. However, we gratefully accept checks from anyone who prefers to donate in that manner and we will ensure that they are processed in a timely manner.

- Medical Center/Dartmouth Hitchcock (CMC/DH)
- The Child Development Center (CDC) at Keene State College (KSC).
- Jonathan Daniels pre-school in Keene also implements this program but does not receive state funding.

This year, through a generous grant from The Center for Population Health at Dartmouth Hitchcock Keene, four more sites will undergo readiness training and coaching to facilitate implementation:

- The Keene Family YMCA
- Rise for Baby and Family
- Walpole Village School
- Home Away from Home in Walpole.

Annie Dintino-Cucci explains why this program is so important, especially in light of the pandemic:

*“Pyramid Model provides us with a framework of evidence-based tools and practices to support the social and emotional recovery of children. As caregivers and educators we will need to be mindful about how we help children process and recover from the challenges of the past year.”*

We are proud of the work IM and our partner agencies are doing to make sure the youngest in our community are nurtured and supported so that they can recover and succeed! We'd like to thank all of our donors who support our campaign. Without you, none of this would be possible.

Sincerely,

Liz LaRose, President

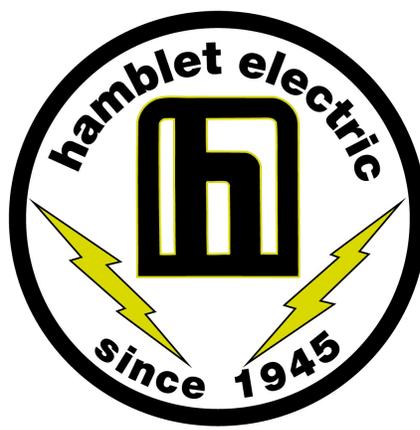
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