



OUR MONADNOCK, OUR IMPACT

LETTER FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT



Hope and Opportunity for Kids and Families Starts with You

Dear MUW Supporters,

Last month our General Campaign Co-Chairs Tom Julius and Ashley Elliott shared MUW's newly released 2024 Community Impact Report, which highlights the powerful difference your support is making across our three focus areas: Children, Education, and Financial Stability. Today we're taking a closer look at the first of these areas: Children. Nearly 40% of MUW's community investments, \$642,000, supported Children last year.



Our Vision for Children

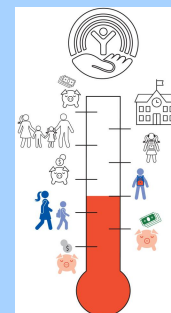
MUW envisions every child in the Monadnock Region growing up in a safe, nurturing, and healthy home and community. Yet, our region faces a sobering challenge: rates of child abuse and neglect here are the third highest in the state. That reality fuels our commitment to create opportunities and connect children and families to high-quality programs and supports—because every child deserves the chance to grow, thrive, and succeed.



We were honored to present the 2025 Ken Jue Award to JoAnn Fenton! Watch this heartfelt presentation of the award, given at the Our Monadnock, Our Impact Campaign Kickoff Event



JoAnn Fenton accepting the award, Donovan Fenton, 2024 Ken Jue Award recipient Judy Rogers



Thanks to you we have raised \$557,334 toward our goal of

Our Partners Bring This Work to Life

For several years, MUW has championed Collective Impact as a way to unite people from non-profit, public, and private sectors to identify needs and implement local solutions. Our partners working to improve the lives and outcomes for children include:

- Monadnock Alliance for Families
- Monadnock Region Afterschool Collective and Partnership Project
- Southwestern Community Services – Dental Screening Program
- New Hampshire Early Childhood Region 1
- MUW's Signature Initiative Impact Monadnock

Our partners' efforts yielded positive results. For instance, the [Monadnock Alliance for Families](#) served 2,215 families in 2024, an 11% increase from the previous year. And the [Monadnock Region Afterschool Partnership Project \(MRAPP\)](#) tackled childcare staffing shortages while creating career pathways for individuals interested in working in childcare. Last year, eight interns supported 254 children at 13 sites—and one was hired directly into the youth education workforce. Your generous gifts directly contributed to these heartening results!

How One Family Found Their Place in Antrim

When James and Fae Panico moved to Antrim with their three young children, they were eager to put down roots. Like many new families, they searched for ways to help their children connect and feel at home. They found it at [The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center](#), part of the Monadnock Alliance for Families (MAF).

Through The Grapevine's Avenue A Teen Center and community traditions like the Black Fly Art Celebration and Snow Families, the Panicos developed a sense of belonging. "It was a chance to see our children thrive in a welcoming community," Fae shared. But the connections didn't stop with the kids. James discovered the Grapevine's monthly Dads Group, a gathering where Dads relax around a campfire and talk about different aspects of parenting.

"Men tend to be more closed off, but this gave us a way to bond. The Grapevine is full of people with warm hearts, always willing to help. Whenever I meet someone new in town, I tell them to check it out."

--James Panico, Grapevine Dads Group Member

Stories like this remind us how trusted community hubs turn neighbors into friends and create the connections that help families thrive. Your generosity empowers MUW and our partners to continue to build community throughout the Monadnock Region.

\$1,519,000!

When you give to MUW, you're not just making a donation — you're making a difference right here at home. Join us in building a brighter future for all.

GIVE TODAY!

We are very proud of our exemplary charity ratings.



[Check out our newsletter archive.](#)

Our Monadnock, Our Impact is more than a theme—it reflects the powerful change we create when we come together. Your contributions—big or small—stay local and help us build a stronger, more vibrant community for all. Let's make the 2025 annual campaign our most impactful yet!

Sincerely,

Liz LaRose, President

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