

From July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018: The Grapevine served 1,635 children, youth, and adults

472 Teens & Adults served at Ave A Teen & Community Center
134 Families received Free Tax Preparation & Budget Assistance
98 Children & Adults served in Better Beginnings Program
65 Children served in Before & After School Clubs
25 Families received firewood from our Wood Bank
17 Seniors participated in the Strong Living Program

296 Adults & Children participated in special groups & programs
130 used our Information & Referral Services
72 Home Visits conducted
29 Children & Adults served in the Learning Vine Preschool
21 Babies & Adults served in Better Beginnings for Babies
0 People turned away based on financial need

Most of our programs are offered at no cost. No one is ever turned away due to financial circumstances.

A Mom's story:

"The Grapevine has become a second family for us. They have been there for some pretty big moments in our lives and helped us in numerous ways! My son Jamison and I started going to the **Hillsborough Parent-Child Play-group** last summer. It was great for him to interact with other kids and I looked forward to the time with other adults and being able to watch him play. Paula and Amy are wonderful and we both have grown to love them! After a few weeks and how well my son did there, we signed up for The **Better Beginnings Program** in Antrim. This would be his first experience in a setting without me. He did amazing and looked forward to it every week! I loved it because it was a break for me and a chance to be around other moms. I looked forward to it just as much (maybe more) than he did!



Once we started in Antrim, I met Nancy, Melissa and Carol. All extremely kind, generous and wonderful women. I became friends with other moms. They were there through my pregnancy with my daughter. My daughter had some complications at birth and through it all, these women were there. The Grapevine was here for me. Gathering food and making meals after my daughter was born, to just messaging here and there checking in. They became my village.

Nancy led parent group on Thursdays. We grew close. Another thing offered by The Grapevine is **Home Visiting**. I said "no" to an offer of home visits for a long time. But the longer I went, the more I knew people, and I finally said yes. She came to my home during the summer. To talk, to listen, to hold my baby. She read to my son and gave him attention because she knew I felt like he was being neglected with a new baby. She came and became my friend. The Grapevine is so much more than just a playgroup. The people who work there don't just stop when the doors close. They all care so much for the kids AND parents who go there. I am beyond grateful for each and every person involved in this wonderful group."

~ Kathy Decato, Washington

A Grandparent's story:

"I was introduced to the Grapevine through the Antrim Elementary School when I suddenly found myself as the guardian of my two young grandchildren. The **Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group** at the Grapevine was a place where we could meet, discuss our various challenges and then work together to educate and be proactive to address gaps and needs in the system. I became politically active and now sit on the State Commission to Study Grandfamilies. Our group was instrumental in writing the language in Bill 629 which helps relative caregivers when faced with guardianship of their grandchildren. The Grapevine was also a safe place where our grandchildren could go and connect with each other in play while our group met.

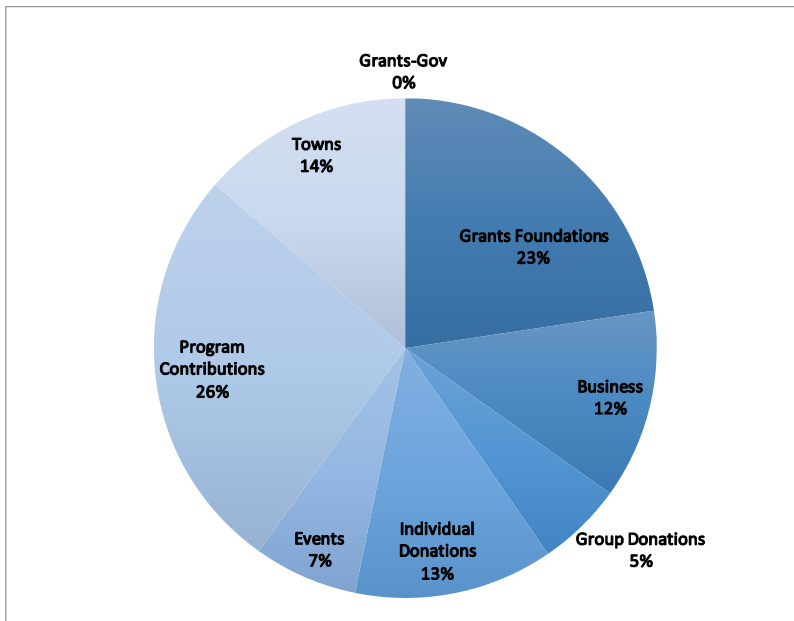
My grandchildren also participated in the **Before & After School Club**. The staff for this program was always very patient, caring, non-judgmental, and professional. Throughout the guardianship, and even today, the Grapevine is an important part of my life. My grandchildren are back with their parents who are now healthy and doing well. I continue to attend the grandparent's meetings, am a member of the HOPE Initiative, the Grandfamilies Advisory Council, and the State Commission to Study Grandfamilies. I



desire to now give back, to help others, offer support, and reduce the stigma. I can only say wonderful things about all the staff at the Grapevine and what an asset they are to this community. Thank you for always being there!"

~ Diane Yeo, Antrim

HOW WE DO WHAT WE DO; OUR FUNDING



In 2017-2018 our financial contributors included:

The Grapevine continues to be creative with new funding sources; and holds many fundraising campaigns over the fiscal year.

Annual Online Auction: Our auction raised over \$7,200 and showed the value and talents of local businesses, and individuals who donated items to this event.

Individual Financial Contributions: Local people responded to our annual fundraising appeal letter by contributing over \$15,000.

Annual Spring Walk for Families: Our Spring Walk for Families in May raised \$9,400.

Eat Out in March: Thanks to participating local restaurants Rick & Diane's and Fiddlehead's Café and Catering, raising \$515.

Bantam Grill Restaurant BeastMaster Classic! A private dinner event with 100% of the proceeds benefitting The Grapevine; raised \$8,200.

<i>Amazon Smile</i>	<i>Antrim Medical Group</i>	<i>Antrim-Bennington Lions Club</i>
<i>Bank of NH</i>	<i>Bellavance Beverage Company, INC</i>	<i>Bellow-Nichols Insurance, Inc</i>
<i>Cogswell Benevolent Trust</i>	<i>Emma M Kelly Charitable Trust</i>	<i>Fiddlehead's Café and Catering</i>
<i>Gilbert Verney Foundation</i>	<i>Grove Street Fiduciary</i>	<i>Hancock Women's Club</i>
<i>HPE Packard</i>	<i>Keith M. Sullivan Foundation</i>	<i>Kiwanis Club of Peterborough</i>
<i>Monadnock Paper Mills</i>	<i>Monadnock United Way</i>	<i>MoonRivers Technology Group, LLC</i>
<i>NH Ball Bearings</i>	<i>NH Charitable Foundation</i>	<i>NH Council of the Arts</i>
<i>Presbytery of Northern New England</i>	<i>Rick & Diane's Restaurant</i>	<i>Robin Colson Memorial Foundation</i>
<i>Sylvania Community Engagement Team</i>	<i>Terracycle Campaign</i>	<i>The Agnes M Lindsay Trust</i>
<i>The Hancock Inn</i>	<i>Toll Booth Tavern</i>	<i>Town of Antrim</i>
<i>Town of Bennington</i>	<i>Town of Francestown</i>	<i>Town of Hancock</i>
<i>Town of Hillsborough</i>	<i>Velcro USA</i>	<i>Yankee Publishing</i>

For a complete list of donors please visit our website: grapevinenh.org

A special thank you: The Antrim Congregational Church Society made a \$15,000 contribution to The Grapevine Family & Community Resource Center in 2018. Leaders of the former church sought to donate their remaining proceeds to non-profit organizations serving the Antrim area. A donation of this scale was a wonderful surprise to us, and we are truly grateful for the trust and faith that these church members have placed with our organization. These funds will go a long way toward serving the children and families of Antrim and surrounding communities. John Robertson, a former church member, described The Grapevine as a "shining success story" in Antrim and said, "We know that The Grapevine will put these funds to good use".



Highlights of work we've done with your support:

Community Tool Lending Shed: The Grapevine's Community Tool Lending Shed is now open! With the support of an anonymous local donor, many volunteers, and tool donations made we have begun lending out tools and offering workshop to learn how to use these tools. The Community Tool Lending Shed is organized by a volunteer committee that offers workshops and facilitates lending tools with community members. If you are interested in learning more about the Tool Shed please email our Tool shed committee at: toolshed@grapevinenh.org



Families learn to make boxes at the Community Tool Lending Shed



Nearly 200 backpacks were distributed to local elementary, middle, and high school students.

This past June, we launched our **NH Gives** online 24 hour campaign to raise funds for our **Backpack to Basics** program. With your support, we exceeded our goal and raised over \$3,000! This program provided backpacks filled with age and grade appropriate supplies for students Kindergarten through High School. Special items including Chromebook covers for older students and hygiene kits with basic body supplies. A special designation for new sneakers has also been set aside as needs arise. Special thanks to the many supporters who made this possible including Robert Draper, Sue & John Conklin, Jeanne Baker, Carol Carnes, End 68 Hours of Hunger, Conval School District, Perry Family Dental Care, Nieskens & Yoe Dentistry, First Presbyterian Church of Antrim and Antrim Baptist Church and many local donors and volunteers.

We have established new programs in Hillsborough by expanding our **Better Beginnings** for Parents (caregivers) & Children to two days a week. In collaboration with the Hillsborough Smith Memorial Church, we offer programs weekly on Tuesdays & Fridays with staff Amy Doyle, Paula Coombs, and Emily Dean.

Our **Home Visiting** program for families is growing and serves as a critical support for families in times of need and crisis.



Children enjoy snack at the Hillsborough Better Beginnings Program at Smith Church's Dubben House.

Our **Grandparents Parenting Support Group** continues to grow and develop with support and funding. Carol Lunan and Wendy Hill of The River Center have been instrumental in bringing these families together through support and advocacy.

Avenue A Teen & Community is booming! Jacqueline Roland, Avenue A coordinator has been busy this past year creating more programs throughout both the year! Local tweens and teens are rooting with their feet and loving all Avenue A has to offer. In addition to teen programs; Avenue A hosts Alcohol Anonymous, Al-Anon, the HOPE Initiative and is available for special event rentals.



Senator Hassan meets with grandparents and families impacted by the opioid epidemic.



Ways to contribute to The Grapevine by In-Kind Donations & Volunteering:

The Grapevine would not exist but for the generosity of this community, not only financial donations but also contributions of time, services and goods. This list represents local businesses and civic groups who have continuously supported us over many years. Without them, The Grapevine could not provide its many services and resources:



*Antrim-Bennington Lions Club
Fiddlehead's Café
Hancock Inn
Edmunds Ace Hardware
Eversource
Larry Schwartz with PHC Financial
Great Brook Middle School
Antrim Elementary School
Lemire & Sons
Monadnock Paper Mill
Mike's Towing & Recovery
Innovative Natural Resource Solutions, LLC
MoonRivers Technology Group, LLC
Antrim Boy Scouts
Ragdoll Animations
Harding Plumbing & Heating*

Our many volunteers involved with the Community Wood Bank, Community Tool Shed, and Avenue A Teen + Community Center

We are always looking for helping hands around The Grapevine, including wood stacking, facility cleaning gardening, or support at events. Join our community!



A FAREWELL & WELCOME:

We bid a bittersweet farewell to our beloved Board of Directors Chairperson, **Marcia Ullman** of Antrim. Marcia joined The Grapevine board in 2013, soon taking on the role of Vice Chair and assumed the role of Chair in 2015. Marcia has been a dedicated, passionate leader of our Board and provided invaluable leadership, especially during a time of transition at The Grapevine. We will truly miss her in this role, but we are grateful for her continued leadership in the community including as Chair of the HOPE Initiative and as a member of the Antrim-Bennington Lions Club. Now, we are honored to announce **Rose Novotny** as our new board chair. We are so grateful for the work of these two amazing volunteers!



Thank you to our Board of Directors:

Marcia Ullman, Benjamin Pratt, Rose Novotny, Richard Edmunds, Kimberly Fletcher, and William Bryk of Antrim; Tom Badgley of Bennington; Molly Cook of Frankestown; Matthew Ferrisi and Kathleen Robbins of Hancock.

Thank you to our staff of The Grapevine:

Sarah Beaumont, Linda Bryer, Paula Coombs, Emily Dean, Amy Doyle, Danielle Grandmaison, Melissa Gallagher, Lisa Hennessy, Carol Lunan, Nancy Macalaster, Jacqueline Roland and Arlene Soule. Our community is fortunate to have all these amazing hands guiding and building the work we do.