



**A Grandparent's story:** *Jinette came to the Grapevine in 2017 with her grandson, Atticus. She is a loving, nurturing mother of five and grandmother of 10!*

*As part of our weekly Better Beginnings program, Jinette participates in parent support group while Atticus joins other children in fun, engaging play and social enrichment. "When I joined this program, I felt immediately welcomed by the other parents. It didn't matter that I was a grandparent" says Jinette, "and Atticus loves coming every week!" As a main figure in her family's life, Jinette came to the Grapevine to learn more about how to support her family and grandchildren. She reflects on how most of her parenting years happened during the 70s and 80s and now, there seems to be so much more information out there. "Grandchildren sleeping through the night was a struggle for me. I thought I had tried everything, and then brought it to the group for ideas, and one of the parents offered up a solution I hadn't thought of. I tried it and sure enough it worked. I could not have been more grateful!" She also appreciates the resources and information that group facilitator, Carol Lunan offers up to the group. "I bring information home and post it on the fridge. My husband will look at it and recognize things in himself that maybe he could do differently. It really does help."*

*Jinette has also participated in our Guiding Good Choices Parenting Program, a five week prevention based program for parents and caregivers of children ages 9 to 14, and our Grandparents Parenting Support Group, a monthly group we convene in partnership with The River Center.*

*Jinette is a source of strength and support for her adult children and grandchildren in the face of some big challenges. She sees a lot of growth in her family and is steadfast in her commitment to see them through life's obstacles. Despite her many responsibilities, she still takes time for self-care: "The [Better Beginnings] parent group is ME time. It gives me the chance to socialize and share which I don't always have the time to do. I love the Grapevine and everything it has done for me."*

**- Jinette Jenks, Bennington**

**A Dad's story:** *As a stay at home dad, I took my son, Donovan, to programs at the Grapevine as a baby all the way thru pre-school. It was a great, supportive experience. Later, my wife Janet, and I went to parenting programs offered by Carol and other Grapevine staff members. We've always felt like the Grapevine is an amazing resource for our community. We love being involved with helping at the Wood Bank and Spring Walks when possible. Now that he's a teenager, Donovan goes to programs at Avenue A. We're sincerely grateful for Jacqueline and the supportive connections Donovan has made there. We feel like it's a great place for him (and all local teens) to be. Whenever we talk to new families in the area, we always recommend The Grapevine as a community resource. If folks ask us general questions like "Where do I find..." or "How can I...", I always tell them to contact The Grapevine. It's an organization with a sincere interest in our kids. I've seen families come to The Grapevine and Avenue A from other communities because of the resources that it offers. It's amazing we have that here. It has an impact on our whole region. – Sean Sweeney, Hancock*



## Building Community

### Collaboration & Partnership

The Grapevine is a lead member and grantee of the Monadnock Home Visiting Alliance, a collaboration of Home Visiting Providers in the Monadnock region, supported by Monadnock United Way and Impact Monadnock. Together we have built a system of shared resources, coordinated response and support to meet the needs of families in our region with one to one supports in the home or other appropriate setting. Our vision is that All families with children prenatal to age 5 in the Monadnock region have access to high-quality home visiting services that support parenting and child development.

The Grapevine is also a lead member and grantee of the newer Monadnock Parent Education Collective, a collaboration of organizations providing parent education and support in the Monadnock region, supported by Monadnock United Way. Together we are finding ways to share resources and coordinate efforts to provide greater access to families to parent education programs and supports in this region. Our vision is to create a coordinated network of parenting programs that will guarantee that every family in the Monadnock Region has access to Parent Education programming and support in their community.

The Grapevine and our Avenue A Teen Center benefit from the tremendous support of volunteers in our community. In the past year alone, Avenue A has involved over 70 volunteers in its weekly and special programs and events! Without their support, our programs would not be possible.

The Grapevine is also a proud representative on the Antrim HOPE Initiative focused on building awareness of substance misuse and behavioral health needs in our community; Family Support New Hampshire Board and Membership State of New Hampshire's Wellness and Primary Prevention Council



### Community Convener

In 2003, The Grapevine led the formation of the weekly community suppers held in Antrim, Bennington, Frankestown and Hancock. Coming together as a community to share a meal is a wonderful way to meet neighbors and stay connected. Across these four towns, thousands of meals have been served by individual and group sponsors, hosted by local churches as well as Pierce Elementary school. The Grapevine provides ongoing support to ensure the continued success of this wonderful community tradition.



The Grapevine convenes the monthly BBC (Brown Bag Coalition) meetings in Antrim. This is an open invitation to all community stakeholders to join a discussion of shared concerns and topics in Antrim, share information and collectively problem solve. Regular participants include schools, churches, library, police, Antrim-Bennington Lions Club, Antrim Grange, Antrim Historical Society, Antrim House and other interested community members.

The Hillsborough Area Resource Group is another monthly group convened by the Grapevine. Area service providers serving Hillsborough, Deering and nearby communities come together to share and network and focus on topics of interest to the group. Representatives from schools, library, mental health, medical, police, fire, churches, social service organizations and more are regular participants.

The Grapevine brings our community together for ongoing education and discussion through events such as film screenings, special programs and workshops and in response to community request.



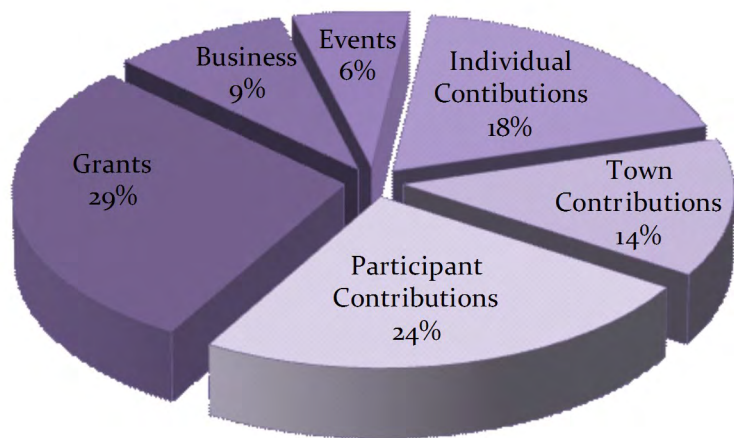
**From July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019: The Grapevine served 1,444 children, youth, and adults**

- 493** Teens & Adults served at Ave A Teen & Community Center
- 139** Families received Free Tax Preparation & Budget Assistance
- 69 Families** used our Information & Referral Services
- 24** Families served in Better Beginnings Program
- 10** Children served in the Learning Vine Preschool
- 11** Babies & Adults served in Better Beginnings for Babies
- 9** served in our grandparents Parenting Support Group

- 417** Adults & Children participated in special groups & programs
- 72** Children served in Before & After School Clubs
- 62** Children & Adults served in the Hillsborough Play Group
- 16** Families participated in our Home Visiting Program
- 16** Families received firewood from our Wood Bank
- 17** Seniors participated in the Strong Living Program
- 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.***

**HOW WE DO WHAT WE DO: OUR FUNDING**



The Grapevine continues to rely on local support and holds many fundraising events during the year to support our programs.

**Annual Online Auction:** Our auction raised over \$8,000 and showed the value and talents of local businesses and individuals who donated items to this event.

**Annual Appeal + Individual Financial Contributions:** Individuals responded to our annual fundraising appeal letter by contributing over \$32,000.

**Annual Spring Walk for Families:** Our Spring Walk for Families in May raised \$9,000.

**Annual Eat Out in March:** Thanks to participating local restaurants Rick & Diane’s and Fiddlehead’s Café and Catering; raised \$1,000.

**Annual Bantam Grill Restaurant Beast Master Classic!** A private dinner event with 100% of the proceeds benefitting The Grapevine; raised \$8,000.

**In 2018-2019 our financial contributors included:**

Amazon Smile	Antrim Medical Group	Antrim-Bennington Lions Club
Bank of NH	Bantam Grill Restaurant	Bellow-Nichols Insurance, Inc
Cogswell Benevolent Trust	Emma M Kelly Charitable Trust	Fiddlehead’s Café and Catering
Gilbert Verney Foundation	Grove Street Fiduciary	Hancock Women’s Club
HPE Packard	Keith M. Sullivan Foundation	Monadnock Roller Derby
Monadnock Paper Mills	Monadnock United Way	MoonRivers Technology Group, LLC
NH Charitable Foundation	Perceptics Foundation	Perry Family Dental Care
Presbytery of Northern New England	Rick & Diane’s Restaurant Pizzeria	Robin Colson Memorial Foundation
Salesforce	Town of Antrim	Town of Bennington
Town of Frankestown	Town of Hancock	The Agnes M Lindsay Trust
	Town of Hillsborough	

For a complete list of donors please visit our website: [grapevinenh.org](http://grapevinenh.org)



**Ongoing Programs at The Grapevine:** Better Beginnings Parent– Child Groups, Learning Vine Preschool, Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren Support Group, Home Visiting Support , Before & After School Clubs, Community Tool Lending Shed, Open Hours for Teens & Ave A Club @ Avenue A Teen + Community Center.

**Services at The Grapevine: Information and Referral-** Offering connections to resources for basic needs such as food, housing, heating, clothing, medical care, counseling, and transportation. **Community Wood Bank–** Emergency heating source for those soon to or have run out of wood. If you have wood to donate or interested in helping at the wood bank give us a call. **Community Tool Lending Shed–** Borrow tools and light equipment. Email: [toolshed@grapevინeh.org](mailto:toolshed@grapevინeh.org) to arrange.

**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***

***Antrim Recreation Department***

***Antrim Elementary School***

***James A. Tuttle Library***

***Fiddlehead's Café***

***Edmunds Ace Hardware***

***Eversource***

***Larry Schwartz with PHC Financial***

***Great Brook Middle School***

***Lemire & Sons***

***Monadnock Paper Mill***

***MoonRivers Technology Group, LLC***

***Ragdoll Animations***

***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. Join our community!*



**Thank you to our Board of Directors:**

Benjamin Pratt, Rose Novotny, Richard Edmunds, Kimberly Fletcher, and Diane Yeo 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, Amy Doyle, Danielle Grandmaison, Melissa Gallagher, Lisa Hennessy, Alanna Lavoie, Carol Lunan, Nancy Macalaster, Mackenzie Nichols, Jacqueline Roland and Arlene Soule. Our community is fortunate to have all these amazing hands guiding and building the work we do.