



SIGNS of HOPE

2010 ANNUAL APPEAL

"I support HOPE because I know every dollar is an investment in the future success of a woman or child."

Jim Garrison, long time HOPE donor

Investing in HOPE

Dear Neighbor,

Every dollar you donate to HOPE immediately goes to work to help low-income women and children build the confidence and the skills they need to succeed in life.

As the chart on the back of this letter demonstrates, a full 89% of HOPE's resources go directly to programming. These funds pay for:

- professional staff to tutor children, and teach computer and job skills to women;
- supplies and equipment such as books and computers; and
- indirect costs associated with programming, including insurance, utilities, and telephone.

The remaining 11% of our funding covers our administrative costs—the dollars it takes to manage the organization, raise the money, pay the bills, and keep an accurate accounting of how our money is spent.

Investing in HOPE is personal. You can walk in the door of our three-decker on any given day, and witness your investment in action.

Investing in HOPE is local. Your money stays here, and serves children and women from the Greater Gardner community.

Investing in HOPE has immediate impact. Your money goes to work right away, oftentimes the very next day, helping vulnerable women and children rebuild their self esteem!

Investing in HOPE has long term impact. HOPE children stay in school and graduate. HOPE women leave here with a new skills and the confidence they need to re-enter the workforce.

Please consider making a donation to HOPE today. Doing so will be a direct investment in the future of a child or woman in your community.

Linda Saloom
President



Afterschool participants show off the artwork they created with volunteer, Janet Dupuis, the art teacher from Narragansett Middle School.

Growing with HOPE

As Nick likes to say, "I've been here since the beginning." In 1996, at the young age of 4, Nick Stvartak walked through the doors of HOPE. At the time his grandmother was volunteering at HOPE and he came along for the fun of it. Now 18, Nick is an active member of *Teen HOPE*, a volunteer mentor to the younger kids in our afterschool program, and a member of the HOPE Board of Directors.

Nick officially started as a HOPE participant during our summer program in 2000. In 2004 he became a Counselor in Training, helping the younger kids during the summer program and eventually moved up to a junior counselor. Nick has worked the summer program ever since.

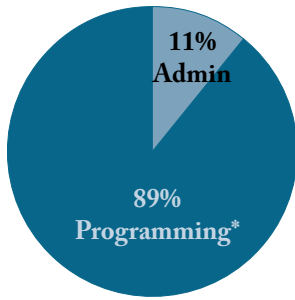
As one of two representatives of the Teen HOPE program on the HOPE Board of Directors, Nick has been a responsible and active spokesperson for teens. He is a respected and well liked mentor of the younger kids who come to HOPE after school and can often be found helping the kids on the computers, or playing basketball with them in the back yard.

Nick has given a lot to HOPE. In his words he does this because HOPE has given him so much. "I can honestly say that I wouldn't be where I am today if it were not for HOPE," said Nick.

Nick is a senior at Quabbin Regional High School and an active ROTC member. This fall he will be attending Mount Wachusett Community College. His interest is mathematics.

The House of Peace & Education, Inc. was founded in 1996 by four members of the Sisters of St. Joseph in response to high levels of poverty and a growing trend of violence in the greater Gardner area of Massachusetts. HOPE provides vulnerable low-income women and children with the tools they need to achieve personal success and security in life.

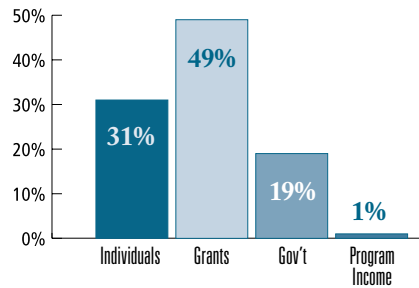
How Are HOPE Funds Allocated?



* 54% HOPE for Kids and 35% HOPE for Women

HOPEful Families' expenses are allocated across both HOPE for Kids and HOPE for Women.

Where Do HOPE Funds Come From?



HOPEful Thoughts Expressed

This program has changed my life: it's inspired me to pursue a higher education, which will enhance the lives of my family members and better my community.

—A current HOPE for Women participant

HOPE is a tremendous asset to the Gardner community.

—Mark Hawke, Mayor, City of Gardner

I believe that HOPE is crucial in developing his sense of community and self reliance.

—Parent of Teen HOPE member

The children are delightful and the program is very organized and well-run.

—Volunteer Tutor, who is also a music teacher

What is HOPE All About?

Mission: HOPE provides vulnerable low-income women and children with the confidence and skills they need to achieve personal success and security in life.

HOPE serves its mission through the following programs,

HOPE for Women serves 25–30 women each year through a comprehensive computer and customer service job training and job skills program.

HOPE for Kids serves nearly 200 kids in grades k–12 with academic tutoring, mentoring and leadership development opportunities, in four programs:

- *Pals*, a group mentoring program for 60 youth in grades k-2;
- *Afterschool*, a tutoring and mentoring program for 35 youth in grades 3-6;
- *Teen HOPE*, a tutoring, mentoring and youth development program for 30 teens in grades 7-12; and
- *HOPE Summer*, a tutoring and mentoring program for 70 youth in grades 3-6 in collaboration with Project Contact, Inc.

HOPEful Families offers education and support services to participants in HOPE programs, including one-on-one problem solving, parent support groups, and educational workshops.



Teen HOPE member, Brianna, celebrates her mom, Donna's graduation from the HOPE for Women program.



Andrew, an afterschool student, takes a break from homework with mentor, Nick.



AmeriCorps member, Danielle Rice, tutors a youth along the banks of Lake Wampanoag during HOPE's collaborative summer camp with Project Contact.

What's New at HOPE?

- Our **HOPE for Women** program was expanded from 4 to 7 weeks, offering women 175 hours of training and support.
- Our summer program has moved to Camp Collier! This past summer we collaborated with Project Contact, Inc. to offer a holistic academic and recreational enrichment camp for 155 low-income youth from the Greater Gardner area.
- **Teen HOPE** members are engaged in a new initiative: Youth Venture, a United Way program encouraging youth to be social change makers.