



# The WARM Way



A Publication for the Families and Friends of The WARM Place | Where Grieving Children and their Families Find Hope | Spring 2016

## Did you know?

### TWP was founded in 1989

#1

The WARM Place was the **FIRST** Grief Support Center for children in the state of Texas, the **SIXTH** in the United States and remains the **ONLY** center in Tarrant County.

**341** children are currently enrolled in our Grief Support Program

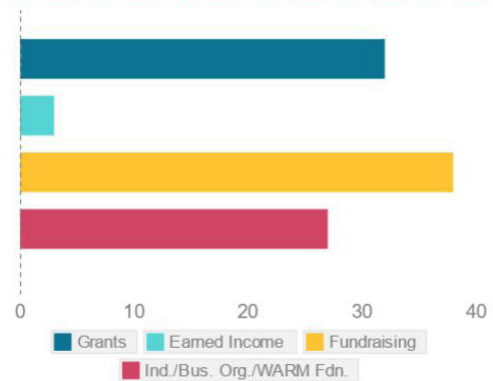


**248** families are currently enrolled in our Grief Support Program

On average each family attends groups for **18 months**

### TWP is 100% privately funded.

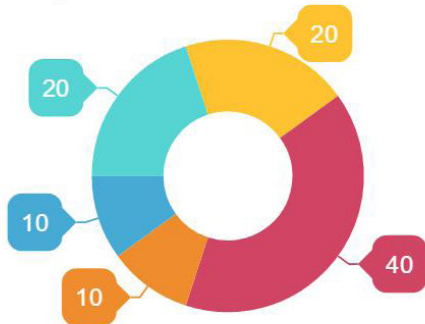
Because of our loyal supporters within the community, we are able to provide our Grief Support Program at no charge to the families.



**\$0** There is no cost to our families to attend our Grief Support Program!



### What's for dinner?



Each family and volunteer brings a dish for our potluck dinner. Have you ever wondered what is the most popular?

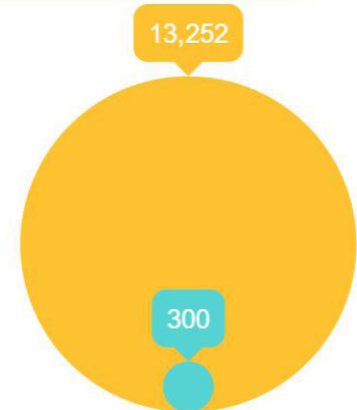
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### 2015 by the numbers

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**1,732**  
clients served

**14,907**  
total service sessions for all groups.



Volunteers Service Hours

## Volunteers



## The WARM Place

### Founders

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John M. Richardson, M.D.

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Katie Lane

#### Volunteer Coordinator

Natalie Chapa

#### Office Coordinator

Pam Mooney

#### Director of Events and PR

Shelley Spikes

## A note from Shirley...

Happy New Year! The new year brings about feelings of excitement and anticipation about good things to come. It is also a time for reflection about all of the great things that happened in the prior year. We had a very busy and exciting year beginning with the completion of our newly remodeled kitchen. On April 30th, we proudly revealed our beautiful kitchen made possible by a very generous grant from the Junior League of Fort Worth. Our families really cherish that time before going into group to sit, relax and build relationships with other families going through a similar experience. The remodel provided additional seating and more room for the families to enjoy a wonderful pot luck dinner. Saying thank you is not enough to express our gratitude for this wonderful donation.

In July, we were privileged to host the 6th annual meeting of the Blue Bonnet Council. The Blue Bonnet Council is comprised of several Texas Agencies whose mission is to provide grief support to grieving children. Since we were the first children's grief support agency in Texas, The WARM Place was instrumental in training other agencies across the state. The purpose of the council is to get together annually and share best practices, solutions, and ideas to ensure we are the best we can be. 2015 was our largest attendee group including 14 Texas agencies, two representatives from the National Alliance of Grieving Children and the staff from Erin's House in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The house was full, as were our hearts as we bid them adieu at the end of a most productive day.

We closed out the year with a complete remodel of the children's meeting rooms. The Arlington Tomorrow Foundation blessed us with a most generous donation which allowed us to redo our rooms with new carpet, paint, furniture and fancy glass message boards. After many years and thousands of children participating in grief groups in these rooms, it was time for an update and a refresh. With this new look comes a renewed excitement to continue our mission of serving grieving children for many years to come.

We are looking forward to 2016 and all the possibilities the new year brings!



WARMest Wishes,

*Shirley Bowen*

Shirley Bowen  
Executive Director

## Save the Date

### February

**Family Night**

February 19

### March

**Spring Break- No Groups**

March 14- March 18

**Fort Works Art presents**

**Gallery Night**

benefiting The WARM Place

March 19

**Kendra Gives Back**

**Kendra Scott shopping event**

benefiting The WARM Place

March 22

### April

**WARM Place Volunteer**

**Appreciation Luncheon**

April 2

**Walk 2 Remember Them**

for the children and families of

The WARM Place

April 16

### May

**Firemen's 5K**

benefiting The WARM Place

May 28

### June

**Family Night**

June 10

**Young Adult Group**

June: 7, 14, 21, 28

### July

**Young Adult Group**

July: 12, 19

### August

**Family Night**

August 26

For more information on these events please visit [thewarmplace.org/events](http://thewarmplace.org/events)

# Counselor's Corner

## You, Grief, and a New Year

Here we are welcoming a New Year... 2016; a time of gathering, celebration, friends, food and new beginnings. But for some, those who are grieving, you are beginning a new year without a loved one. It is difficult for you to imagine planning for a New Year! Your tendency is to approach the New Year only looking back and not forward. Some of you might fear that a New Year means leaving that loved one behind. You've learned a lot this past year. You have experienced grief. We know we are not the only ones who grieve, though sometimes we feel all alone. But still we survive, even though at times we question if it's worth it.

## Consider this...

January 1st, is just another day. The New Year only has the power and meaning we choose it to have. There will always come a New Year with time. You are alive and you do have a future. Remember that a New Year can begin at any time on the calendar for a griever.



By Gina Brown  
WARM Place Counselor



## THE BEST YEAR

OUT WITH THE OLD {20\_\_}

IN WITH THE NEW {20\_\_}

**2** FAVORITE MEMORIES

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**3** THINGS I'M GRATEFUL FOR

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**1** HARD LESSON I LEARNED!

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**1** THING I DID THIS YEAR I'M PROUD OF

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**3** PLACES I WANT TO GO

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**2** WAYS I CAN HELP OTHERS

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**1** THING I WANT TO GET BETTER AT

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**2** THINGS I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO

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**3** NEW THINGS I WANT TO TRY

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Activity: "The Best Year Reflection & Goal Setting" worksheet above is an activity that can include the whole family. As our children get older we spend more time discussing their goals for the future: what extracurricular activities to join, what subjects to take, where to volunteer or how to be helpful to someone else.

With a New Year here, it is great to take time to set some goals. Make a night of it! Get together and reflect on the past year, and look forward to a new year. Your family might have dinner, play games and take a little time to Goal Set!

# Up Next

Did you know the saying “Hat’s off to \_\_\_\_\_” comes from a (now outdated) tradition of removing or tipping one’s hat when entering a residence or when greeting someone out of respect or admiration.

This April, the staff at The WARM Place will be tipping our bonnets, beanies, pillboxes, sombreros and fez’ to our amazing volunteers- without whom our organization could not accomplish its mission.

Please mark your calendars (and dust off your favorite crazy hat!) for our 2016 Volunteer Appreciation event.

For more information on volunteering at The WARM Place, contact [natalie@thewarmplace.org](mailto:natalie@thewarmplace.org).



By Natalie Chapa  
Volunteer Coordinator



Hats Off to  
**OUR VOLUNTEERS**



We "Mustache" You  
to Attend




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Saturday  
**April**  
Second  
10:00am to 12:00pm

The WARM Place®  
Grief Support Center for Children  
809 LIPSCOMB ST.,  
Ft. Worth, TX 76104  
RSVP by March 18th to  
[natalie@thewarmplace.org](mailto:natalie@thewarmplace.org)

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Bring a guest and wear your favorite crazy hat!



In 2015 we introduced Family Nights at The WARM Place with the idea of hosting a night of fun and fellowship for current, past, and possibly future families of The WARM Place. To our delight each and every family night grew in attendance and enjoyment!

This year we will kick off our Family Night series with a special Valentines themed dinner party on February 19th! As always we encourage the entire family to attend. Bring Grandma and the baby and enjoy a night of food and fun with your WARM Place friends!

The WARM Heart Bistro will be accepting reservations through Friday February 12th. Call or email today and we will reserve a spot at the table for you!

Mark your calendar for ALL of our Family Night events:

- June 10
- August 26
- October 21



By Shelley Spikes  
Director of Events & PR



**THE WARM HEART BISTRO**

The WARM Heart Bistro presents Family Night : **19<sup>TH</sup> FEB**

**DINNER AND A CRAFT** : **2016**

**6:00PM - 8:00 PM MUST RSVP TO ATTEND**

Get dressed up and join us at 'The WARM Heart Bistro' for a family Valentines dinner! Seatings are at 6 & 7pm. Crafts will be done prior to or following your meal depending on your reservation time!

Family Nights focus on making new memories as a family after a death. We invite the WHOLE family to come together! Each family night has a different theme and includes different activities. Family Nights are open to past, present, and future families of YWP.

**FREE**

**RSVP FOR RESERVATIONS**  [SHELLEY@THEWARMPLACE.ORG](mailto:SHELLEY@THEWARMPLACE.ORG)  
817-870-2272

THE WARM PLACE 809 LIPSCOMB ST. FORT WORTH, TX 76104

[thewarmplace.org](http://thewarmplace.org)

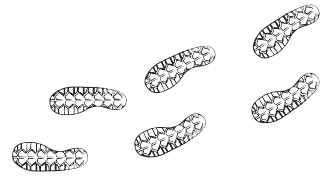
# A Phone Call From Santa



The WARM Place would like to thank all of our supporters and volunteers who contributed to the success of A Phone Call from Santa 2015. This annual holiday tradition loved by many was generously hosted by Merrill Lynch on December 15th and 16th, 2015. Over 700 children were called by Santa himself! We are proud to announce that we raised over \$27,000 with this fundraiser. Special thank you to our presenting sponsors **Global Prairie** and **Haltom's Fine Jewelry** as well as our exclusive media sponsors, **The Ranch 95.9FM** and **Hank 92.1FM**. Mark your calendars because Santa is already planning his calls for 2016, which will be taking place on December 13th and 14th!



# Walk 2 Remember Them



On Saturday, October 24th 2015 over 250 people arrived at The WARM Place in the rain for the 3rd Annual **Walk 2 Remember Them**, The John M. Blackwell Memorial Walk, sponsored by **Macy's**.

Despite the dampness outside, participants were overjoyed to walk in remembrance of their loved ones! They enjoyed a one mile walk around the neighborhood before the finish line celebration which included a hot dog lunch, face painting, cake walk, crafts, and more!

The W2RT has become a beloved tradition for our families and friends of TWP! This year we are moving the event to the spring so please save the date for **April 16, 2016** for the 4th Annual Walk 2 Remember Them. We promise you won't be disappointed!



# Thank you to our 2015 Major Donors

The WARM Place expresses its deepest gratitude to the following major donors for their extraordinary annual financial support to ensure no child will grieve alone.



## Friends of The WARM Place \$5,000 and Above

Adams - Gibson Charitable Fund of the Bank of America  
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Fallen Family Fund of Communities Foundation of Texas

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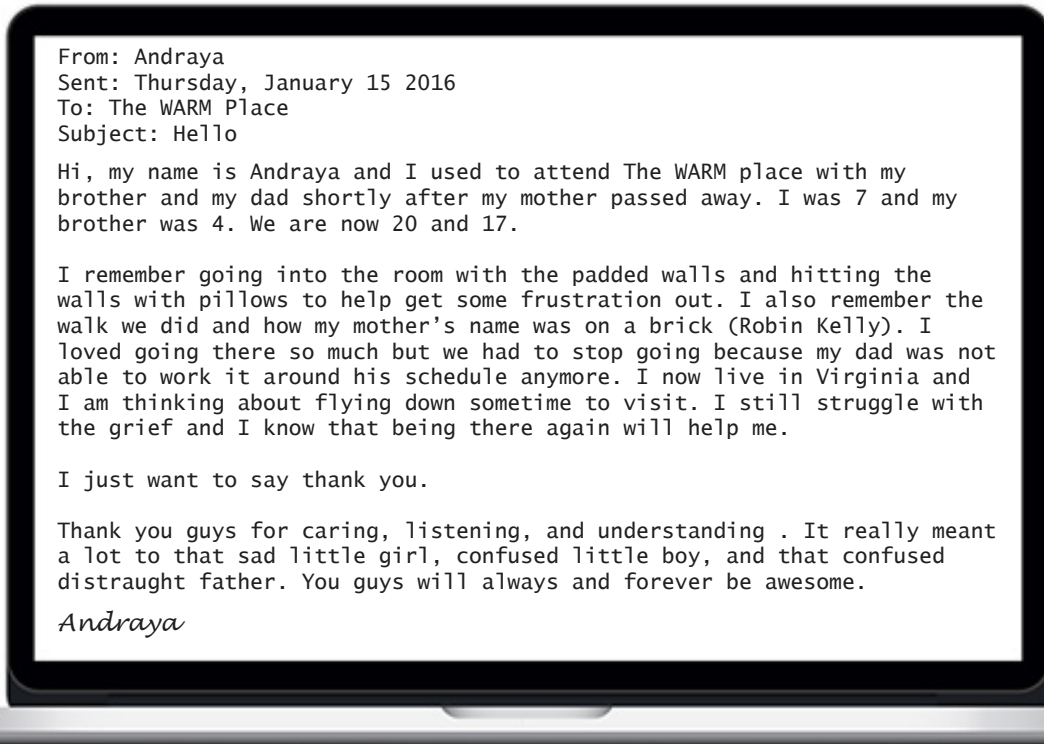
The Ryan Foundation

Ms. Marilyn Zavoina

Z Anonymous

# A S P E C I A L E M A I L

From time to time we are lucky enough to hear from our WARM Place Alum! Recently we received this special email that shows the impact that The WARM Place makes in the lives of the children and families that attend our program.



## THANK YOU TO OUR 2015 COOL NIGHT EVENT SPONSORS



**Presenting Sponsor**  
Anne T. and Robert M. Bass

**Founders' Table Sponsor**  
Marsha and John Kleinheinz

**Platinum Sponsors**  
Anonymous  
Mr. and Mrs. Russ Brown



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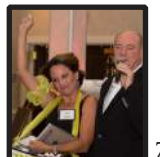
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## Our Wish List:

- Forever Stamps
- Box Cake Mixes
- Frosting
- LED Light Bulbs 60 & 100 watt
- Dessert Paper Plates
- Regular K-Cups
- Large Manilla Paper
- MP3 Players (5)
- Walmart gift cards
- Amazon gift cards for Books

For a full list of our Wish List needs please visit our website at [thewarmplace.org/wishlist](http://thewarmplace.org/wishlist)



Where grieving children and their families find hope

Save the Date

•September 24th•

A COOL NIGHT  
on The Cape



benefiting children at  
The WARM Place

This year, guests will enjoy a fun-filled evening featuring a taste of the East Coast that would make the Kennedys jealous!

Pack your lobster bib and get your seersucker ready because you don't want to miss this party with a purpose benefiting children and families at The WARM Place.

**SPONSORSHIPS AND TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!**

All proceeds benefit children enrolled in Grief Support at The WARM Place.

For more information please visit: [thewarmplace.org/coolnight](http://thewarmplace.org/coolnight)



**The WARM Place**

Where grieving children and their families find hope

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Fort Worth, Texas

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f: 817.870.2570

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