



The WARM Way



A Publication for the Families and Friends of The WARM Place | Where Grieving Children and their Families Find Hope | Fall 2018

The Second Summit

A Cold Climb for The WARM Place

The mountain was Denali, the date was July 4, 2016, and the temperatures were below freezing. Local firefighters, Clint Brewer and Alex Cramer, summited 20,310 feet in honor of the children attending The WARM Place. Through compassion and determination, the two firefighters set a goal to raise \$20,310 (the height of Denali) for The WARM Place.

The idea of raising money for The WARM Place through their climb started in 2016. Having done several climbs before, Brewer and Cramer knew they wanted their next climb to make a difference in the lives of others. They contemplated different organizations, but after touring The WARM Place, they knew that the mission of The WARM Place was what they wanted their climb to benefit.

When asked why, Brewer said that as a firefighter he sees what challenges children go through every day. The WARM Place helps to alleviate some of these challenges, and so for him, it is a way to help the organization continue its mission. For Cramer, after experiencing a death loss in his own life at a young age, The WARM Place spoke to his heart. He said he recognizes that not every child has a strong family support system like he did after a death loss. This is where The WARM Place comes in, and why it is so important in the lives of grieving children.

Climbing a mountain is like navigating your grief journey: **"With personal commitment and teamwork, any obstacle can be overcome. Any obstacle."** - Brewer



Clint, Ben and Alex at A Cold Climb Fundraiser

After selecting The WARM Place as the beneficiary of their Denali climb, Brewer and Cramer, along with the support of another local firefighter, Ben Ogletree, organized an event to help raise their goal of \$20,310. The fundraiser was held at Rahr Brewery, which included beer, live music for the cost of a \$20 ticket.

July 4, 2016, arrived, and the climb was successful! Brewer and Cramer reached the summit of Denali and snapped pictures of The WARM Place and Texas flags. The Texas flag was later auctioned off to raise additional money, and both flags now hang in The WARM Place house. A Cold Climb 2016 raised \$22,764 in honor of the children attending The WARM Place – what a climb!

Two years later, they're at it again! Brewer and Cramer will be tackling an even higher climb – Mt. Aconcagua located in Argentina. In January 2019, they will pack their bags and climb treacherous slopes again in honor of the children at The WARM Place. Brewer and Cramer have set yet another fundraising goal to match the height of their climb-\$22,841!

"For me, climbing is a great way to remember and honor the people I have lost in my life. I owe it to them to get out there and experience life and what it has to offer."
- Cramer

We hope you will join us in supporting these two heroes as they summit Mt. Aconcagua in honor of the children attending The WARM Place! You can learn more about this year's climb on thewarmplace.org.



Clint and Alex at the summit of Mt. Delani



The WARM Place

Founders

Peggy Bohme

John M. Richardson, M.D.

Board of Directors

President

Bill Hallgren

Vice President

Frank W. Shiels

Secretary

Helen Todora

Treasurer

John Fonvielle

Board Members

Parks Blackwell

Peggy Bohme

Lisa Brock

D. Russ Brown

Katherine Giuliani

Russell Green

Joe Greenhill

William W. Harrell

Jeannette Whitney Iglesias, M.D.

Anne Jameson

Jeff Moten

Nick Murray

Roger Nober

Joseph P. Regan

John M. Richardson, M.D.

Christi Thornhill, MSN, RN, CPNP-AC

Ex Officio

Gordon Appleman

Staff

Executive Director

Shelley Spikes

Director of Development

Katie Lane

Development Associate

ReillyJo Cavanaugh

Events & Public Relations Manager

Brooke Bailey

Volunteer Coordinator

Molly Bell

Office Manager

Pam Mooney

Group Directors

Teresa Bartnicki M.S., LPC

Gina Brown, M.S., LPC

Mary Kathryn Nader, M.A., LPC

Program Assistant

Myrna Binion

A Note from Shelley



Recently, we were invited by a local company to attend a check presentation and receive a generous donation for The WARM Place in celebration of this company's 100th birthday. The family-owned chose to commemorate this centennial year by starting a movement of gratitude.

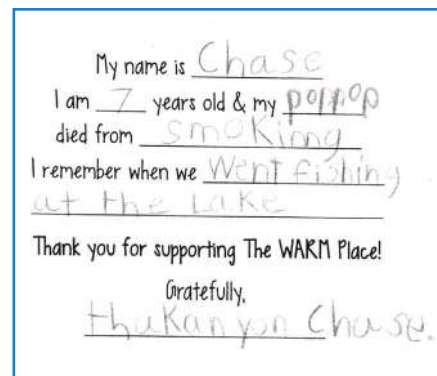
To say I was touched by this celebration would be an understatement. I think it would be more appropriate to say I was deeply moved by their aspirations to make a lasting difference in the lives of children by teaching them the importance of being grateful and the lost art of writing a thank you note. After this generous gesture, we encouraged our WARM Place children to write thank you notes to the company. After it was all said and done, we were able to send 100 thank you cards in honor of their 100th birthday. It was the least we could do to say thank you for this amazing gift.

At The WARM Place, we are constantly reminded of the generosity of others – Whether that be from our volunteers who dedicate countless hours or donors that make our program possible. We see gratitude and grief hand-in-hand here at The WARM Place, when children in our program share precious memories of their loved ones. They are so grateful for this safe place and the support of their peers that walk alongside them through their grief journey, and we are equally as grateful and honored to listen to their stories.

I encourage you to try to find one thing each day for which you are grateful. Every day, we are so grateful for our WARM Place community.

With deepest gratitude,

Shelley Spikes, Executive Director



SAVE THE DATE

For more information on these events please visit thewarmplace.org/events

Young Adult Group:
September 12-October 31

Pre-K Group:
September 13-November 15

North Texas Giving Day:
September 14

A Cool Night in the Country:
October 6

Children's Grief Awareness Day:
November 16

Comfort Stones:

Finding security in the palm of your hand

By Mary Kathryn M.A., LPC
Group Director

Counselors' Corner

Many children experience anxiety after the death of a loved one. When a family member dies, it changes children's understanding of the world. They now know that there are things out of their control. Children may wonder who will die next, when they will die, or who will take care of them. They may be afraid to sleep alone or be away from loved ones. At The WARM Place, our group activities help to interact with and help this anxiety. One activity we did recently is Comfort Stones. We found this activity at a breakout session when we attended the National Alliance for Grieving Children Conference in San Antonio in June.

The purpose of this activity is to make a special comfort stone that fits perfectly in the palm of their hands. They can put it in their pocket or backpack and take it with them wherever they go, including school, church, a friend's house, or afterschool activities. It can provide tactile stimulation to help them when they are feeling stressed or anxious.



Supplies

- ☐ Transparent glass gem stones
- ☐ Small circle die-cuts
- ☐ Sharpies
- ☐ Glue

You only need four items to make a Comfort Stone: transparent glass gem stones, small circle die-cuts, sharpies, and glue. The children can write the name or initial of their loved one, the name of their surviving parent, a calming or inspirational word, or a peaceful symbol on the die-cut. Other options include coloring the circle die-cut a calming color or drawing something small that brings them comfort on the die-cut and placing it on the bottom of their stone. They can then glue the die cuts to the bottom of their stones. The children are able to see the special symbol or word through the glass of the stone.

The Comfort Stone will give them something solid to hold onto when they're going through challenges or feel alone, even when they are in a group of friends. Our mission at The WARM Place is that every child knows that they do not grieve alone, and we hope that this stone will be a reminder of that. For more resources on activities for grieving children visit thewarmplace.org/resources.

Family Nights

We always have such a blast at WARM Place Family Nights! Family Nights focus on making new memories as a family after a death. Each Family Night has a theme and includes fun activities for all ages. Family Nights are open to past, present, and future families of The WARM Place. Take a look at how much fun we've had at each Family Night this year!



Football
Family Night

Creating
Family Harmony



WARM Heart
Bistro



Nerd Night
at TWP



Family Night at
The Ballpark

Volunteer Spotlight

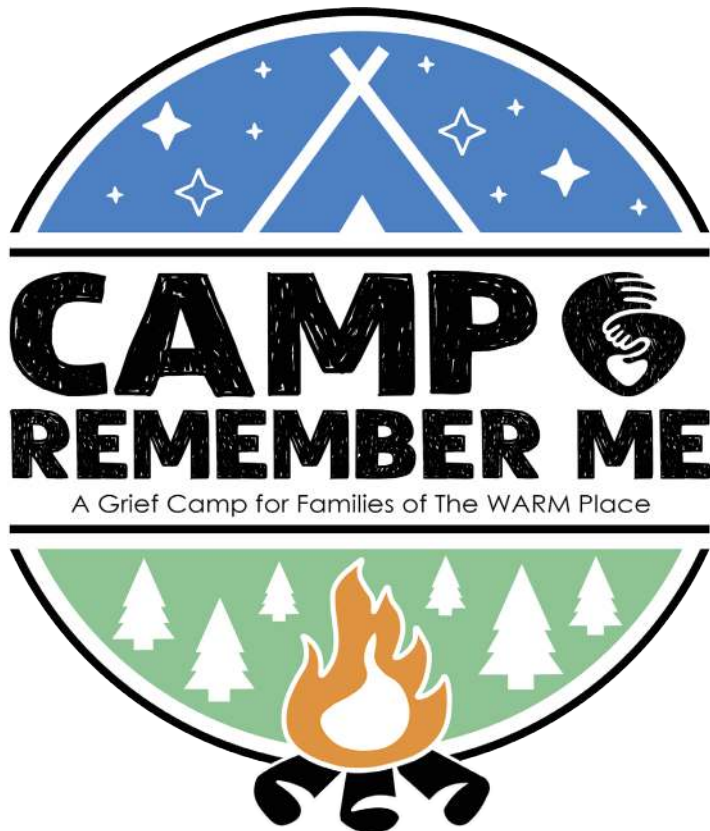
Ryall and Jane Tune

The Tunes' connection with The WARM Place (TWP) started when they attended in 1995 with their three children after their oldest son, Ryall, died. They participated in TWP grief support programs for a year and a half. "It was so helpful to our family, that we wanted to give back," Ryall and Jane said.

For the past 15 years, the couple has volunteered on sibling night. For Jane, the most rewarding thing about volunteering is "working with the young teens to feel safe and trust the group enough to share boldly with each other. Then they are more confident in talking about their loss with others outside of the group including their family and at school." Jane also spent eight years working with our youngest grievers, our Pre-K group. Ryall has enjoyed leading the adult men's group on sibling night. It has been amazing to "see the men in my group go from not being able to say what happened to being able to help other men in the group work through their grief."



After their dedicated years here at TWP, the Tunes will end their time as facilitators in order to spend more time with each other and family, including their 11 grandchildren and their church ministry. The couple said one of their biggest take-aways from volunteering at TWP will be "Knowing we have made a positive difference with the families." Ryall and Jane said they have made life-long relationships with their co-facilitators and will truly miss seeing them every two weeks. However, the Tunes are looking forward to staying in touch with The WARM Place. They plan to continue to volunteer on an as-needed basis for facilitating and for special events such as R2RT. TWP is so thankful for the Tune's gift of service! They have truly impacted the lives of the children, volunteers, and staff at TWP.



A CAMPING We Will Go!

The WARM Place is excited to announce that we will be hosting our first family camp experience – Camp Remember Me! The weekend camping trip will be held November 2-4, 2018 at Camp El Tesoro in Granbury, Texas.

Camp Remember Me exists to provide an opportunity for WARM Place families to grow together in their grief journey. At Camp Remember Me, we will provide a weekend camp environment where families participate in both typical camp activities and grief-related activities. Our hope is that families will experience healing, have fun, enjoy WARM Place community, and create special new memories while remembering their loved one.

We are looking forward to extending this unique opportunity to current WARM Place families! Visit thewarmplace.org/camprememberme for more information.

A COOL NIGHT IN THE COUNTRY

A SIGNATURE EVENT BENEFITING THE CHILDREN AT THE WARM PLACE

6:00 PM SATURDAY
ES6

River Crest Country Club
1501 Western Avenue
Fort Worth, TX 76107

Tickets and Tables Available Now

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS \$125 EACH ★ SPONSORSHIPS START AT \$500

FOR ADDITIONAL EVENT DETAILS, VISIT THEWARMPLACE.ORG/COOLNIGHT

Save the Date!

March 2, 2019
10K | 5K | 1 Mile

Registration opens

Nov. 12, 2018!

thewarmplace.org/r2rt



THANK YOU

We are thankful for the support of our WARM Place donors! Contributions of all sizes from individuals, businesses, and foundations in our community, as well as numerous in-kind donations, ensure no WARM Place child will ever have to grieve alone.



Liberty Carton Company



Olivia Reed's Lemonade Stand



The ATHENA Society of Burleson



Back in Motion



Eagle Scout Garret Golliday



Gus's Fried Chicken

Major Donors \$5,000+

(Donations listed are from 1/1/2018-8/28/2018)

Amon G. Carter Foundation
Anonymous
Apex Capital Corp
Arlington Tomorrow Foundation
Celanese Foundation
Colleyville Woman's Club
Cook Children's Health Care System
Frances C. and William P. Smallwood Foundation
Frost
Helen Irwin Littauer Educational Trust
J.E.S. Edwards Foundation
John and Marsha Kleinheinz
Katherine and Pete Giuliani
Liberty Carton Company
LM AERO Club

Lockheed Martin
Macy's
Mary Potishman Lard Trust
R4 Foundation
Range Resources
Ronald McDonald House Charities of
Greater North Texas, Inc.
Rosalyn G. Rosenthal
Southlake Women's Club Foundation
The Alcon Foundation
The ATHENA Society of Burleson
The Lowe Foundation
The Rees-Jones Foundation
Virginia Street Smith Charitable Fund of the
North Texas Community Foundation

Our Wish List



Think **Green!** Make sure we have your email address so you can receive our e-newsletters.

Subscribe at thewarmplace.org

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
FORT WORTH, TX
PERMIT #872

- Forever Stamps
- Printing Paper
- Regular Size Dinner Napkins
- Paper Towels
- Kleenex
- Colored copy paper and card stock
- Manila Paper
- Country Time Powdered Lemonade
- Bottled Water
- Office Depot or Staples Gift Cards



Where grieving children and their families find hope

Save the Date to DONATE!

#NTGD2018

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS

**NORTH TEXAS
GIVING
DAY**

9.20.18

powered by
**COMMUNITIES
FOUNDATION of TEXAS**

**Don't have time
on the 20th?**

You can schedule your gift on The WARM Place North Texas Giving Day page between Sept. 10-19!

New this year:
Create your own
FUNdraising page!



The WARM Place®

Where grieving children and their families find hope

809 Lipscomb Street
Fort Worth, Texas
76104-3121

t: 817.870.2272
f: 817.870.2570
thewarmplace.org

Follow us on social media!

