

# 2013

# Annual Report



New Mexico Friends  
of Foster Children

www.nmffc.org |  nmffc

## From the Board President:

### The stories behind the numbers

Dear Friends:

All too often, New Mexico's children in foster care get reduced to numbers, and it can be easy to forget the human beings behind the challenging figures we see in the news or read in reports. At Friends, we reach out to the real kids, real teens, and real young adults who make up the real lives behind those numbers.

### As a supporter of Friends, you help to make the lives of New Mexico's kids in foster care just a little bit brighter.

Here are some of the stories of how you have helped:

★ You made it possible to send a Native teen to science camp to pursue an interest in marine biology, and the next year you paid this teen's tuition to an excellent prep school dedicated to enriching the education of Native children. Your generosity insured that this young person's opportunities were always supported—when a little extra money was all it took to make a foster youth's dreams come true.

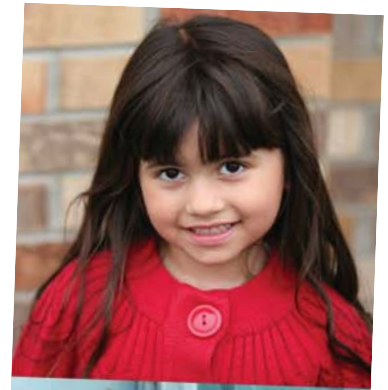
★ Over the last three years, you've helped fund scholarships for young adults who were in the foster care system. Our scholarship recipients qualified because they have overcome hurdles and continue to pursue their goals and dreams:

- One young woman works two jobs and takes classes at a community college; the scholarship allows her to work a little less and go to school a little more.
- A young woman adopted in her early teens was rejected by her adoptive family and sent to live in a residential treatment center. She aged out at 19, totally on her own with no family support. She is in school and making her own way; her scholarship will be used for books not included in the state Lottery Scholarship.
- A scholarship recipient (for two consecutive years) is a college sophomore currently studying to become a social worker with plans to help children who are encountering the challenges she encountered.

★ Grandparents sometimes become foster parents for their grandchildren when the children's parents are in prison or unable to care for them. The grandparents are often on a limited income and your help allows these children to have bikes or art classes and other things the other kids have.

★ When a teen is looking for a job, transportation is crucial. Your contributions insure these teens have bikes to go to interviews and to work.

*Continued...*



## Helping New Mexico's Kids in Foster Care Be Kids

Continued from page 1

★ There are times when a seven-year-old needs a laptop just as much as a high school student does. One such child spoke English but needed immediate educational intervention to learn to *read* English and develop her language skills. Your dedication helped this young girl gain desperately needed language skills via on-line programs.

★ A young woman spending her freshman year of college on the East Coast was homesick and wanted to visit her grandmother and siblings in Albuquerque. She was doing really well in school but missed her family. We purchased a ticket so she could come home to see the members of her family who love and support her. We didn't want her dropping out of college because she felt alone. Your support allowed her to be with her family *and* continue her college career.

★ We learned of a young teen who found that music gives him a sense of purpose and an amazing sense of accomplishment – things that are often missing in the lives of foster children. Your support helps this youth handle his anger and sense of loss while positively nurturing his musical talent every time he plays his guitar.

★ Medicaid purchases glasses once every two years. What happens when a child in foster care needs glasses before the two year deadline? One teenager broke his glasses when he was upset after being taken from his family; he did not understand why he was in foster care.

The foster dad explained that NMFFC would replace his glasses regardless of how the glasses had been broken. The young man carefully selected frames that weren't too expensive because he understood he was responsible for breaking the glasses and because he realized that there are people he does not even know who care about him.

## Special Gifts to NMFFC

### IN MEMORY OF

Maureen Alessi  
Frances Beard  
Virgil Christiansen  
Aubrey Dunn, Sr.,  
New Mexico State Senator  
Linda Green  
Leon Joslin  
Mary Anne Kenny  
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Linda Sullivan's parents

Rose Thompson  
Janice Trujillo  
David Vilven  
Steven Lloyd Wilson

### IN THE NAME OF

Christopher Papaleo  
  
IN HONOR OF  
Walter Case  
Alma Efrogmson  
Tim & Judy Flynn-O'Brien  
Ann Halford  
Eric Hunter Hill  
Sophie Martin  
Navy Seal Team 6  
Martha Reiersen

Jane Ronca-Washburn's  
brother  
Linda Sullivan  
The Families of Jack & Linda  
Sullivan

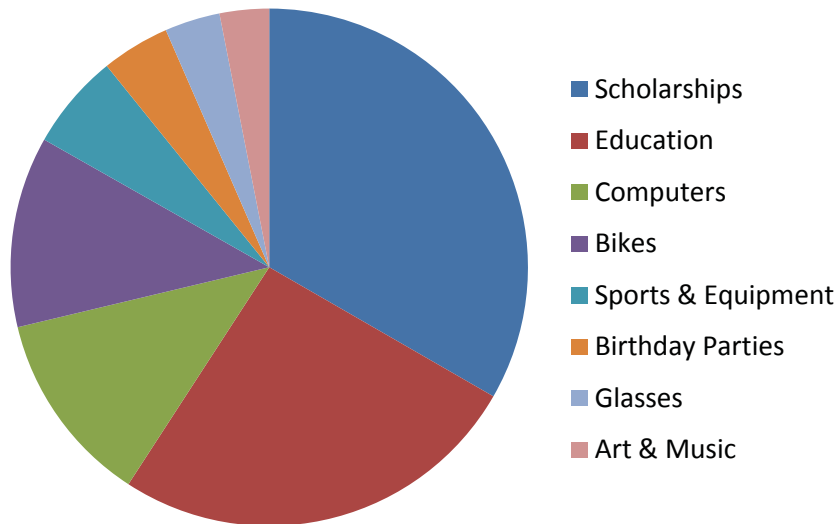
### IN CELEBRATION OF

All the Wonderful Foster Parents  
Will & Laura Chambers  
William & Mary Chambers  
Jesse P. Jacobs, Jr. & Patricia  
Jacobs  
Fred & Patricia Jaeger  
Life  
Sally & Ed Pias  
Jay & Lori Swalander Chambers

## 2012 Financial Snapshot

Private Gifts	\$23,197	26%
Grants & Contracts	\$61,915	69%
Golf Tournament	\$3,922	4%
Product Sales	\$1,268	1%
Interest	\$53	0%
	<u>\$90,302</u>	<u>100%</u>
Program	\$86,023	90%
General & Admin	\$8,041	8%
Fundraising	<u>\$1,004</u>	<u>1%</u>
	<u>\$95,067</u>	<u>100%</u>

## 2012 AWARDS: Distribution & Highlights



- ★ Sponsored a Christmas Party for 150 children in foster care
- ★ Co-sponsored a conference for 72 youth and provided each with a copy of the keynote speaker's biography
- ★ Supported youth organization with mentoring events
- ★ Collaborated with CYFD on multiple, statewide adoption and foster parent recruitment events

# 2010 – 2012 DONORS

New Mexico Friends of Foster Children extends a warm thanks to our donors over the years. This list acknowledges the contributions of our 2010, 2011, and 2012 supporters. Donors who gave during the current calendar year will be acknowledged in the 2014 annual report.

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P.O. Box 30228  
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