



The Children's Room

*Caring support for grieving children
teens and families*

Autumn Updat

Above, pictures from the 5th Annual Memories Walk and Fun Run from left to right: the first (and youngest) runner to complete the route; a sleepy walker; a family with their post-walk medals; volunteers wore blue shirts and a young walker with the Upper Mystic Lakes in the background.

Greeting

Here's what's inside:

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5th Annual Memories Walk and Fun Run - Twice as Many Walkers/Runners!

Nothing dampened our spirits, despite how much it poured (and boy did it at times!) Fortunately, the rain panned long enough for everyone to complete the three-mile route around the Mystic Upper Lakes and return back to the warm and welcoming (and dry!) Medford Boat Club. We are grateful for the support of the Medford Boat Club, who donated the use of their facility and their incredible staff to make this day special. Families were able to come together, kids ran around, and everyone got to enjoy the day thanks to their support and shelter.

Walkers and teams raised over \$22,000, which is a huge increase from last year. We had twice as many registered walkers as last year, and more than twice as many teams. Next year we hope to add more corporate sponsorships with your help. Thanks to GenPower for sponsoring the walk. You can still [donate](#) to the walk online today to support a team or make a general donation.

Read Anne Favaloro's touching [story](#) about what that day meant to her family. View more pictures from the walk. We were fortunate to have Denise Michel Photography donate her photography skills to us and provide pictures for the web. Some [photos](#) are available for purchase as well (password is memorywalk08).

Here Come the Holidays - Help Is Available for Grieving Parents

Stores are already decorated for the coming season, and for many families this is a difficult time as all the memories from past holidays start flooding back. We have some help. Our alumni parents are offering the **Parenting Through Grief Workshop: Strategies for Coping with the Holidays** on Sunday, November 9 at 4 pm. Visit our website for more info and to RSVP. Our popular one pager with tips is available there to download. We are thankful that our alumni parents are willing to volunteer their time and offer their insight

topics that are important to grieving parents. Our website has the complete schedule of upcoming topics, mark your calendars today. We are able to offer twice as many workshops thanks to donor support.

We Invite You to Our Annual Meeting - Wednesday, October 22

Join us as we come together and recap the year that has just passed and look to the future.

The meeting starts at 6:00 with a light supper. The business portion of the meeting will start at 6:30 pm and promptly at 7:30 pm. All are welcome.

Come for a Tour and Tell - Meet Volunteers, Hear Stories, Get Inspired

Our next tour will be held on Wednesday, October 29th at 6:00 pm. Come listen to our passionate volunteers relay their experiences at The Children's Room and our dreams for the future. As one visitor said, "The tour is great. I thought I knew so much about The Children's Room, but I didn't realize how much you have grown."

New Beginnings for Our Yard

Autumn is settling in and we are preparing our yard for amazing things to come. We recently replaced our crumbling retaining wall thanks to a grant from the Smith Family Foundation and the hard work of Fagan & Masonry. Now, A Yard and A Half, under Eileen Michaels (Mass. Certified Landscaper) is going to bring our vision of a healing garden to life. Come springtime, we will plant shrubs and transform the front yard into a beautiful garden for all to enjoy. We have a fabulous plan designed by David McCoy of Geographia Design that reflects our mission and will be a wonderful site for our families and the community.

Circle of Thanks Breakfast, Tuesday November 18th at 8 am

We invite you to join us at the Circle of Thanks Breakfast at the Newton Marriott. You will hear inspirational testimonials and see our new video of stories from the children and teens we serve. Your attendance is really important because we are excited to have an opportunity to bring our entire community together. This fundraising breakfast is free to attend, and donations will be requested but not required. There is no minimum and no maximum donation. The program will end promptly by 9 am.

Find Us on Facebook

For those of you who use Facebook, visit our page we launched last week. It provides updates on any new posts to our website and events such as our tours, etc. [Come see.](#)

Thanks for your time! We hope to hear from you.

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