

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE:

The pages of this year's Annual Report highlight a year of unprecedented growth for Mommy's Light, including:

- 300% increase in the number of young people served
- 300% increase in outreach to bereavement professionals, school guidance counselors and social workers
- 155% increase in special event income
- 60% increase in income
- 60% increase in number of newly trained volunteers

Mommy's Light arranges for young people whose mothers are in life-threatening situations or are deceased to continue traditions and simple pleasures they shared with their mothers. By rekindling treasured memories and helping to build experiences that recognize the 'normal' aspects of their lives, Mommy's Light's efforts can play a crucial role in a child's adaptation to a mother's death. According to *Children and Grief: When a Parent Dies*, by William J. Worden, which was based on a Child Bereavement Study from Harvard University:

- 20% of bereaved children are at risk for psychological problems, considerably higher than the norm of 7 to 10% in non-bereaved children.
- The death of a mother seems more challenging for most children than the death of a father, especially as time goes by. Mothers tend to be the emotional caretakers and are better able to maintain predictability and routine that are so important to young people.
- The death of a mother is associated with higher levels of emotional and behavioral challenges than the death of a father.
- Young people who have experienced the death of a family member function better, if, among other factors, they (1) maintain a strong emotional connection to the deceased person and (2) are part of families that actively cope with the illness or death and provide order, predictability and routine.

Mommy's Light knows of no other organization, locally or nationally, currently providing its unique service to young people. Mommy's Light is a groundbreaking organization giving voice to a very vulnerable population of grieving children and teens.

As Mommy's Light pauses to celebrate its 2003 successes, we already are gearing up for a tremendous 2004. The addition of three new Directors - Michael Doyle, President of Comcast Cable's Eastern Division and Founder of CN8; Robert Madonna, Vice President of McCoy Enterprises and co-Founder of Golden Cradle; and Mimi Mahon, PhD, RN, FAAN and an Advanced Practice Nurse in palliative care and ethics, and a Senior Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania Center for Bioethics - promises significant Board focus in public relations and development.

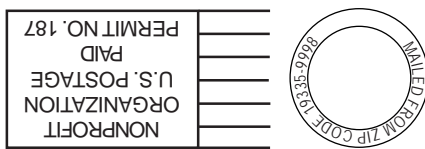
With the addition of Milly Elrod as Program Director, Mommy's Light expects to continue to recruit, train and manage dedicated volunteers to assist the increasing number of young people requesting service; and service is at the heart of Mommy's Light's vision. The center pages of this report highlight the process of serving a child from the moment a request is made through the child's 18th birthday.

Your financial and volunteer support is vital to Mommy's Light's ability to meet its current obligations and continue its strong growth. Thank you.

Laura Munts
 Laura Munts, Esq.
 Executive Director



Bringing **JOY** and comfort to young people by helping them keep alive traditions and simple pleasures they shared with their mothers.



Radsheda's Sisters

In late August, Mommy's Light volunteers were on their way to visit four incredible sisters. Their mother had died in April from heart disease. Radsheda (18), the eldest sibling, dropped out of college to do whatever she could to keep her sisters together. The sisters shared with Mommy's Light how every night their mother would make a huge meal and insist that her daughters help her and do their homework in the kitchen. They often went out together as a family, doing fun things like roller skating, Dujunna's (11) request.

They also loved going to the movies, Ashley's (9) request. A particularly exciting outing, and Jaki's (15), request was back-to-school shopping. They made a day of it, selecting clothes for each other and trying on outfits. After eating lunch at the food court, they continued shopping until everyone was outfitted for school. In early September, Mommy's Light arranged for the sisters to do their 2003 school shopping at their favorite mall.



www.mommyslight.org

Mommy's Light
 P.O. Box 494
 Lionville, PA 19353
 (610) 725-9790
www.mommyslight.org

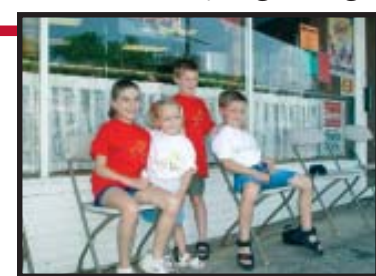


UPCOMING EVENTS:

January 15, 2004 -
 5% Day at seven area Whole Foods Markets.
 Volunteers needed.

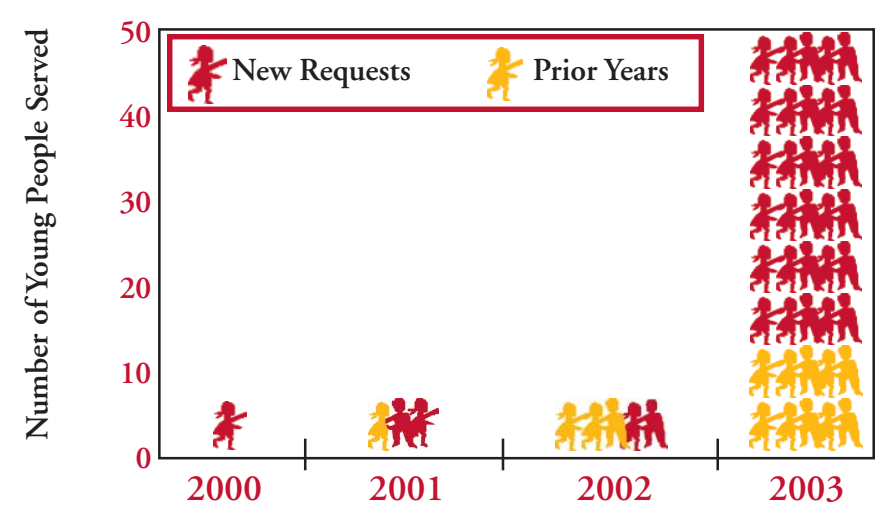
March 13th and 14th, 2004 -
 The American Girl Fashion Shows at Lily Langtree's in Valley Forge.

For more information about these and other events, visit www.mommyslight.org.



(610) 725-9790

MOMMY'S LIGHT - GROWTH IN SERVICE



Statistical Information about the Young People Served by Mommy's Light:

- 43.5% of young people are White
- 43.5% of young people are African-American
- 9% of young people are Latino
- 4% of young people are Asian-American
- 80% of young people have mothers who have died of cancer or have the disease; 60% have mothers who have or have died of breast cancer
- Other causes of death include heart disease, AIDS and accidents

OUTREACH & EDUCATION

In 2003, Mommy's Light conducted extensive, and often times one-to-one, outreach to more than 400 area guidance counselors, social workers, bereavement professionals, funeral homes, religious organizations and medical professionals. These professionals are now educated about Mommy's Light's services and are able to pass applications along to clients who may be experiencing the death of a mother. Information and applications are also available at www.mommyslight.org.

"It was wonderful to have Mommy's Light at our agency's Staff Meeting. We deal with children every day who have lost their mothers and are seeking to maintain the emotional connection to that one person who loved them, cared for them and nurtured them like no one else. Thank you Mommy's Light for doing just that."

Michele Kristofco
Montgomery County Office of Children and Youth

Joey and Danny

The mother of Joey (7) and Danny (5) recently died from cancer. Two Mommy's Light volunteers visited the boys on a beautiful spring afternoon and spent some time getting to know them. Each boy had plenty of joyous memories of their mom, but both fondly recalled visiting the Philadelphia Zoo with her and made this one of their requests. Mommy's Light delivered the zoo packages to the boys - big zoo animal bags filled with everything needed for a day at the zoo like tickets, t-shirts, water bottles and cameras. Joey and Danny were elated and their father was overcome with gratitude for making the boys so happy.



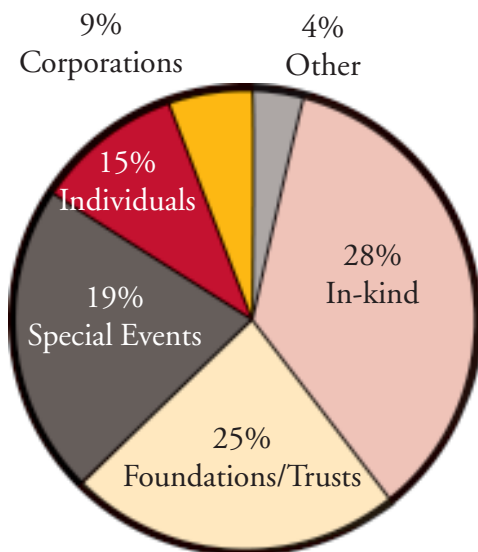
Nicki and Her Brothers

Nicki (9) has three brothers. Their mom is in the final stages of cancer. The siblings talked about roller-skating and how "Mom is the best backward skater." Two brothers asked to continue skating at WOW Family Fun Center in Philadelphia. Nicki and her other brother love going to the movies with their mom and asked to keep this simple pleasure alive. Mommy's Light arranges for all the siblings to go skating in the spring and to the movies in the summer.



FISCAL YEAR 2003

INCOME



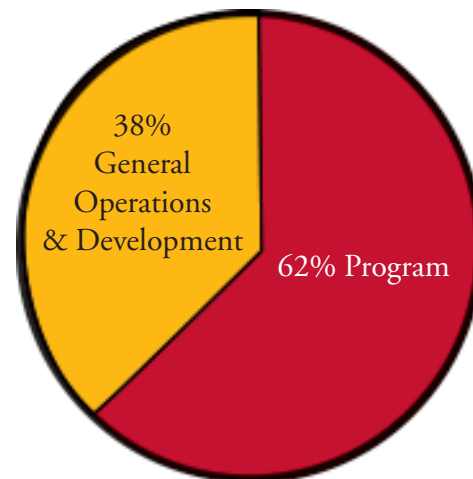
155% increase in Special Events

In-kind donations include professional services, office space and goods

Does not include the value of more than 500 hours of nonprofessional volunteer hours

FISCAL YEAR 2003

EXPENSES



Program Expenses include all costs incurred for family and community contacts, such as request fulfillment items, outreach, education, and training and ongoing development of volunteers



Expenses include less than 1 full time equivalent employee

DONORS THANK YOU TO ALL OF MOMMY'S LIGHT FISCAL YEAR 2003 (7/1/02 - 6/30/03) DONORS!

Foundations, Corporations & Community Organizations

Angels on Earth
In Honor of Laura and Andrew Munts by Anonymous
AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, LP
Burke Family Foundation
Campbell Soup Foundation
Catania Engineering Associates, Inc.
Covenant Presbyterian Church
David's Bridal, Inc.
The Robert and Joan Dircks Foundation, Inc.

In Honor of Debbie Liberatore and Robert Burge by Etravelgencyonline.com, LLC
Frezel Family Foundation
Georgetown Ice Works, Inc.
Glenmoore Moms Club
Giant Food Inc. - Morrisville
Holy Trinity Church
The Junior Women's Community Club of Narberth
E. Roy Knoppel Charitable Trust

Edward A. Lozick Foundation
Malvern - Paoli Moms Club
Manhattan Bagel Company
Mercer Delta
The Montangelica Fund of The Philadelphia Foundation
National Penn Bank
Newcomers Club of the Upper Main Line

Revivals
Suzanne & Ralph Roberts Foundation
The Rose Group (Applebee's)
The Saturday Club
Christine Smith and Lawrence Smith Charitable Trust
In Memory of Rachel Rubel by Studio 3
The Philadelphia Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation
Sweet Hearts Ice Cream
United Way of Southeastern PA
Ms. Vogel's Grandview Elementary Class
Whole Foods Markets of Devon and Wynnwood
William Penn Savings and Loan Association

Above \$5,000

Estate of Mary S. Murphy, Dec'd

\$500-\$5,000

Bernadette M. Gallen
Anna Hillman
Joseph Imperiale
Employees of Mercer Human Resource Consulting

Andrew and Laura Munts
Robert and Carol Robinson
Susan M. Stoneback
J. William and Mary Joan Widing, III

\$200-\$499

Robert Ayd
Mark and Iris Coblitz
The Glancy Family
Leroy Nunery
Michael and Nellie Walter

\$100-\$199

James and Paulette Battenfelder
Craig and Brenda Bruner
In Honor of Dorothy Buckley by Jerry S. and Anne Buckley
Thomas M. and Diane B. Cornish
Ken and Laura Gibbs
In Memory of Margaret Gallen by Bob and Margie Henry
Mike and Joan Kelly
Jane E. Kistler
The Lanzalotto Family
In Memory of Margaret Gallen by Thomas and Michelle Leonard
John and Joanne Marshall
Mary Louise Munts
Thomas and Shari Olbrich
Dennis and Maureen Runyon
Paul and Konnie Stark
In Honor of Laura Munts by Polly and Deborah Talen
Danny White

\$1-\$99

Mark and Karen Aigeldinger
Lisa Langdon Arko
In Honor of Bonnie Krasner by Steven L. and Janie Atlas
In Honor of Dot Neff by Steven L. Atlas and Janie Atlas
In Honor of Rohan Paskaw by Steven L. and Janie Atlas
In Honor of Rohna Paskow, Dot Martin and Michelle Cooper by Steven L. and Janie Atlas
Alice Baker
In Honor of Kelsey Fitzgerald by Sheryl C. Barrish
In Memory of Mary Murphy by Phyliss Buchanan
Joseph and Dorothy Burns
Margaret Buzogany
In Memory of Joanne L. Harnitchek by Mary Antoinette Kasprzak Chase
Jen Coble
Beverly Conroy
William and Paula Deal
In Memory of Steffie Nelepka by Stephanie DeLiberty
In Memory of Ellen Hitchings, Bertha Reed and Glen Hayes

by Joanne Del Vecchio
Robert and Denise DiCocco
Dolores
Ralph and Mary Kristin
Dominica
In Memory of Janette Sandy by Mark and Barbara Endres
Pat Feeney
In Memory of Margaret Gallen by Terry and Deborah Gallen
Mary Gillies
Joan Girese
David and Lisa Heck
El Helmig

Pam Hjelle and Family
Adrienne Hirata Iloff Stewart and Patricia Jaffe
In Memory of Mary Murphy by Adlai and Andrea Joseph and Family
In Memory of Amanda Jurkofsky by Jothi Jurkofsky
Kathryn Luce Labrum
Rhonda Lagrow
Stephen and Felicia C. Layne
Julia and Anthony Mapes
Mark and Laura Matika
In Memory of Janet Weber by Tim and Peg McCorry
Nancy K. McGarry
In Memory of Margaret Gallen by Michael and Monica McNally

In Memory of Barbara K. Hepler by Robert and Kathryn Meyers
Robin and Patricia Miller
In Honor of Peggy Staarman, Pat Miller, Melissa MacIntyre, Carol Copeland, Janice Amicone and Joanne Kalmbach by the Munts Family
In Memory of Mary Murphy by Charles and Donna Myers
Daniel and Judith Oberholtzer
Marianne O'Neil
Mary Pacell and Earl Klingaman
In Memory of Dorothea Nenstiel Eisemann by Marilyn Pappas
In Memory of Rosemary C. Scholl by Susan Powers
Michael E. Ray
Maureen Reilly
Toni Lyn Reyburn
Edwina Riolo
In Memory of Janette Sandy by Robert and Margaret Sandy

Rosalie Simon
Regina Smith
Marilyn W. Sprague
Elaine Subbio
Christine M. Alves Summers
Mary Talucci
Stephanie Thibault

In Honor of Elrod Family by Jennie Tome
In Memory of Louise Petkiewicz by David Torone
Justine Vigilante
In Honor of 5th Grade Eagle Teachers and 8th Grade Gold Teachers at Valley Forge Middle School and Liza Ballantyne by Cary Wade and Martha Thompson
In Memory of Mr. Isadore Director by Debbie Woolson and Fred Cohen

In-kind Donations

A.C. Moore - Downingtown
Michael and Donna Beard
H.P. Cadwallader Inc.
Campbell Soup Company
Clemens Market- Lionville
Dairy Queen - Lionville
Dick's Sporting Goods
Giant Food Store - Exton
Giant Food Store - Horsham
Gillian's Wonderland Pier & Water Theme Park
Anna Hillman, C.P.A.
Home Depot - Downingtown
Kohr Bros. Frozen Custard
Janice Loveland
Mimi Mahon
John and Joanne Marshall
McNaughton's Garden Center
Alison Miller
Clyde Ming
Andrew Munts Associates
Laura Munts
Nick's Pizza
NouSoma Communications, Inc.
Pickering Valley Feed
Ruby Tuesday - Springfield Mall
Sally's Music Circle
Sears, Roebuck and Co. - Exton
Shriver's Springfield Mall
Strings Fantastique
Target - Warrington
Top Gun Corporate Photography
Renee Vogel
Waterloo Gardens
Whole Foods Market - Devon
William Widing, Esq.
Chris Woolson
WOW Family Fun Center

EVENTS

American Girl



American Girl Fashion Shows: More than 900 people attended The American Girl Fashion Shows and Teas, hosted by The Saturday Club at Lily Langtry's in Valley Forge, on May 3rd and 4th. The shows, emceed by local celebrities, featured girls ages 3 to 12 modeling historic and contemporary fashions. The event raised \$16,000 each for Mommy's Light and The Saturday Club Historic Preservation Fund.



Whole Foods Slam Dunk 5% Day: On April 3, 2003, Mommy's Light was the beneficiary of 5% day at Whole Foods Markets of Devon and Wynnewood. Mommy's Light arranged for Sally's Music Circle to provide morning entertainment for children in both stores and for the Villanova Men's and Women's basketball teams to participate in a Slam Dunk Competition.



Susan G. Komen Philadelphia Race for the Cure: On May 11th, Mother's Day, the Mommy's Light team joined more than 36,000 other participants in raising more than 2 million dollars for the fight against breast cancer.



4th and 5th Grade Students' M&M[®] Fundraiser: A group of selfless fourth and fifth graders at Grandview Elementary School in Morrisville, PA, raised \$1,000 for Mommy's Light.

Naaire, Shalia & Keesan

Kitandra (32) has cancer. She has always been an active, fun and spontaneous mom, taking her 3 children to amusement parks, skating, out to eat, etc. "I never liked just sitting at home. Sometimes I'd wake the children up and we'd end up at Virginia Beach by the end of the day."

Kitandra's son Naaire (7) loves when Mom takes them all to Hibachi's, a restaurant near their home. He's determined to catch the shrimp when the table chef flips it at him. His sister Shalia (17) asked to go roller-skating at WOW Family Fun Center. Mom still skates with the "old fashioned" roller skates.

Their brother Keesan (11) loves when they all go to Dorney Park and Wild Water Kingdom. Keesan shared all the Dorney Park details with Mommy's Light volunteers – cooler full of snacks, fried chicken, beach towels, water shoes ("some kids have water goggles for the water park"), and rides Mom went on with them.

Mommy's Light approved all three children's requests and facilitated Keesan's Dorney Park outing first. Each child received colorful packages that looked like huge Tootsie Rolls[®]. The packages contained new beach towels and goggles – to which Keesan pumped his fist and exclaimed, "Yes! And blue is my favorite color!" The family also received a cooler full of snacks arrayed in colorful tissue paper. When Mom saw the cooler, she jumped off her seat, hugged a volunteer and said, "You all are so creative!" Beagle Bucks for fried chicken and park passes completed the request.



VOLUNTEERS

While Mommy's Light service is at the heart of the organization, Mommy's Light volunteers are its soul. More than 70 trained and event volunteers support every aspect of Mommy's Light, from ironing t-shirts to designing outreach materials, from running the web site to serving the children. In 2003, Mommy's Light honored two "Volunteers of the Year": Chris Woolson - Web Master, and Alison Miller - Design Artist and Request Fulfillment Volunteer. Many thanks to Chris, Alison and all the volunteers, past and present, who've kept Mommy's Light burning bright.



Chris Woolson and Alison Miller with their Angel of the Year Awards

Shane and Chelsea Rose

Mommy's Light volunteers visited Shane (10) and Chelsea Rose (8) at their home on a warm summer evening. Their mom had died only a month prior after battling brain cancer. Posters that the children had made for display at her funeral were still standing in the living room. The children talked about each photo offering details of past holiday activities, family gatherings and vacations.

Shane shared stories about his favorite traditions with his mom. His mom loved the Christmas holidays and would fill her classroom (she was a school teacher) and her home with "tons" of decorations. His mom would plan an outing to the Hershey Hotel that included breakfast with Santa and a holiday show. Shane remembered how his mom would laugh as he and his sister would later sing and dance like the performers in the show.

Mommy's Light, courtesy of the wonderful folks at Hershey Hotel, will be sending Shane, Chelsea Rose and their dad back to the Hotel and breakfast with Santa. How sweet it is.



BOARD & STAFF



William J. Widing, III, Esq.,
Chairman of the Board



Anna Hillman,
CPA, Treasurer and Director



Paulette Battenfelder,
Vice President and Director



Nellie Walter,
RN, Vice President and Director



Laura Munts,
Esq., Director



Michael Doyle,
Director



Robert Madonna,
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Mimi Mahon,
PhD, Director

Staff: Laura Munts, Esq., Executive Director; Milly Elrod, Program Director; Jennifer Cobb, Development Coordinator; Sharon Benner, Bookkeeper; Shari Olbrich, Administrative Coordinator; Tracey Oberholtzer, Outreach Coordinator; Chris Woolson, Web Master; and Alison Miller, Graphic Design.

Advisory Board: Ellen Langas Campbell, President, NouSoma Communications Inc.; Reverend John Morton, author and co-founder of the Good Works Foundation; Dr. Marisa Weiss, Founder of Living Beyond Breast Cancer; and Joan Kistler, Kistler-Tiffany Companies, LLC.



Mark and Shannon



Mommy's Light volunteers visited Jeanmarie (33) three weeks before she died of breast cancer. She was in a hospice bed that took up most of the space in the living room. Her husband, Mark, moved her into a wheelchair for the visit – "on the count of three" and Jeanmarie locked her arms around Mark's neck for the transfer. As soon as Jeanmarie was in her wheelchair, her children, Mark (7) and Shannon (5), were by her side – Mark on her right and Shannon on her left. Brienne (15 months) was asleep upstairs.

Mark and Shannon loved doing arts and crafts with their mom. They also loved using cookie cutters on pre-made sugar cookies.

A week later, Mommy's Light delivered paints, stencils, stamps, brushes, hand painted smocks and two flags for decorating to Mark and Shannon. Once again, Jeanmarie got out of her hospice bed and began experimenting with the paints, stencils and stamps – Mark on her right and Shannon on her left.



Approval granted move on; approval not granted go back 4 spaces

THE HEART OF MOMMY'S LIGHT



Steve and His Brothers

Steve's mom died on his 8th birthday. Steve's dad felt that it was a gift for Mom to have died on the youngest child's birthday as he would have fewer memories of her than his 14-year-old twin brothers. When Steve marked his future birthdays, it would be with a mixture of joy and sadness, but always with a memory of his Mom.

The brothers had fond memories of their mom taking them to the Springfield Mall on weekends that their dad worked. When Mommy's Light volunteers asked if they shopped separately, the boys laughed, "Mom never let us out of her sight." They remembered eating Auntie Anne's pretzels, buying clothes and sometimes eating at Ruby Tuesday's.

Mommy's Light put together a mall fun package to mail to the brothers. As the volunteer was assembling the mall brochure, gift certificates and a few treats wrapped in red and yellow tissue paper, she wondered if the boys would enjoy opening the package. In that moment, goosebumps flooded down her left side and she felt that the brothers' mom had just said, "They will love this!" And, the brothers certainly did.



START

Family finds out about Mommy's Light

Family submits Request For Services Form

Program Director determines eligibility

Program Director calls Family; if eligible move to next space

Program Director mails information package to Family

Following year, Program Director contacts Volunteers regarding the Family

If Child under 18, return to START and move to 3rd yellow space

If Child is 18, proceed toward FINISH

Send Child Birthday Card

Invite Child to become a Volunteer

FINISH

Volunteers record details of each Request

Family completes Request Forms

Volunteers submit Request to Program Director for approval

Volunteers identify elements of Request

Volunteers ask local merchants to donate Request items

Program Director asks regional merchants to donate Request items

Volunteers design Request Fulfillment Package with Enhancements

Volunteers deliver in-person or via certified mail

Family receives Evaluation Form

Volunteers send "thank you" notes to vendors

Mommy's Light sends "thank you" notes to vendors

Volunteers complete Forms and Evaluations.

Volunteers are assigned to Family

Volunteers call Family to arrange meeting

Volunteers select small "ice breaker" gift for each Child in Family

Volunteers meet with Family for about 1 1/2 hours

Volunteers talk with Child about what they like to do with Mom