



Ele's
Place

Ele's Place Ann Arbor
is here for YOU
Today ♥ Tomorrow ♥ Always
Call us at 734.929.6640

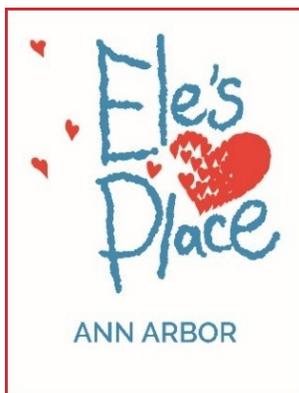
No Child or Teen Should Grieve Alone

2nd Quarter 2021 Newsletter

YOUR Newsletter Includes:

- Virtual Grief Support – Summer 2021 Programming
- In Their Own Words – Former Ele's Place Ann Arbor Teens – Lasting Impressions
- 2021 Derby Day Soirée @ Your Place – Wrap Up!
- NEW this Year! Healing Hearts Family 5K Walk/Run
- Save the Date! Healing Hearts Society Fundraising Breakfast
- VIRTUAL Tours of the Heart
- GRANT FUNDERS Supporting Ele's Place Ann Arbor
- Thank YOU – Community Partners AND Friends GIVE BACK
- Ele's Place Ann Arbor Servant Leader Spotlight

Virtual Grief Support – Summer 2021 Programming



In the past, Ele's Place Ann Arbor ended our ongoing groups at the end of May, and hosted monthly "family nights" during the summer. THIS SUMMER, due to the steady increase in inquiries to attend our **VIRTUAL peer grief support groups**, Ele's Place Ann Arbor will **CONTINUE** to provide support groups to our current families, Tuesday through Thursday evenings during June and into July. Some evenings have added extra virtual groups for certain age groups due to the growing numbers of children and teens participating!

In addition, every program evening offers grief support groups for the parents or guardians of Ele's Place Ann Arbor children and teens, which are facilitated by Licensed Clinicians. We are grateful to be able to support adults in their grief so they can be more present with their child's/teen's grief. These evening support groups meet two weeks per month and serve grieving children and teens ages 3-18, and their adults, **at no cost to the family**.

Please note, many of our groups are at capacity. While families who call us now may not be placed in groups right away (perhaps not until fall), we can start to provide support from the first phone call, and will be there to walk alongside them and provide support however we are can.

During this time of remote schooling, we continue to provide support materials to our partner school counselors and **VIRTUAL school peer grief support groups** (Ele's Group) when it

works for them. As more schools return to onsite schooling, our bereavement and school-based coordinators look forward to supporting our school partners, and hope to welcome new partners during the Fall 2021 session.

We are SO grateful to our dedicated and committed **VOLUNTEERS** who facilitate our virtual peer grief support groups! After your full daytime schedules (many remote, with computer screen drain), YOU stand by us as we stand by the grieving children and teens in our community and the surrounding southeast Michigan area! We couldn't do what we do WITHOUT YOU!

In Their Own Words – Former Ele's Place Ann Arbor Teens – Lasting Impressions

"...I would always, always leave Ele's Place in a better mood than when I walked in...yes, some of the nights are heavier than others, but that's just something to expect...and, even the heavy nights...they don't outweigh the times when you come out and just feel... like a weight is off your shoulders for that week!"

"There's so much healing that goes into listening to others, as well, so, I think that's definitely unique to Ele's Place."

"If you are hesitant about coming to Ele's Place for the first time, just give it a try...I'm telling you, just go to one meeting and give it a fair honest try..."

~ Excerpts from a conversation with **Donna** and **Hannah** for the 2021 Derby event

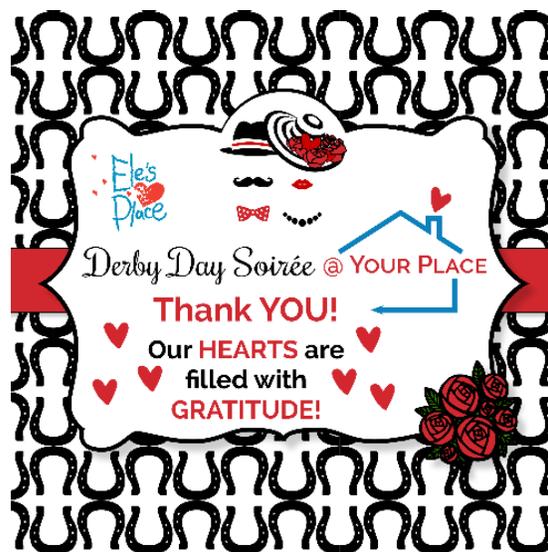
2021 Derby Day Soirée @ Your Place – Wrap Up!

THANK YOU to the 2021 Ele's Place Ann Arbor Derby Day Soirée @ Your Place Sponsors, Attendees, Donors, Silent & Live Auction Donors – Bidders - Purchasers, Paddle Ask Raisers, Staff, Board Members, Video Guests, Derby Trivia Masters and Emcee, Chuck Colby!

TOGETHER we made it to the WINNER'S CIRCLE and made our virtual event AN AMAZING SUCCESS! We've raised over \$116,000 (and counting)! **YOU** help heal grieving hearts in our community and your gifts ensure our peer support groups remain **FREE OF CHARGE!**

THANK YOU to our our **Presenting Sponsor, Comerica Bank**, Winner's Circle Sponsors, **John & Lindsay Bogdasarian, Diane L. Kieliszewski, CFP, AAMS, an Edward Jones Financial Advisor** and **IHA!** Shout out to ALL Derby Day Soirée @ Your Place **Sponsors** below! We are so **GRATEFUL!**

YOU still have time to **STAND WITH US** as we serve grieving children, teens and their families! **TEXT "elesplace" to 56651** O R **visit <https://elesplace.org/donate-ann-arbor>** for YOUR secure donation opportunities.



NEW this Year! Healing Hearts Family 5K Walk/Run



Grab your walking shoes OR your running shoes and REGISTER to join us for our inaugural Healing Hearts Family 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, June 26th! Register & Info: www.elesplaceann Arbor.org

In-Person: \$25/Adult – Kids (12 & Under): FREE

Virtual: \$20/Adult

Register EARLY – Fees GO UP 6/1!

Former AND Current Ele's Place families PLUS the ENTIRE community are invited to participate in this family-friendly event to honor, celebrate and remember a special person who has died.

Put "one foot in front of the other" to help fund our peer grief support programs and ensure they remain FREE OF CHARGE to all who are in need of our services TODAY, TOMORROW AND ALWAYS.

Interested in volunteering OR sponsorships? Please contact Stacey Bodner at sbodner1@elesplace.org

Save the Date! Healing Hearts Society Fundraising Breakfast



Tuesday, October 12, 2021
Hybrid Event (Virtual & In-Person)

Interested in **Sponsorships**? Please contact Stacey Bodner at sbodner1@elesplace.org.

Interested in becoming a **Table Host**? Please contact Lindsay Clark at lclark@elesplace.org.

VIRTUAL Tours of the Heart

JOIN US! Meet our staff, learn about our traditional in-person and current virtual grief support services for children, teens and their families, gain awareness about grief conversations, and find out ways you can help support our mission.

Upcoming 2021
VIRTUAL "Tours of the Heart" via Zoom!

Thursday, May 13th – 9:00-10:00am
Wednesday, May 19th – 4:00-5:00pm
Thursday, June 17th – 9:00-10:00am
Wednesday, June 30th – 4:00-5:00pm

To sign up for an Ele's Place Ann Arbor Tour of the Heart, please [click here](https://forms.gle/KiiABGpuj4jNujEt6) or copy & paste this link into your browser: <https://forms.gle/KiiABGpuj4jNujEt6>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the virtual Tour of the Heart via Zoom. Please register by 5pm the day prior to the tour date.



PLEASE NOTE, **these tours are NOT intended for families seeking grief support.** If you need

assistance or have questions about grief support for children and teens, our Clinical Program Staff is available to help! Please call Ele's Place Ann Arbor at 734.929.6640 or email annarborinfo@elesplace.org.

Questions about a Tour of the Heart? Contact Lindsay Clark by email lclark@elesplace.org or phone 734.929.6640.

GRANT FUNDERS Supporting Ele's Place Ann Arbor

We are GRATEFUL for our **GRANT FUNDERS!** Their investment in Ele's Place Ann Arbor helps us accomplish our goals and serve the grieving children, teens and their families in the Ann Arbor community and the surrounding southeast Michigan area. Some of our recent grant awards are listed below.

In March, we celebrated the one-year anniversary of the date the **Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation Youth Council** removed all restrictions and awarded us a grant that allowed us to be responsive to emerging needs during COVID as we continued to provide peer grief support groups for grieving children and teens – virtually. THANK YOU AAACF Youth Council!



Ann Arbor Area
Community Foundation

FREDERICK S. UPTON
Foundation

MANY THANKS to the **Frederick S. Upton Foundation** for the recent grant awarded for operating use during COVID! These funds are extremely impactful as we continue to provide grieving children and teens peer grief support via evening groups and school-based groups – virtually

Most recently, we were awarded a technology reimbursement grant from an **Anonymous Foundation** that will allow us to further professionalize our communications, grant-seeking, and general office efficiency. MANY THANKS for these incredibly needed upgrades for our staff!

Are you a grantor organization wanting to learn more about the Ele's Place Ann Arbor mission? Please reach out to Lindsay Clark, Director of Development at lclark@elesplace.org or 734.929.6640.

Thank YOU – Community Partners AND Friends GIVE BACK



Sending HUGS to our community partner – **University of Michigan Credit Union (UMCU)** – AND its members! Ele's Place Ann Arbor and Ele's Place Greater Flint & Genesee County were their most recent "Give Back Charity"! We are so GRATEFUL that TOGETHER everyone GAVE BACK \$6,000 to our organization in the Ann Arbor and Flint communities!

We appreciate UMCU and its members – THANK YOU for investing in us as we support the grieving children, teens and their families in our communities!



We are so GRATEFUL to **Ann Arbor Distilling**

Company AND all of the “Red Hearted Julep” and “Pink Hearted Pony” LOVERS who purchased the Ele’s Place Ann Arbor canned cocktail leading up to our Derby Day Soirée @ Your Place!

YOUR support and “enjoyment” were AMAZING – Ele’s Place Ann Arbor will receive almost \$300 from sales during the month of April! Thank YOU for supporting grieving children and teens in our community!



Heads-up! The Ele’s Place Ann Arbor “Pink Hearted Pony” is still on sale! Order online for curbside pickup here: https://annarbordistilling.square.site/product/pink-hearted-pony-the-official-cocktail-of-ele-s-place/192?cp=true&sa=false&sbp=false&q=false&category_id=12

This amazing canned cocktail includes: A2DC’s Hawthorne Vodka and Water Hill Cranberry Liqueur, with Blood Orange and Lemon Juices and Simple Syrup! This cocktail is perfect year round! \$5 of every 4-pack benefits our peer grief support programs for grieving children and teens.



Thank YOU to those who hosted Facebook birthday fundraisers to benefit Ele’s Place Ann Arbor! We are so grateful for you, AND for your family, friends and colleagues who celebrated YOU so generously!

Last quarter, these wonderful humans raised funds to support grieving children and teens in our community:

Hallie Jewell raised \$625! Thank YOU!

Betsy Upton Stover raised \$6,900! We are VERY grateful!

Ele’s Place Ann Arbor Servant Leader Spotlight

On May 4th, Ele’s Place Ann Arbor Bereavement Coordinators, **Katie Brickman, LMSW**, **Charlotte Cally, LMSW**, and **Alexa Schrock, LLMSW**, hosted an online seminar: “Understanding Children’s Grief and Supporting Grieving Students” for school staff, including teachers, social workers, counselors, administrators.

On April 26th, Ele’s Place Ann Arbor staff, **Lindsay Clark**, Director of Development, and **Peggy Galimberti, LMSW**, Program Director, presented to the Kiwanis Club of Chelsea.

On April 22nd – National Volunteer Appreciation Day – we hugged **ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS** virtually! Ele’s Place Ann Arbor relies on volunteers to assist with our support groups, operations and fundraising events. We could not do what we do, without our AMAZING and dedicated volunteers!

On April 7th, we wished Community Board Member, **Jim Wolfington** of Chelsea State Bank, farewell as he finished his second term of service! We are so GRATEFUL to ALL of our Community Board Members and appreciate their commitment to community outreach, compassionate support of our grieving children, teens and families, and dedicated fundraising service to Ele’s Place Ann Arbor.

On March 4th, Ele’s Place Ann Arbor program staff, **Hannah Brown, LMSW**, Bereavement Coordinator, and **Peggy Galimberti, LMSW**, Program Director, presented at the North Star Reach virtual conference – “Coping with Loss”.

Ele's Place is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization.

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2021 Derby Day Soiree @ Your Place Sponsors

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