No child or teen should have to grieve alone.
Dear Friends of Ele’s Place Ann Arbor,

Over the past year, day-to-day life changed in Michigan, across the country and around the world; however, one thing remained the same - Ele’s Place Ann Arbor’s commitment to our mission and dedication to the grieving children, teens and families we serve. It is an honor to share our 2020 achievements with YOU – our supportive donors, dedicated partners, committed volunteers, and devoted staff and community board members. We are incredibly grateful for the compassion and generosity we receive from so many in our community. YOU are the HEART of what we do at Ele’s Place, and YOU truly help ensure our peer grief support groups remain FREE OF CHARGE!

TOGETHER, we accomplished the following during 2020:

- We adapted and recreated grief activities for our families and community to do at home during the pandemic, supplying tips and coping skills on how to manage grief feelings, and providing additional grief support through phone calls and emails.

- We successfully redesigned and launched our virtual support groups via Zoom, offering peer grief support, four nights per week, twice a month, for children, teens and their families.

- We learned that regardless of in-person or virtual, our program staff and volunteers provide a safe place for grieving children and teens to share memories, explore their feelings, learn coping skills and meet new friends who understand them.

- We provided support materials to our partner school counselors and virtual Ele’s Group participants during this time of remote schooling.

- And, we hosted two inspiring and successful VIRTUAL fundraising events – our Derby Day Soirée @ Your Place (September 2020) AND our Healing Hearts Society Fundraising Breakfast (October 2020).

“We were greeted with so much empathy. It’s hard to measure the impact, but it definitely seems as though my daughter truly benefitted and has been able to work through the most difficult emotions and troubling times. I highly recommend Ele’s Place Ann Arbor to others. It is an amazing program!”

- A Grateful Ele’s Place Ann Arbor Family
The need for peer grief support will never go away, and we are alarmingly aware that COVID-related deaths have increased the need for Ele’s Place services even more. In 2020, Michigan ranked 18th in the U.S. in terms of highest RISK for childhood bereavement; accordingly, 1 in 13 children in Michigan will experience the death of a parent or sibling by the age of 18. The positive life-long impact peer grief support can have on a young person is truly limitless. Grieving children and teens need access to a supportive environment and compassionate programming. While the need for our services continues to grow, now more than ever, Ele’s Place Ann Arbor is committed to ensuring that no child or teen grieves alone.

Our community is so fortunate to have Ele’s Place Ann Arbor and WE are so fortunate to have YOU. On behalf of the entire Ele’s Place Ann Arbor team and community board, we thank YOU!

心脏感谢你，感谢你所做的一切，感谢你选择以支持的方式去帮助那些正在经历丧亲之痛的人。

心脏感谢那些做出多年的承诺，支持那些正在经历丧亲之痛的孩子和青少年的人。

心脏感谢你理解我们所做工作的重大意义以及它对一个年轻生命所产生的积极长期影响。

心脏感谢你成为我们的大使，并将我们介绍给其他人。我们一起正在改变和挽救生命，并为一个更光明的未来提供机会和希望。

我们焦急地等待着我们能安全地回到治愈心灵的家——真希望那一天比这么久以来更近！在此期间，请知道Ele’s Place Ann Arbor仍然“虚拟开放”，并继续为我们的社区和周围东南密歇根地区服务和支持那些正在经历丧亲之痛的家人。

我们非常感谢你继续支持Ele’s Place Ann Arbor，而我们也将继续为那些我们服务的悲伤的孩子、青少年及其家庭提供支持。TOGETHER我们一起为那些最需要我们的人做出影响。

悲伤不会停止，Ele’s Place Ann Arbor也不会停止！

照顾好自己。保持安全。保持健康。

带着感激之情，

Bree Arvai
Director
Ele’s Place Ann Arbor

“Ele’s Place Ann Arbor support has been a lifeline to us during our time of trauma and grief. Thank you for providing us with a place we feel safe discussing our feelings, and sharing with a group who often has feelings similar to our own. This resource is a value to the community that cannot be duplicated. We cannot express the depth of our gratitude to the people who work and volunteer at Ele’s Place Ann Arbor.”

- A Grateful Ele’s Place Ann Arbor Family
Ele’s Place Ann Arbor

Total Served in 2020:

**FAMILY BASED SUPPORT GROUPS - 427**
(268 CHILDREN AND 159 ADULTS)
Family based programming, onsite at our facilities (conducted via Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic.) Provides peer support to children and teens 3-18 and an optional support group for their caregiver.

**SCHOOL GROUPS - 189 STUDENTS AT 24 SCHOOL PARTNERS**
Peer support groups within the school setting, primarily in Middle and High School. Conducted in partnership with school staff.

**CLINICAL CONSULTATIONS - 394 PEOPLE**
Phone, virtual or in-person one-to-one grief support, conducted by a licensed Ele’s Place staff person. Includes the initial intake appointment for families.

*All services are provided free of charge to families, schools and all members of our community.*

Virtual coffee hour get-together with our Healing Hearts Society Breakfast Sponsors and employees

Staff Celebrates Childhood Grief Awareness Day Over Zoom

Wonderful volunteers sending SPECIAL MESSAGES to our families

Ele’s Place Ann Arbor Functional Expenses

- Program: 77%
- Administration: 10%
- Fundraising: 13%

Ele’s Place Ann Arbor Income*

- Solicited: 23%
- Unsolicited: 12%
- Other: 26%
- Events: 39%

*Additional expenses were offset by a Payroll Protection Program loan and other income*