



We are so thankful for The Arizona Women's Partnership's support of Billy's Place with the donation of a \$2,000 grant in April of 2020.

The year 2020 has been a crazy year for Billy's Place (shocker I know!). We began the year with a huge increase in our programs and those reaching out for our services. We added hours to our staff, and then COVID hit. Our staff showed resilience and pivoted with our programming offering all of our groups virtually. During that time, we were able to make personal phone calls to our families, send 3 grief care packages to each family/children, and hold a successful back to school drive-through event. We were able to support our families in ways that we never thought we would have to. We were very happy to resume in-person groups in September (continuing our virtual groups as well) with many protocols to keep families safe.

In 2020 we trained over 18 Peoria Unified Schools and have several additional trainings scheduled with Peoria and Deer Valley Unified School District for early 2021 on the New York Life Grief Sensitive School Initiative. This relationship enables us to have a stronger bond with our local schools and supports our educators and kids while supporting grieving students.

Our support groups will be meeting more frequently in 2021 offering each child up to three opportunities to receive services from Billy's Place each month. With a growing staff, a supportive community, and a dire need, we are up to meet the challenge.

The year 2020 was a challenging one however the fall saw more families reach out to us more than ever. We were able to provide services (in-person and virtual) to over 1,806 kids and their families through grief support services in 2020.

Sincerely,

Kris Friedman

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Executive Director

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