# THANK YOU FROM JULI AND KRIS

Whenever you're having a bad day, think about this: you're a hero. You are making sure that kids and families who are experiencing grief—who are grappling with life's most devastating blow-have a safe community to turn to.

You are doing that!

And we're humbled to ride alongside as the Robin to vour Batman.

Last year we had to humbly admit that we needed more help-that we didn't have the resources to welcome all of the kids and families who need us. And you answered. Boy, did you answer. With your continued support, we hope to always have room for one more kid.

As you look at this report, we hope you will take pride in your accomplishments. After all, these are your accomplishments as much as they are ours. Billy's Place cannot exist without the ongoing support of volunteers and donors like you. Mission isn't enough. We need you.

Thank you for being there for our kids. Your forever fans,

Kris and Juli

"Supporting Billy's Place is the easiest decision we have ever made. Advocating for Billy's Place comes naturally. Everyone we talk to agrees—we can't let these kids down. They've suffered so much already Brian and Julie Semple Donors since 2015

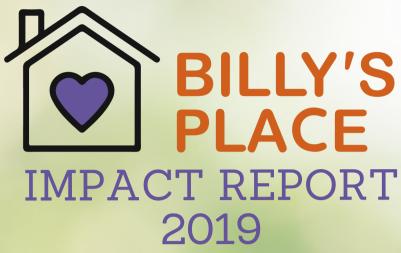


Kids and families served in 2019 for grief support services!

250%



"Think of how many times you've said to a grieving person 'let me know if there's something you need.' But most times, a person in grief doesn't know what it is they need, especially when they're also caring for a child who is suffering. It's an honor to be part of the solution that is Billy's Place, where kids and families are embraced by a community that understands them Mike & Anne Douma Donors since 2016 and really can help."



# FROM OUR PRESIDENT

You may not realize this, but the Billy's Place of today is pretty different than the Billy's Place of 2018. We've made significant strides in advancing our administrative practices-strengthening the foundation that enables Billy's Place to be the safe community we all rely on it to be.

Kris and Juli are educating teachers, counselors, medical professionals, and others so when kids and families experience a devastating loss, they know right away that we are here for them. They know that you, our volunteers and donors, are here for them.

With our board of directors, Kris, Juli, and I have installed business processes to not only accommodate this growth, but to surge because of this growth. We have adapted best practices from world-class companies to support Billy's Place for decades to come.

I'm so impressed by Kris, Juli, Melody, and the team. And, I'm grateful and humbled by you. Thank you for making my first year with Billy's Place such an inspiring one.

Sincerely, Lucas Wagner President, Board of Directors





The team at Billy's Place is always ready to train, educate and advocate for our Billy's Place families

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Lucas Wagner, President Teresa Haire, Vice President Brian Semple, Treasurer Ethan Cooper, Board Member Juli Schragel, Board Member Kris Friedman, Board Member







## **VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT**

Sara has been a volunteer at Billy's Place since 2015. She helps us serve dinner to families coming in for groupssetting the stage for a comfortable experience. Sara's support is also crucial to the administrative side of Billy's Place. She's our go-to helper for event logistics, mailings, and keeping us organized! We're thrilled to introduce you to Sara: Why do you volunteer at Billy's Place? I lost my husband 10 years ago and it was a lonely time. I want to be able to help other families access the community they need here at Billy's Place. They need to know there are other kids and families that are going through the same thing. When they come to Billy's Place, no one judges them. What is your favorite thing about volunteering at Billy's Place? I love seeing kids be able to embrace others and feel like they belong. I've seen so many kiddos come in and be afraid or hesitant to join a group, but with our great volunteers and loveable service dogs, the kids release their fears and enjoy being together. There was one time a little girl refused to come into the office, but when she saw the service dog, she immediately came in and from that point on she never resisted again.

You also support Billy's Place as a donor. What motivates you to donate? As a volunteer, I have developed such an affection for our families. And I know the support I give is used to help them when they need it most. Anyone who donates to Billy's Place can come and see the impact of their support. When you walk in, you can feel the love. Plus, everything is handled so professionally and with great care. I am very proud to say I volunteer for and donate to Billy's Place.



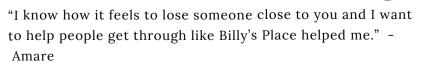




# **BILLY'S BUDDIES**

Billy's buddies are young people who have come through our program and want to help other kids facing similar losses. They support our kids as mentors and peers-both in our groups and outside in the community. When one of our kids needs someone to talk to who gets it, they have Billy's buddies.

"I hope I can make their day better" - Lacy



"I hope I can help kids have a good time at Billy's Place." -Andy