# www.jaymesfund.org Vol. 16 • Winter 2018 Inspiring and Supporting Human Rights for Children

Fund NEWS

## Welcome!

Here is the 16th edition of FundNEWS. We hope this informs as well as inspires!

## **WE INSPIRE YOU AND YOU INSPIRE US!!!**









## Way to go WHS!!

In February 2018, Windham High School (NH) seniors, Scarlett Souter and Samantha Jezak, fulfilled a vision they conceived in partnership with Jayme's Fund. Through their leadership, Scarlett and Samantha developed a Jayme's Bears Project event involving the WHS National Honors Society. Students gathered together and accomplished their goal of creating 100 Jayme's Bears! We were also joined by Rose Kozdra who finished off the closing of the bears. But, that wasn't all that Scarlett and Samantha dreamed up! After the bears were completed, they arranged for the JBears Book, tag, and bookmark that accompanies the bears to be translated into Spanish by the WHS Spanish Club. Once the bears were packaged and tagged, they flew off to the Dominican Republic, accompanied by Scarlett and others from St. Matthews Church (Windham, NH) and given to children in several orphanages. The WHSNHS is currently in the works putting together another Jayme's Bear event to be held early next year! Way to go Scarlett, Samantha, and WHS – you have left your mark on Jayme's Fund, and we are so grateful!

### **Hafez Family GENEROSITY!**





Our 10th Annual March into Spring 2018 hike was a great success! The weather was perfect for an energizing jaunt with Jayme's Fund friends. We are so appreciative

of all participants' support (KUDOS to top the fundraiser Nancy Gilbert!) and extremely grateful to the Hafez family

for hosting the event year after year! Your generosity never ceases to a maze.

#### Ritu's Spice Utsav So Generously Delicious!





Eating delicious food while fundraising with our supporters is always a special delight! Thank you

to **Ritu's Spice Utsav** (Manchester, NH) and sponsor **Mahal Photography** for a wonderful evening filled with

food, generosity, friendship, and nourishment from the heart.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO HELP MAKE, OR DISTRIBUTE JAYME'S BEARS, PLEASE CONTACT US!

## Inspiration by Jayme





They weren't officially Bears then. We didn't know in the fall of 1997 when Jayme hand sewed and delivered 40 fleece teddy bears to the Jimmy Fund Clinic in Boston that in 2018 we would be making the same soft cuddly bears with love and care!

Last month, The Jayme's Bear Project reached **ONE THOUSAND JAYME'S BEARS!** From sewers to stuffers and those who have donated their time, talents, and funds to make this milestone possible, **WE ARE SO GRATEFUL.** We celebrated

with our volunteer sewers, Rose Kozdra, Donna Viau, and Paula Hogan and their grandchildren. The grandchildren stitched the 1000th bear to commemorate the achievement. We look forward to the next thousand to come!

#### SNHU ROCKS!

The support from Southern New Hampshire University never lets up! We are grateful for the dedication from the **Psychology Student Association** and their support. The students took time out of their busy schedules to put an abundance of effort and love into the Jayme's Bears they created and did a fantastic job. Special thank you to **Michelle Fortin** for organizing this event!

For a second year, the staff in the SNHU Work-Study and Financial Aid Office hosted a Bear-A-Thon. These staff members work tediously at making sure each and every bear is crafted to perfection. Often times, other staff members peek in the windows curious about what Jayme's Fund is all about! We are so thankful to have such a dedicated SNHU community to help the Jayme's Bear Project grow exponentially. Not only does SNHU Work-Study volunteer their time, they also employ student interns to work for Jayme's Fund who take on significant tasks and responsibilities for our day-to-day office operations!

#### **Devin Murray**



We would like to recognize **Devin Murray** for all of the contributions that you have made in improving our social media presence. We were so fortunate to have your help during your senior year at SNHU (we miss you!). We wish you all the best in your marketing career and know that you will achieve greatness in all that you do!!

#### Amber Forrence



What can we say about intern extraordinaire **Amber Forrence**? This is Amber's third year with Jayme's Fund, and we will be at such a loss without her assistance when she graduates this spring. The contributions that Amber has made are substantial and remarkable, and we are glad that we have been able to provide her with a mutually rich learning

experience. Since she hasn't left yet, we can easily say that everyone who meets Amber over the next few months at our JF events will be enriched by her presence! We can't thank you enough Amber for all that you do!!

## THANK YOU



to all who attended the Sixth Annual Jayme's Fund Golf Classic held at the Manchester Country Club on October 15, 2018.







A very special thank you to the Manchester Country Club, Steve Hogan, Amber Forrence, Rose Kozdra, Donna Viau, Michelle Hegenauer, Paula Hogan, Rene Thompson, and Woody Woodland for volunteering your time to make the event a huge success!



An extra special kudos to JFGC chairperson Steve Rifkin!!! We couldn't do it without you.



## Bradford Christian Academy and Temple

**Emanu-El** (Derry NH) combined efforts to help families affected by the Merrimack Valley Gas Explosion. In addition to other items, **Lydia Miller**, BCA Honor student and her father, **Steven Miller** brought Jayme's

Bears to **Debbie's Treasure Chest** (Lawrence, MA) to be distributed.

When they delivered the bears, there were many tears of joy from both the children and parents. Most children went to the shelters with nothing and warmly received a teddy bear friend that they could hug.

## **Etz Hayim Synagogue** (Derry NH)





hosted the Jayme's Bear event that brought us to the 1,000 Jayme's Bear mark! Families gathered to cut and stuff Jayme's Bears as well as hear the story behind the Jayme's Bear project. There was a special reading of the Jayme's

Bears Book by the Temples' "Book Bubbe". The night was all together inspiring and heartwarming to see all generations working together. We are so incredibly grateful and appreciative of the support and all of the work that **Dina Chaitowitz** did to plan this event (including making bear linzer cookies!)

## CONGRATULATIONS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES!

## **Central High School Eckman Award for Excellence**

This year Central High School in Manchester NH awarded the Eckman Award for Excellence (In memory of Hal Eckman-Central High class of 1964) to a student who is "focused and determined to achieve academic and professional excellence through hard work and perseverance while overcoming obstacles and challenges along the way," **Bol Nakdimo**.

Bol is currently attending University of New Hampshire. This young woman is the definition of well-deserving and has overcome many adversities in her life. As a hard-working student, she had been found spending 6-7 nights a week on the school computers. Bol has been remarked as tenacious, hardworking, and resilient.

### Breakthrough Manchester Jayme's Scholar

The Jayme's Scholar is given to an incoming Breakthrough Manchester student who is intellectual, creative, expressive, socially conscious, and motivated to make the world a better place. Currently a seventh grader at Middle School at Parkside, this year's recipient is **Meghan Morin**.

Meghan was named the Jayme's Scholar because of her talent as a creative artist and commitment to social justice and community service. Meghan not only advocates for herself but for others in her community. She has a love for learning and shares that love with everyone she meets! Meghan is ambitious, steady, positive, and takes full advantage of all opportunities at Breakthrough.

## Pinkerton Academy Jayme A. Lipkin-Moore Scholarship

This year's awardee (graduating senior who intends to major in humanities or social sciences; a passionate learner and keen observer with outstanding communication and writing skills; who possesses compassion and a desire to understand and educate others on humanity and justice) is **Allyson Frohock**. Allyson is now a freshman at St. Bonaventure University studying Political Science. In high school, she was a member of Pinkerton Student Council, a Youth Leader for Help Us Help Others, a volunteer for Roca Kidz Club, and a camp counselor at Chester Recreation. Her passion to advocate and help others was recognized by her peers and teachers. Teachers describe her as having an infectious personality and willing to preserve through anything.

### Natalie A. Lipkin Memorial Scholarship

This year's awardees for the Natalie A. Lipkin Memorial Scholarship (In honor of Natalie A. Lipkin-Amir, awarded to a college bound female senior who is dedicated to empowering themselves by furthering their education) are **Kiany Perez** and **Natalia Aguilar**.

**Kiany Perez**, from Morris Hills High School, was described by her teachers as "the ideal student" – hardworking, dedicated, outgoing, friendly, and kind has pursued a rigorous schedule of honors and advanced placement courses throughout high school. Kiany will attend Kean University in NJ majoring in Communications. She ultimately hopes to attend Law School to become a Civil Rights Lawyer.

Natalia Aguilar, from Dover High School, took full advantage of what her high school had to offer. She served as a peer mentor and tutor, participated in choir, marching band, student council, and competition cheerleading. Natalia also volunteered with Special Olympics and at a local hospital all while taking a schedule of honors and advanced placement classes. The first in her family to go to college, Natalia will be attending John Hopkins University where she will pursue a dual major in Public Health and Fetal Development. She hopes to graduate from medical school, return to her community, and establish a practice as an OBGYN.

## JAYME'S BEAR'S WERE RECEIVED BY CHILDREN THROUGH THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS THIS YEAR:

The Jimmy Fund Clinic, Boston, MA
St. Matthew's Parish, Windham NH for the
Dominican Republic Orphanages
Windham High School Guidance Department, NH
Seacoast Learning Collaborative, NH
Windham Helping Hands, NH

Epping Police Department, NH
Windham Police Department, NH
Debbie's Treasure Chest, Lawrence, MA
Temple Emanu-El, Haverhill, MA
Bradford Christian Academy, Haverhill, MA

After numerous requests, we are pleased to announce that Jayme's Bears are available for purchase to anyone in the community who would like a bear to give away or keep for themselves:)! Contact us if interested.



## **KUDOS!**

Southern New Hampshire University for connecting your awesome student volunteers and interns with us!

Rose Kozdra, Paula Hogan, and Donna Viau for sewing bears overtime and all of the time!

Steve Rifkin, Paula Hogan, and Steve Hogan for your contributions to the Jayme's Fund Golf Classic!

Amber Forrence and Devin Murray for your exceptional contributions and dedication!

Arielle Welch, owner of Nahar Yoga, for hosting Yoga for a Cause!

Our generous donors, awesome volunteers, and event sponsors who truly make the difference!

Spectrum Marketing for donating all of our printing and graphic design services! WOW!

THE AMAZING BEAR MAKERS!!!

## SAVE THE DATE!



MARCH INTO SPRING FOR JAYME'S FUND!

Sunday
March 10
2019
Hollis, NH
Snow shoe or
hike, all levels
of experience
welcome!

www.jaymesfund.org to SIGN UP!

## Remembering Jayme

The Jayme's Bears Project continues to take center stage at Jayme's Fund!

When I think of the impact Jayme made in her life helping others, the bears were just one of many projects that she did with intention to make a difference.

Those bears endure and continue to win the hearts of those who make the bears and those who receive them.

What makes Jayme's Bears so special? For me, simple. Everything about the JBears project reminds me of Jayme.

For others, I imagine it's the energy of Jayme's spirit, that of helping others while engaging the community with creative expression. That was her style. There was always a drawing, writing or other artistic expression that accompanied everything that she did.

She established that framework firmly for us. As we head into 2019, the Jayme's Bears Project is advancing to reach new heights You can expect significant areas of development so that we reach more children, award more scholarships and continue to engage the community in this fun and meaningful charitable giving experience.

When I reflect on this past year, I am overwhelmed with memories of large and small gifts and acts of kindness we receive to support our mission. Here is a small yet meaningful experience to share.

Jayme made her bears as a "mitzvah" (good deed ) in honor of her Bat Mitzvah in October1997. This October, Jayme's Fund was invited to Etz Hayim Synagogue (Derry, NH) for a "Bear Mitzvah" event which brought children and families together to make bears.

Everyone was diligent about their work, making sure the bears were being created with care. Two friends, 11 year old boys were working together to make the bears properly, and stuff as many as they could. I overheard one

say to the other, "Look at us. We are stuffing so many bears for children!" His friend paused, and said seriously, "Yes we are, and we are stuffing them with love."

That sweet, spontaneous moment is a reminder of the essence of Jayme's Bears. They are made and given with the love and kindness of others which is felt by the children who receive them.

Wise beyond her years, with an understanding of complex issues and a desire for community, purpose, engagement and making the world a better place, (with creativity, intelligence, and flair:)! That was Jayme. Honoring Jayme's energy in this way is a gift. Thank you for allowing us to continue the work in her name.

May the holiday season bring you many blessings and may you give the same to others who need some love and care. We all do!

I hope that Jayme's Fund continues to inspire you to make a difference, and that you know how much you have and continue to make a difference in my life. I am forever humbled and grateful.

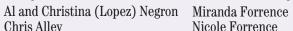
Thank you for your support. Thank you for Remembering Jayme. ~Jayme's Mom



Illustration by Ashley McCarty

## THANK YOU!

We gratefully acknowledge these gifts received between December 15, 2017 and December 15, 2018. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. Please let us know of any corrections.



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Warmest wishes for a wonderful holiday season! May your lives be blessed with as much love, kindness, and compassion that you have so generously given!

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