From our Founder and Executive Director:

Dear Friends,

Thank you for taking time out of your busy lives to look through this report and learn, as we have, about the kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity that young children ages 7-14 are capable of. I have no doubt that you will be both surprised and inspired by their words and accomplishments.

“Impact” is currently the most important word and concept for nonprofit organizations. Everyone is interested in knowing what impact a program is having on the people it serves. And for good reason. For without impact, there is no purpose. This is true for nonprofit organizations, but it is also true for people.

At Aaron’s Presents, we believe that we as human beings have an innate desire to help, contribute to something larger than ourselves, and feel needed. When we are impacting the world and people around us for the better, we feel that our lives matter and that there is a purpose, a “why,” behind who we are and what we do. When everything we are doing is focused solely on ourselves and our own development or gain without an opportunity to put it to use for the benefit of others, we miss out on the chance to develop our sense of purpose and meaning. But when these opportunities are made available, look out! The outpouring of purpose and meaning that follows will just about knock you over with its strength, joy and results.

This is how I explain the unanticipated levels of enthusiasm and inspiration that we are seeing from kids everyday. Aaron’s Presents is tapping into a deep desire and need that they (and all of us) have to make the world a better place in their own unique ways. It’s just that most of us would never have guessed that they would want to start so young! Wish all of the difficult happenings in the world, I for one am extremely grateful to have their help as soon as possible.

Thank you for joining us in empowering the future generation to find purpose and meaning through acts of giving, compassion and human connection. They are a source of hope for us all.

From the President of our Board of Directors:

I always look forward to our end-of-year Celebration and hearing Aaron’s Presents participants speak about their projects and what they enjoyed most about doing it. You know what I think is the best part? That I get motivation from them. They jazz me. I am so impressed by them. They get me thinking about what else I could be doing to make the world a better place. How cool is that -- an adult getting motivation from a kid? I love their enthusiasm, hearing the pride in their voices and that twinkle in their eyes which says it all. They are proud of their accomplishments, and they should be. They are making a real difference in this world.

It has been a real honor to be a part of Aaron’s Presents and I am proud to be the President of the Board again this year. It has been remarkable to watch its growth from the very beginning. Last year, while passing out flyers in Andover about #GivingTuesday, I ran into a group of young ladies who saw me and yelled out, “We love Aaron’s Presents!”

What these young kids have accomplished so far is phenomenal. To imagine what the future holds -- that excites me! Thank you all for your support.

Marianne Cashman
Realtor, William Raveis, Andover

**Girls (208)**

73%

**Boys (78)**

27%

**Children care. A lot.**

**Children of Color (134)**

43%

**From Low Income Families (117)**

41%

**From Urban School Districts (106)**

37%

**Age and Grade Range**

7-14 years old

2nd - 8th grade

**# of Youth Participants**

26

12

46

105

**# of Projects**

1000

124

163

105

**# Impacted**

4000

286

>19,000

*Includes 10,000 residents impacted by 8th graders Gabby and Katie’s electric bill flyer insert and banner flying over Danvers stressing the importance of shoveling out fire hydrants.

Camille and Ava may come from different towns but they both share a passion for books and reading. Camille came to us with a dream of transforming the library space at YDO (after-school program in Lawrence) into a beautiful room where kids would come to read and hang out peacefully and comfortably.

Meanwhile, Ava had a vision for a summer Read-a-thon where kids would ask relatives for donations based on the number of books they read over the summer, and the donations would go to a charitable cause. She wasn’t sure which charity, so when we told her about Camille’s idea, she was excited to donate the money to helping her buy books and other supplies for the YDO library!

The library has indeed been transformed, and we can’t wait for the two girls to meet at the end of the summer and feel the excitement of what they have accomplished together by using their passion to benefit so many others!
**Thanksgiving Help**

Last year, Ella, Jack and Michael scrapbooked with seniors, and this year they came up with a plan to give Thanksgiving meals to people.

At first they naturally thought of turkey, stuffing and cranberry sauce, but instead of donating items to a local food drive, they asked our Board Member, Aldonsa Pereyra, to help identify 6 individual families in the city of Lawrence who could be helped by this gift. Then they asked each of them (all are Dominican) what they would actually want to receive and eat on Thanksgiving.

We all learned a great deal by asking this simple question, and spent our time and money purchasing items like pernil (pork bottom roast), green pigeon peas, olive oil, fruits and vegetables, large bags of rice, and spices and seasonings. We drove from house to house, were welcomed so kindly into each home and felt gratified to be able to help them celebrate Thanksgiving in a way that was meaningful to them.

*Thank you for your money.*
*Believe me; it hasn’t gone to waste.*
*Everyday kids are doing amazing things with your donations.*

- Holly, 4th grade

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**Reflections from 8th Grader, Catherine**

In 2014, I did my first project and it made me feel so good that I continued doing more and I have done so many projects/events that I can’t even remember my first one. But what I can tell you is that all of the projects revolved around helping unfortunate kids. I think of myself as an imperfect 14 year old girl who has a good heart but still makes a ton of silly mistakes... But Aaron’s Presents really does bring out the good in me that many people fail to see. Something else I gained is that you can’t judge people from the outside... they can be someone who is going through a hard time, and I learned that lesson when I volunteered at the House of Hope in Lowell.

I aspire to be a leader in the community who makes a change in many people’s lives, and I most definitely believe that that’s what this program is shaping me to become. If I never joined Aaron’s Presents I wouldn’t have had the confidence to say that I believe I am a good person in a way... or to build the courage to explain my opinion without thinking I will be put down or judged. I know Aaron’s Presents is about helping others, but it has most definitely helped me to understand who I am because if I never participated I would never know these things about myself or gain the things I did.
Thank you for throwing this year’s child-led Celebration!

“The projects I’ve done have helped impact so many from homeless children to my classmates, and I had a great time, full of memories in the process. I may be going to high school next year but I will continue to volunteer, inspire others and give to the world, so thank you, Aaron’s Presents.” —Vivian, 8th grade

“Aaron’s Presents changed me and made me into the person I am today. Now I want to help and give to others. Truthfully, before Aaron’s Presents, I was the person who thought about problems but didn’t do anything to fix it. Now, thanks to Aaron’s Presents, I know that no matter how young or small you are, you too can make a difference, and all it starts with is an idea.” —Leah, 8th grade

Celebration Sponsors

Dan Brennan & Andover High School
Andover Pottery
Barefoot Books (Marjorie Forman)
Blackdog Builders
Cafe Nero
Cape Ann Pizza
The Casavant Family
Andover Pottery
School
Dan Brennan & Andover High School
Celebration Sponsors

Photos by Jill DiChiara

Generosity in Action

Foundations:
Boston Bruins Foundation
Greater Lowell Community Foundation
The Lenny Zakim Fund
The Theodore Edson Parker Foundation

Presents Funds:
The Andover Pottery Presents Fund
The Debbie Choi Tsang Presents Fund
The Dr. Alan Metwally Presents Fund
The Elizabeth Atkins Presents Fund
The Sequin of Kindness™ Presents Fund
Carly’s Presents Fund (9th birthday)
Emma’s Presents Fund (6th birthday)

Corporate Donors:
Ace Home Medics
AllState
Andover Pottery Presents Fund
Brooks School Summer Programs
Marianne Cashman, William Raveis
Calebrook Realty Services, Inc.
Doloiete
Elm Square Oyster Co.
Embarc Studios, LLC
Enterprise Bank
Entrepreneurship for All Fuddruckers
Green Banana SEO
Heal Your Heart Blog
in vivo Productions
Initial Design Group
Jester Financial Technologies
Kafman Penrannce
Kiwanis Club of Greater Lawrence
Leonard Orthodontics
The Deborah Lucci Team, William Raveis
McBrie, LLC
Mill No. 5
North Shore Bank
Oakgrove Residential
On the Spot
Orange Leaf Andover
Rotary Club of Dracut
Sales Five
Salvatore’s, Andover
The Savings Bank
Stanley, Black & Decker
Survey Monkey
Walker Clark Coaching, LLC
Whole Foods Market, Andover

Individual Donors:
Anonymous (multiple)
Charles Aggouras
Yasmine and Jorgen Allen
Dr. Nancy Andrews
Lisa Annese
David Atkins
Elisha Atkins
Elizabeth Atkins
Garnet Atkins
Lara Atkins
Micaela Atkins
Natasha Atkins
Rick and Gerr Atkins
Ruth Atkins
Skip, Maureen, Kirsten and Siobhan Atkins
The Bartlet Family
Emily and Andrew Bedell
Barbara Benson
Tom and Megan Benson
Steve Baratina
Marjorie Sherman-Bindman and Carl Bindman
Jeff Boice
Wayne and Mary Lynne Boardman
John and Eileen Boland
Maureen Boland
Kimberly Brisbois
Brenda and Dave Bryan
Shalva Bukas
Jacqui Carson
Bea Curioso
The Bartlett Family
Lesley Casciano
Jane DeFillippi
Kristen DeAngelo and David Benson
Betsy and Tom Davis
Stephanie Curci and Shawn Davis
Melanie and Mark Cutler
Kathleen and James Cyrer
Brenda Cooper Dang
Nancy Davies
Marya Cohen
Dr. Daniel Cohan
Amy Colantuoni
Ashley Collette
Joe Colwell
Sheila and Jeff Corbett
Randy Corke
Karen Cominig
Rosemary Infante Costello
Marjorie Crider
Monique Cuesto-Potts and Tim Potts
Stephanie Curci and Shawn Davis
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Nancy Davies
Betsy and Tom Davis
Kristen DeAngelo and David Benson
Marya Cohen
Dr. Daniel Cohan
We are so grateful to all of you who have chosen to support Aaron’s Presents financially. We simply could not carry out this work and keep this opportunity uniquely non-competitive as we believe it needs to be without the resources that you have so generously entrusted to us.

As we enter this next exciting phase, we are working as hard as we can to build a strong, sustainable, transparent and mission- and outcomes-driven organization that you, our supporters, and the children and communities we serve can feel proud of for a long time to come. Thank you for considering another financial contribution or establishing a Presents Fund this year!

Revenue

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Funding Sources</th>
<th>Individuals</th>
<th>Corporate</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Presents Funds</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>$78,705</td>
<td>$22,221</td>
<td>$26,500</td>
<td>$7,879</td>
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Total Expenses: $59,121

Year-End Net Assets: $37,419

FY 2017 Fundraising Goal: $100,000

*Detailed financial statements available upon request.*
Collaborations Build Community

Thank You to our Youth-serving Partners who introduce their kids to Aaron's Presents:

- Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence (Amanda Hinchcliffe)
- Centerville Elementary School, Beverly
  (Julie Grant, Kris Melanson & Julie Smith)
- Congregation Shalom, North Chelmsford
  (Yaël Hurwitz-Lange)
- DanversCARES, Danvers (Danielle LaRoque and Peg Sallade)
- Brookside Elementary School, Dracut
  (Dawn Smith and Denise Porcello)
- Girls Inc. of Greater Lowell
  (Tracy Reilly Ingersoll, Katelyn Adams & Jennifer Demers)
- Higgins Middle School, Peabody
  (Todd Bucey, Julie Donnelly & Lauren Burke)
- Holten Richmond Middle School, Danvers
  (Adam Federico, Principal)
- Lowell Community Charter Public School (LCCPS)
  (Kathy Egmont, Trent Ramsey, Holly Makowsky, Adriθh McCartney & Bridget Russo)
- Nettle Middle School VIP (Violence Intervention Program),
  Haverhill (Kara Melillo)
- Sanborn Elementary School, Andover
  (Susan Hunter-Jones, Patricia Barrett)
- Sargent Elementary School, North Andover (Kristen Sullivan)
- Si Se Puede, Lawrence (Lorie Mendoza)
- Youth Development Organization (YDO), Lawrence
  (Mark Kampert)

Thank You to our Nonprofit Partners who were served by Aaron’s Presents Participants and their projects this year and who do so much for our communities:

- Berube Farm, Dracut
- Beverly Food Pantry, Beverly
- Beverly Hospital, Beverly
- Bone-anza Doggy Daycare, Beverly
- Boston Children’s Hospital, Boston
- Boys & Girls Club of Lowell, Lowell
- Brookdale Assisted Living, Chelmsford
- Brookside Elementary School, Dracut
- Care Dimensions, Danvers
- Centerville Elementary School, Beverly
- Community Teamwork, Lowell
- The Cotting School, Lexington
- Cradles to Crayons
- D’Youville Manor, Lowell
- Eliot Community Human Services, Dedham
- Emmaus House, Haverhill
- Family Promise North Shore Boston
- The Fenway Alliance, Boston
- FIÑA House, Lawrence
- Higgins Middle School, Peabody
- The Holland Project, Merrimac
- House of Hope, Lowell
- The Jimmy Fund
- Lawrence General Hospital
- Lawrence Public Library
- Lazarus House, Lawrence
- Lowell Community Charter Public School
- Lowell Community Health Center
- Lowell General Hospital Cancer Center
- Lowell Humane Society
- Lucky Dogs Daycare, Peabody
- Marland Place, Andover
- The Mary Baker Eddy Library, Boston
- Merrimack House, Lowell
- Mill No. 5, Lowell
- MSPCA at Nevins Farm, Methuen
- Northeast Animal Shelter, Salem
- North Shore Medical Center, Salem
- Residential program for teens in recovery
- Residents of Danvers, MA
- Salvadoran Association for Rural Health
- Sanborn Elementary, Andover
- Sargent Elementary KidStop, North Andover
- SHED Children’s Campus, Andover
- Si Se Puede, Lawrence
- SPARK Academy, Lawrence
- Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, Charlestown
- The Sweetser Lab, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston
- Tufts Medical Center, Boston
- The Wish Project, Lowell
- YDO (Youth Development Organization), Lawrence
- YWCA, Lawrence

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