2021, A Year Like No Other

It has been our tragic privilege to serve the brokenhearted as we complete our 25th year. Few years in our history have paralleled 2021.

After years of planning and preparing, we opened our doors to the beautiful, 3400-square foot family guest house at the Selah Carefarm called Andy's Sanctuary. It’s the first of its kind in the U.S. to serve traumatically bereaved individuals. More than 983 supporters contributed to this heartfelt project. Even with limited capacity during the pandemic, sadly, we have already filled 344 nights at the sanctuary and provided 863 hours of traumatic grief counseling hours.

Another first, the Oprah Winfrey-Prince Harry’s “The Me You Can't See” Series on Apple TV showed the world the important work being done every day at the Selah
Carefarm, led by our founder, Dr. Joanne Cacciatore. We are so proud of this landmark program that not only supports so many traumatically bereaved people but that also provides love and compassion to 47 of the most amazing rescue animals.

To sustain and further our efforts to help the brokenhearted, we received an unbelievable and unprecedented gift of $1 million from Andy’s parents, Don and Hayden Quattlebaum. It’s something that has already made such a meaningful impact for years to come. Deepest bows, and most sincere compassion, to Andy’s parents. It’s impossible to express the depth of our gratitude.

As the year ends, we received another big surprise. The Dorrance Family Foundation generously awarded us a significant grant of $157,600 to support and expand the efforts at the Selah Carefarm. We are beyond thankful for this incredible show of support and to their Executive Director, Carrie Ostroski for all her help!

Vinnie’s dad helped produce another Magnet & Steel calendar for 2022 that is just beautiful. His company has donated the calendars so every dollar goes directly into our program support. Thank you Phil Cartledge for your generosity in honor of your precious boy. You can order your 2022 calendar here.

Finally, two of our long-time, major contributors also stepped up to further our development needs with a new staff position in 2022, as well as to create a very important scholarship fund to help cover some program costs over the next year for those in need of carefarm support services. Our first scholarship has already been awarded. It went to a military veteran whose 12 year old died of cancer and his wife died of COVID. Thank you to Ana’s dad for this scholarship fund. We were also grateful to receive scholarships this year for counseling intensives from the Charlotte Helen Bacon Foundation.

The experiences at the Selah Carefarm have been life changing.
In 2021, we also sent support packets to more than 490 new grieving people just learning about the MISS Foundation, and helped thousands more through our (virtual) support groups, our mentor network, counseling and online forums. Our caring volunteer network of bereaved parents spent countless hours each day helping other bereaved parents.

We remembered our children at MISS Foundation events like International Kindness Project Day, the Selah Retreat, and through specialized programs at the Selah Carefarm.

We are so grateful and appreciative of ALL of our donors, our staff, our wonderful volunteers and continued supporters who help serve so many grieving families each day. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Special thanks to our incredible volunteers this year! We could not do this without you.

We are very pleased to acknowledge our
We provided free and affordable counseling to those in need, totaling more than $426,000 of in-kind services. We helped families connect with other families experiencing child death through 24/7-access to private online forums.

Through our Compassionate Bereavement Care program, we reached out to local communities, training 113 new providers to offer specialized traumatic grief care to families in their own communities who have a child who is dying or who has died. We also taught a special advanced course to CBC providers.

2021 donors! Your gifts help us support families struggling in their darkest hours.

For year-end, tax-deductible donations, there is still time to give. If interested, please visit, missfoundation.org/donate.