

WINTER 2024

Please consider donating to help our cause.

- go to nashuachildrenshome.org and donate via credit/debit card or PayPal
- mail a check using the enclosed envelope
- trusts or gifts of stock (please call Executive Director Matt Fentross at 603-883-3851)



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NASHUA CHILDREN'S HOME



Enriching the Lives of Children and Families Since 1903

Director's Corner

By Matt Fentross, Executive Director

Dear Friends of Nashua Children's Home,

I am excited to write to all of you as Executive Director of Nashua Children's Home (NCH) following the retirement of Dave Villiotti. We are grateful for all of Dave's efforts over his 38 years at the helm and his lasting impact on the lives of the children and staff, who learned so much from him. Dave has left Nashua Children's Home in a much better place than when he began his tenure as Executive Director in 1985.



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My own tenure at NCH dates back to December 2008, a week after graduating from Auburn University. I worked on the Older Boys unit for several years as a Residential Counselor and Supervisor. In 2018, I moved into the Assistant Residential Director role and then into the Residential Director position in 2019. I entered graduate school, focusing on nonprofit sector management and graduated with a Master's degree from Louisiana State University in 2022. Over the years, I've kept abreast of the changing needs of the youth referred to NCH and the challenges faced by staff on a daily basis. I grew up in the Greater Nashua area and am honored to be able to work closely and in collaboration with the community to provide a high level of care for our most vulnerable population.

Most recently, we announced a fundraising drive to replace our outdated playground with a safer, more updated version for the kids who live here and go to school here. Your support of this initiative is vital to its completion and the ongoing well being and success of the boys and girls of Nashua Children's Home.

Please enjoy the compilation of photos from Halloween, Thanksgiving, and the Holiday season within this newsletter.

I appreciate your continued support of Nashua Children's Home and look forward to sharing more exciting news and updates in the coming months.

Gratefully,

Matt Fentross Executive Director





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Nashua Children's Home Newsletter - Winter 2024



– In Memoriam –

Brian Ackerman

We fondly, and poignantly, remember Brian Ackerman. Nashua Children's Home clearly is dependent upon our "program" staff of counselors, teachers and therapists, but also vital to the success of our 120-year mission are our support people... the food service, maintenance, housekeeping and office staff of Nashua Children's Home.

Brian Ackerman served as the Accounts Receivable Coordinator for 21 years, fulfilling the absolutely necessary function of ensuring the receipt of funding for services provided from a multitude of governmental units. While not a particularly visible, nor understood duty to most, Brian's work guaranteed the smooth and continuous operation of Nashua Children's Home. We also still visualize Brian, in one of his favorite pursuits, tending to the various greenery of NCH, making sure that each and every plant was properly, and timely, watered.

Brian passed away in December after courageously battling a long illness. He leaves his husband, Steve and a number of family members in the Nashua area. Brian is remembered, and deeply missed, by all of his colleagues at Nashua Children's Home.