



Sheila W. Petersen, Founder

September 8, 2023

Mr. George Bossis
Fairfield County Bank
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Dear George,

We are pleased to share the enclosed Friends of Karen Childhood Cancer Awareness Month Newsletter. Each year in September we mark this observance in recognition of the more than 80% of children we serve undergoing treatment for some form of cancer.

Gold is the color chosen to honor children with cancer because they are as precious and resilient as gold. So, you will find a golden ribbon gracing this issue as another way to mark this special month.

While treatment for childhood cancers has advanced significantly over the decades, the protocols are long and ill children face an arduous extended journey. The Friends of Karen Family Support Program's unique blend of emotional, psychosocial, financial and advocacy support is designed to support families throughout the illness journey, so it continues to evolve as well. This includes creating new programs to meet families' changing needs.

In this issue you will learn more about our pilot Survivorship program that extends our support longer after treatment ends to help children who are experiencing ongoing health issues and lingering treatment side effects. We share how we continue to build on our expertise in end-of-life and bereavement support with our new grief education retreats.

The newsletter is an opportunity to hear directly from families, in their own words, about the impact of your prior support. Because of the Fairfield County Bank's partnership, families had access to Friends of Karen's comprehensive services that promote these positive outcomes for their well-being.

With best regards,

Judith Factor
Executive Director

Enclosure

Thanks again to you and the team at Fairfield County Bank for the amazing Back-to-School project. The backpacks and supplies are a bright and made many children smile

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