THEY SHARE TECHNIQUES FOR HOW TO PLAY
SO KIDS BELIEVE US WHEN WE SAY,
“IT’S NOT YOUR FAULT THAT MOMMY’S SICK.”
THEY QUELL THE SPECTER OF “WHAT IF”
THAT HAUNTS OUR HOME WHERE WORRIES FLY,
WHERE CHILDREN HEAR THE GROWNUPS CRY.
THEY HELP THE FAMILIES HEAL AND COPE,
VOICE CHILDHOOD WISHES, INSPIRE HOPE.
DEAR FRIENDS,

2012 was a banner year for Wonders & Worries. We provided 2,411 therapeutic sessions to nearly 600 children and their family members. Through the generosity of every donor whose name is listed on the pages here, we are helping families face the challenging crisis of mom or dad being seriously sick, and equipping them to cope with the drastic changes this brings to their lives.

One middle school boy told me that when all the medical equipment moved in to help care for his father diagnosed with a brain tumor, he felt his house shrank, the rooms grew smaller. Wonders & Worries is here so that the walls don’t close in on these children. And thanks to you, we are helping families thrive through illness.

Building on a decade of successful work with families, we spent the past year formulating the most aggressive growth plan in our history. The resulting initiative will build our infrastructure and capacity to help us serve more children and families right here in our own backyard. We also have some exciting plans on the horizon for national expansion, as we are partnering with industry leaders and growth experts to determine where, when, and how we will grow Wonders & Worries beyond Central Texas. The need is great, and Wonders & Worries is one of just a handful of programs available throughout the world.

I can’t thank you enough for giving us the tools to reach these important milestones. I am professionally and personally grateful to you for your support of this important work. Stay with us. Wonders & Worries is an efficient and effective non-profit. We are truly grateful for each and every donation, and we are careful stewards of your investment which truly helps ease the painful wonders and worries of a child with a very sick mom or dad.

Sincerely,

Meredith Cooper

Meredith R. Cooper, MA, CCLS, LPC
Co-Founder & Executive Director
“I am so grateful to the entire Wonders & Worries family for the encouragement and dedication you provided. I tell anyone who will listen how GREAT and what a DIFFERENCE you have made. The greatest decision I ever made was calling on you guys. Thank You.”

“You helped me get the courage to tell them! (My son) looked sad at first but then I reassured him I was going to be ok. (My daughter) asked questions about what I was going to look like. I told her I was going to look better than before! And we both laughed. Thank you so much! It’s a huge weight off my shoulders!”

“Our family will forever more be grateful for the time and efforts Wonders & Worries has provided. I can honestly say that a single dedicated organization like Wonders & Worries, can help not just a person and family, but also the community. After 2 years with Wonders & Worries our family (and especially our 4 yr old daughter) is more balanced, happier, and able to cope with illness and change. We have been provided with classes and tools to keep this balance in place. Thanks a million for everything you represent and do for not just us, but all the families and lives you touch!”

“I’ll never forget when (our child life staff member) told us that she had helped my nephew work through that his sister didn’t cause their mother’s breast cancer. I am so glad Wonders and Worries was there. Five years later brother and sister are getting along wonderfully, and I attribute that in part to the good work of Wonders & Worries.”
My twins **LOVED** the (support event)! It was great to laugh that day, too. I had just come back from a checkup at MDA Friday and though my tumors are not showing signs of growth, I managed to ball up a lot of worry and anxiety along the way! My son said, ‘I’m not having a great time. I’m having an **AWESOME TIME**!’. Thanks again for that happy time.

“Wonders & Worries quickly and beautifully brought balance to our family in a time of incredible need. Within hours after placing a call to Wonders & Worries a specialist was in our home working magic. The child life specialists are so qualified, professional and full of love -- I swear just by squinting you can see their wings.”

“Your presence during this was like a warm safety blanket for all of us.”

“For me, (Wonders & Worries) was a godsend. With everything else going on it was great to have an expert tell me how to handle the parenting part.”

“I was 9 years old when my dad was diagnosed with stage 4 brain cancer. I was so terrified with his initial diagnosis. One of my friends at school told me I had changed and wasn’t carefree any longer. Another told me just not to worry about my dad and his cancer. But I was worried; I was worried all the time. Wonders & Worries provided the support when I needed it the most. They helped me to understand his treatments, face my fears, and allowed me to talk openly about all of my concerns without any judgment and I met other kids who had parents in similar situations. Understanding my dad’s cancer allowed me to focus on many other aspects of my life and to continue with my own routines and activities.”
FISCAL YEAR 2012 EXPENSES
by Department

- Fundraising: 13%
- Administrative: 8%
- Program: 79%

FISCAL YEAR 2012 REVENUE
by Contributor

- Individual & Corp. Contributions: 16%
- Grants: 13%
- Special Events: 69%
- Other: 2%
BY THE NUMBERS - OUR WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

2,411 SUPPORT SESSIONS PROVIDED TO CHILDREN & THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS

29% CHILDREN SERVED EXPERIENCED DEATH OF A PARENT

589 SERVED CHILDREN & FAMILY MEMBERS

$67K PROVIDED TO FAMILIES THROUGH SEASON FOR CARING DONATIONS FROM THE COMMUNITY

35% OF CLIENTS ARE UNDERSERVED

40% OF SERVICES PROVIDED AT ONE OF OUR THREE LOCATIONS IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

87% OF FAMILIES SURVEYED SAY WONDERS & WORRIES IMPROVED THEIR FAMILY’S ABILITY TO HANDLE STRESS

9,627 HITS TO OUR WEBSITE

200% INCREASE FACEBOOK FANS

207 VOLUNTEERS

3,247 DONORS TO WONDERS & WORRIES

1,300 EVENT ATTENDEES

QUE MARAVILLA!, WONDERBALL & THE NO WORRIES CLASSIC

WONDERS & WORRIES 2012 ANNUAL REPORT [ PAGE 6 ]
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Adrianna Ortega, Bilingual Child Life Specialist
Jacquelyn Rebecek, Child Life Specialist
Lexi Rigg, Child Life Specialist
Lara Strickland, Child Life Specialist
Ali Houshmand, Child Life Staff

FOUNDERS
Meredith Cooper, Executive Director
Melissa Hicks
The Annual Report includes all gifts made from July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012

$25,000 +

Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation
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$10,000-$24,999

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Lin Chang
Chapparel Women’s Club
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Everet Coon
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U.S. Black Diamond Inc.
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Jill and Bill Williams
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Whitney and Will Withers
Sarah and Richard Wittenbraker
Austen Wright
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Paige and Kip Amstutz
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AW Media
Ball Peoples
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Douglas Jaffe
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EVERY GIFT TRULY MAKES A DIFFERENCE
EVERY GIFT TRULY MAKES A DIFFERENCE

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EVERY GIFT TRULY MAKES A DIFFERENCE

WONDERS & WORRIES 2012 ANNUAL REPORT [ PAGE 12 ]
TRIBUTE GIFTS

A tribute gift to Wonders & Worries honors a special occasion such as a birthday, anniversary or achievement, or remembers a deceased family member or friend.

An acknowledgement is sent to the individual you wish to inform of your gift.

In Honor of John and Judy Avery Family, Julie and Brian Dees and their children Parker and Hudson Millicent Erwin

In Honor of Savanna Bogardus Anita Long

In Honor of Carrie Bucher John R. Johnson

In Honor of Duane Cooper Meredith and Jim Bagan

In Honor of Meredith Cooper Debi Meyer Ted Smith

In Honor of the Cooper Family Ann, William, Champ and Karla Cooper

In Honor of Barbara Boudreaux Cormier Chester Morrison

In Honor of Lee Ann Dean Stephen and Owen Mielke

In Honor of Rosemary and Russell Douglass
Denise and Jerry Conway

In Honor of Annie Downing and Brandy Agnew
Bergan and Stan Casey

In Honor of Ella Finnegan’s 9th Birthday
Ana and Alejandro Ruelas

In Honor of Grace and Saxton Bagan’s 3rd Birthday
Vickie Roan

In Honor of Cole Harmonson
Ramona Jones

In Honor of Lane Homstrom
Timothy and Melissa Gray

In Honor of Chris Jordan
Janice Hervey

In Honor of Krystin, Chris and Julia Johnson
Todd Hower

In Honor of Mary Anna Massey
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In Honor of our Neighbors on Ethridge Avenue
Kevin and Lindsay Hunter

In Honor of Richard Paddock
Greater Houston Community Foundation
In Honor of Mike Reynolds
Joe and Diane Albaugh
Henrietta and Mike Hilderbrand

In Honor of Melina Ruelas
Mr. and Mrs. James Brand
Eileen and Jordan Silverglid

In Honor of Don Schulz
Austin Community Foundation
Robin Osborne

In Honor of Laine Trotter’s
9th Birthday
Ana and Alejandro Ruelas

In Honor of Laura Yara
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Joan Susman

In Honor of Michelle Bynum
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Craig McCoy
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In Memory of Tom Hobson, Jr.
Mary Ann and Norman Olt

In Memory of Dr. Michael Moore
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Vincent Navarro
Donna Rainosek
Vincent Staruska

In Memory of Jim Murray
Sondra Murray

In Memory of Jordan Nash
Meredith and Duane Cooper

In Memory of Gloria Gayle Goode Phillips
Bill Hoy
Lone Star Lodge 2208
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The Churchill Chicks

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Becky Hopkins

In Memory of Karen Webber
Eric Webber

In Memory of Curt Winter
Debra Ortega

IN KIND GIFTS

Ace Custom Tailors
Janet Allen
Elizabeth and David Andrus
Austin’s Pizza
AustinWoman Magazine
Judy and John Avery
Meredith and Jim Bagan
BC Tavern
Beretta USA
Bicycle Sport Shop
Cindy Bodnar
BodyBusiness
Lila Bruni
Don Busby
Les Canter
Cptial Cruises
Capitol Beverage/Coors Light
/Shiner Bock
Virginia Carey
Castle Hill Fitness
Jennie Caughran
Celebration Church Middle School
Girls Group
Chez Zee
Chik To Do
Coaster Furniture
Meredith and Duane Cooper
Hailee Dale and Neighbors
Dart Bowl
Susie and David Davison
Julie and Brian Dees
Diane Stevens Skin Care
Rosemary and Russell Douglass
Kristen and Treg Doyle
Elements Laser Spa
Fab’rik
Faux Iron Solutions
Amanda and Mark Feighner
Kristen Fisher
Leah and Jessica Friedlander
Grapevine Salon Studio 19
Hayden Avery Find Stationary and Gifts
H-E-B
Hey Cupcake!
Hill Country Pasta House
Hotel San Jose
Noemi and Ali Houshmand
Images by Johnny Stevens
Jeffry’s
Kiss n Makeup
Kelli and Dave Konopczyk
Kruger Jewelry
KVUE
Lake Cliff Country Club
Kathryn Lamis
LatinWorks Marketing and Advertising
Josh and Julie Lightfoot
Louisiana Tech Child Life Students
Massage Envy
Mata’s Bouncing Buddies
Maulie’s Tex-Mex
McBride Guns
Mellow Johnny’s Bike Shop
Memphis Train Revue
Austin Music Works
NFL Alumni - Austin Chapter
Nutritional Medicine Associates
The Laser and Skin Care Clinic
Oh Yeah!
Olivia
Samantha Ostertag and Johnny Stevens
Paper Place
Steven Phillips
PubCrawler of Austin
Laura and Todd Reed
Michael Rinkevich
Rory and Deborah Rinkevich
Round Rock Adventures, LLC
Ana and Alejandro Ruelas
Ruth’s Chris Steakhouse
Shirley Shay
Shimek Automotive
David Sords
Southern Hippie
Southwest Airlines
David Squire
Star Furniture
Steve Armstrong Photography
Sullivan’s Steakhouse
Judy Summerelli
Sylvan Learning Center of Austin
Tanglewood Vision Center
Texas Disposal Systems
Texas Rowing Center
The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum
The Four Seasons Hotel Austin
The Menagere-Vickie Roan
The Oasis-Beau Theriot
Uchi and Uchiko
Vintage Villas
Gayle and Stephen Vittorini
W Austin
Westside Tavern
Wink
Yoga Yoga
Zach Theatre

We have tried to ensure that these important contributions are reported accurately.

If you notice an error, please notify:
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Thank you!