

2024

**ANNUAL
REPORT**



TO OUR FRIENDS



P.O. Box 901, Anoka, MN 55303-0901 • (612) 472-2557 • <https://wesawthelight.org/>

Dear Friends,

Our first three years at We Saw The Light were amazing. A positive impact has been made for our families because of people like you who have volunteered your time, talents, energies, input, and donations.

Everyone's journey is different. However, no matter where they are on that journey, we are proud and honored that these families have allowed us to walk with them. Our families are finding moments of light and hope through our ability to reach out to them individually.

We are honored to have accomplished the following in 2024, with your support:

- Our Facebook Private Group had 60 members.
- We sent monthly gifts to 29 families, consisting of a total of 62 individuals.
- We had 13 individuals/organizations on our Resources page.
- We did weekly or monthly reach-outs to 50 families.
- We completed our 2nd (and final) motorcycle run.
- We opened up volunteering opportunities.

Thank you for supporting us and our families.

Sincerely,

Codi, Lisa and Jamie



Codi Leary Leitch
Founder/President



Lisa Burnside
Secretary/Treasurer



Jamie Mosley
Board Member

MISSION

To walk alongside families in Minnesota who are faced with losing a loved one to suicide.

TAG LINE

Finding light together after suicide.

BOARD MEMBERS

Codi Leary Leitch, Founder / President

Lisa Burnside, Secretary / Treasurer

Jamie Mosley, Board Member

ABOUT US

We have lost loved ones to suicide and have come together to help others who have recently lost someone through support and resources while working to end the stigma that surrounds suicide by giving families a safe place to express their feelings among others who truly understand.



“When I lost my 52-year-old son by suicide I was devastated. A friend told me about We Saw The Light and I asked my daughter-in-law if she would like me to submit her and their 3 children. The meaningful gifts and consoling notes sent each month are so comforting. I was so touched that I received gifts too! I can’t say enough or tell enough people how grateful I am to this organization.”

- Judy, Dean’s Mom

OUR FAMILIES

Sherri
Nick's Mom

"WSTL gave me hope in a dark world."

Codi Leary Leitch – Founder of WSTL

James' Wife

"I lost my husband, the father of our three young children, in 2010 to suicide. The journey I was on was not only scary, but lonely as well. The shame, blame, and unanswered questions surrounding suicide caused me to feel completely isolated with nowhere to turn. I was determined to ensure that nobody would ever have to feel so alone. That is what led me to create a safe, non-judgmental place for families to turn, and We Saw The Light was formed. Everyone has a light inside of them, sometimes we just need someone to see it."

Chris
Dave's Wife

"She said I would never be alone through this."

Tracy
Gavin's Aunt

"I am grateful for the kindness and to have a place where people understand this type of grief."

Dee
Michael's Mom

"We Saw The Light was there right when I needed them most."

Vanessa
Jack's Mom

"The work that We Saw The Light does is immeasurably important."

Sarah
Caleb's Mom

"Every month when the package arrives it feels like a warm hug."

Carla
Will's Mom

"They provided a safe place for me to express my feelings in a very nonjudgmental space."

Kathy
Beverly's Family

"My mom received monthly gifts that put a smile on her face and happy tears in her eyes."

Jennifer & Bill
Blake's Parents

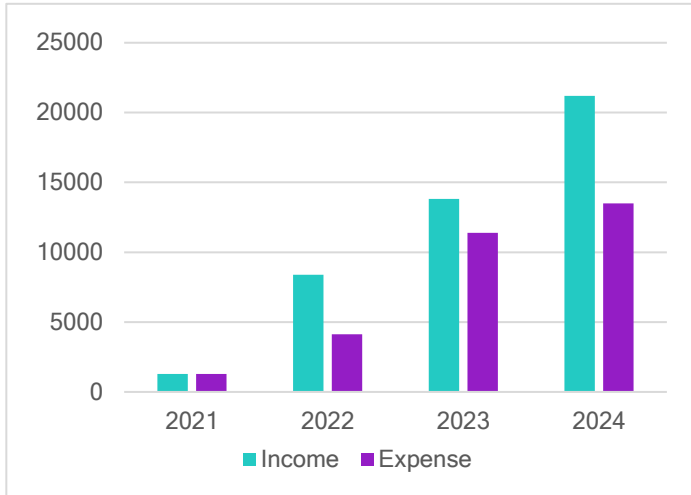
"To know someone was thinking about us was so helpful and the gifts were a bit of light in each dark month."

Erica
Monte's Mom

"I was dumbfounded, for who in their right mind would willingly step into someone's life at a time such as this?"

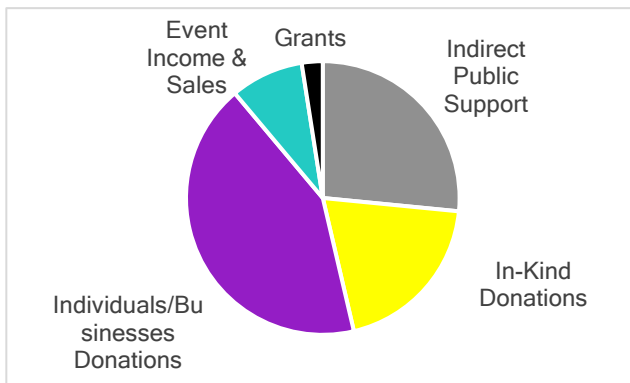
FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME AND EXPENSES 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024



2024 INCOME AND EXPENSES BREAKDOWN

TOTAL INCOME: \$21,193



Indirect Public Support \$5,628

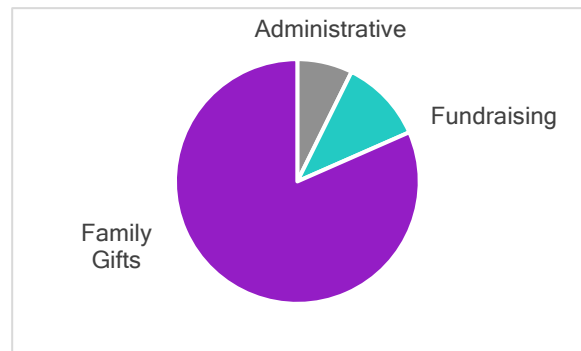
In-Kind Donations \$4,195

Individuals/Businesses Donations \$9,014

Event Income & Sales \$1,831

Grants \$525

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$13,505



Administrative \$988 (7%)

Fundraising \$1,498 (11%)

Family Gifts \$11,019 (82%)

LIST OF DONORS

INDIVIDUALS

Amanda Stolp	James Piskel	Marissa Ogren
Angela Dobbs	Jesse and Jessica Lee	Michele Sullivan
AnnMarie Ventura	Johnnie Johnson	Mike and Erica Fellner
Anonymous	Judith Dehmer	Phyllis Moore
Bonnie Dyan	Kathleen Martinson	Robert Laughing
Bonnie Sullivan	Kirk and Codi Leitch	Shawn and Sue Sullivan
Bruce and Lisa Burnside	Kristina Spidahl	Sherri Wagner
Dee Jakubowski	Laura Lattrez	Summer Scandariato
Dorothy Radermacher	Lauren Brown	Sunni Hemingsen
James Adams	Lori Bestler	Theresa Mitchell
		Tom Dotray

Participants of the 2024 motorcycle run

CORPORATIONS, BUSINESSES, AND INDIRECT PUBLIC SUPPORT

4 Imprint Grant	Michael's
Applebee's Fergus Falls	Nothing Bundt Cakes
Austin Healy Band	PayPal Giving Fund
Farrell's Extreme Bodyshaping	Rumble House
First Presbyterian Church	Spotted Drum Charity
GiveMN	Target Corporation
Hamel Power	Whistle Binkies

FACEBOOK AND OTHER OUTSIDE FUNDRAISERS

13 Facebook Birthday Fundraisers in 2024 for a total of \$2037

Various Fundraisers of hats, merchandise, cookies, and Jagger Bombs

IN-KIND SUPPORT (including cards and handmade items)

Provided by many individuals and organizations





Our generous supporters help our families see the light within themselves as we walk alongside them on their journeys. Suicide leaves behind many survivors that deserve to see the light. With your continued support, we can make a difference in their lives.



PO Box 901
Anoka, MN 55303-0901
(612) 472-2557
<https://wesawthelight.org>

We Saw The Light is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

We do not provide mental health services.

Gold
Transparency
2024

Candid.