

FACING THE FUTURE

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FFC Sponsors FOUR families for the 2022 CCA Retreat!

Congratulations to the Grady Family, the Rizzo Family, the Foley Family, and the Saperstein Family! The Foundation for Faces of Children will be sponsoring these FOUR families to the Children's Craniofacial Association's (CCA) Annual Family Retreat and Educational Symposium. We're so excited for them to attend this wonderful event and we look forward to hearing about their trip to Dallas, Texas this June. The four-day retreat provides individuals affected by a facial difference (and their families) an opportunity to interact with others who have endured similar experiences, share ideas, problems and solutions and form life-long friendships. ■



HOW TO DONATE TO FFC:

Please make donations [here](#) or by check (payable to Foundation for Faces of Children) sent to:

Foundation for Faces of
Children

Annual Appeal
258 Harvard Street, #367
Brookline, MA 02446

Dear FFC Supporters and Friends...

I want to begin by thanking each of our supporters and Board members for the time, energy, and financial commitments they have made over the past two years. Each of you have endured these 24 months in different ways, but one thing that remained constant was your dedication to the primary mission of the Foundation for Faces of Children. We understand the importance of maintaining connections throughout our craniofacial community so we expanded our social media presence via Instagram and Facebook, as well as through parent and young adult virtual meet ups. We plan to continue these opportunities to connect with the hope of resuming in-person programming in 2022.

I became involved with FFC over seven years ago after my son was born with bilateral cleft lip and palate. Since I personally have a repaired bilateral cleft lip and palate, I recognized that the journey forward for our son would be filled with a range of emotions and challenging moments. How we experience times of adversity with our children will either result in confidence building and fostering a positive self-image, or sow seeds of frustration and loss of self-esteem. With a loving and supportive network, these journeys will not only strengthen our child's character, but will also arm them with resilience, kindness and perspective. The support and resources provided by FFC and related connections throughout the craniofacial community are invaluable for our families and their children.

The mission of FFC is to support the social, psychological, emotional, and educational needs of individuals affected by craniofacial differences and their families. Listed below are some of our planned activities and programs:

NEW for 2022 — Young Adult Virtual Meet Up: Join us via Zoom at 7 pm on the second Thursday of each month. Open to young adults 18 and over with a craniofacial condition, this relaxed virtual meet up offers an opportunity to meet new people, ask questions or just listen – whatever works for you!

Virtual Parent Support Groups: Our virtual parent support group meets via Zoom at 7 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Connect with other parents and bring questions regarding your child's diagnosis, school issues and newborn care. Share your concerns and emotional challenges as we discuss wide-ranging parenting issues. Parents of ALL craniofacial conditions across ALL ages are welcome.

FFC Cares Grant: Children with craniofacial anomalies often require many medical appointments and hospitalizations. FFC Cares is a pilot program to defray travel and associated expenses for families seeking care in any of the 11 American Cleft Palate-Craniofacial Association (ACPA) approved care centers in New England (see story on page 3).

continued on page 2



You may donate
securely at our website:
[facesofchildren.org/
how-to-help](https://facesofchildren.org/how-to-help)
All contributions to the
Foundation are tax-deductible.



ANNUAL APPEAL, *continued*

Annual Scholarship Awards: Each year, exceptional young adults in New England who were born with facial differences are recognized by FFC for their academic achievements and contributions to their communities. The Foundation grants scholarships honoring four of our founders to assist recipients in attending their post-secondary institution of choice.

Retreat Sponsorship: FFC sponsors New England families at the Children's Craniofacial Association (CCA) Annual Family Retreat and Educational Symposium. Held in a different city each year, the CCA "Cher Retreat" provides individuals affected by a facial difference, their siblings, and their parents an opportunity to interact with others who have similar experiences. Families share ideas, problems, and solutions and make life-long friendships (read about the four FFC-sponsored families on page one).

Camp Reflections Sponsorship: Located in New Hampshire, Camp Reflections is open to children with facial differences aged 8-16 and their siblings. FFC grants multiple scholarships annually to participants in this unique week-long summer camp (see story on page 3).

Social Events: FFC provides a variety of opportunities for individuals with craniofacial conditions and their families to meet and connect with other families. These programs include sports events, art workshops, bowling, the Making Faces workshop, movie screenings and FFC's annual Paces for Faces walk. Our activities during 2021 were virtual, but we look forward to resuming in-person programming during 2022.

Educational Seminars and Workshops: FFC provides educational and informational seminars for families on various topics including speech and language, dental treatment and timing, insurance obstacles, and psychological support and coping skills for children with facial differences.

Without your continuing financial support, these programs would not be possible, I ask you to consider the future needs of the Foundation and the support it provides to children with craniofacial differences and their families. Any gift, no matter the size, is valued and appreciated. You may donate at our website (<https://facesofchildren.org/how-to-help>). All contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible.

Please note that **we are always looking for engaged parents**, with new ideas and experiences, willing to actively join the Board, so that we may continue to make each year better than the one before.

Michael C. Greiner
President and Board Member, Foundation for Faces of Children

Upcoming Programs

Please visit our [webpage](#) regularly or follow us on social media (Instagram and Facebook) for updates!

Virtual Parents Support Group (via Zoom)	Tuesday, April 12 at 7pm	FFC will continue to host the virtual parent support groups the 2nd Tuesday of every month during 2022
Young Adult Virtual Meet Up (via Zoom)	Thursday, April 14 at 7pm	Join FFC for the Young Adult Meet Up the 2nd Thursday of each month throughout the year.
Camp Reflections Sponsorship	August 14 - 20, 2022	Apply at Harbor Camps (see page 3 for details).
Mother's Brunch	April 30, 2022	Join us from 8:30 am to noon in Waltham, Mass.
Virtual Scholarship Awards	June 2022	Join us for a celebration to recognize the 2022 scholarship award recipients.
Paces For Faces 2022	Date TBA	In person at Lake Quannapowitt in Wakefield!



Mark
Your
Calendars!

April 30th Mother's Brunch

Don't miss FFC's Annual Mother's Brunch celebrating mothers and grandmothers in our craniofacial community!

Saturday, April 30th

8:30 a.m. – 12 pm

Embassy Suites Hotel, Waltham, Massachusetts

Guest Speaker: **Elisa T. Bronfman, PhD**, Senior Staff Psychologist in Cardiac Neurodevelopmental Program, a family medical coping initiative at the Hale Family Center for Families at Boston Children's Hospital.

Dr. Bronfman is a long-time provider and friend to the craniofacial community. She will present a talk on "Optimizing Mental Health in Children and Teenagers," followed by an open discussion when she will answer your questions and you will have an opportunity to share your experiences.

We plan to hold this event in person unless Massachusetts State Covid-19 safety protocols require that it be moved to a virtual format. In any case, we look forward to celebrating all the wonderful mothers and grandmothers in our craniofacial community! 🍷



FFC Sponsors Campers to Camp Reflections 2022!

Together with Priscilla Coffin, long-time former FFC Board member, we will be sponsoring attendance at Camp Reflections summer camp once more this August. Camp Reflections is a week-long camp for children with facial differences and their siblings (ages 8-16). It was founded to foster connection and friendship among children in our community. The camp takes place on a beautiful 116-acre lakefront property in New Hampshire. Campers eat all their meals together and participate in fun daily activities including swimming, boating, sports, arts and crafts, music, drama, and a rock-climbing wall. Each night, the group gathers for an all-camp evening activity such as camp songs, s'mores, movie night, star gazing, and a talent show. This summer the camp will take place from Sunday, August 14 to Saturday, August 20 and there are a limited number of sponsorships available. If you would like to apply, please visit harborcamps.org/camp-reflections. On your camper's application, please mention that you heard of this camp from FFC. Applications are due by June 1, 2022. We hope to see you there! *Many thanks to Priscilla for her generous support of this initiative.* 🍷

The FFC Cares Grant Rolls Out!

FFC is excited to announce the launch of the **FFC Cares Grant**. Gifts in the amount of \$1,000 each have been given to 9 of the 11 New England Craniofacial Centers so far. The centers will distribute VISA gift cards to families in denominations of \$25 and \$50 to help offset a bit of the cost burden while receiving medical care. Stacey Perlmutter of Shriners Hospitals for Children—Springfield expressed the center's gratitude to FFC: "Thank you so much. We received this very generous gift and we are so appreciative. It's generosity like this that helps us transform the lives of our patients."

Created through donations, the **FFC Cares Grant** is a fund to assist New England-based craniofacial centers in supporting patients and their families while they are receiving medical care. Whether it be assistance with gas for long distance travel, a meal voucher, parking assistance, or a contribution to help with a local hotel stay while receiving care, FFC recognizes the lengths our families must go to receive care for their child. These costs add up, and we want to help. 🍷

Say "Hello" to Emily Rogers



FFC welcomes Emily Rogers, who will begin serving as the Foundation's Operations Manager. Emily knows FFC well. Her brother was born with a cleft lip and palate, so she has been an active participant in Foundation events for many years.

As a junior at Keene State College where she is pursuing a degree in business management, Emily is on the women's swim and dive team, and is involved in various other clubs on campus. When Emily is not living at college in New Hampshire, she returns home

to Framingham or spends time with her family at their summer home in Falmouth, Massachusetts. Please be sure to say hello to Emily if you see her at any of our in-person family events this year! 📷



Emily (right), pictured at the 2008 Paces for Faces Walk next to brother Daniel and fellow walkers Charlie and Colin Gagnon, has long been part of the FFC family.

FFC TREASURERS ARE KEYSTONES OF THE FOUNDATION

The Foundation for Faces of Children exists only through the efforts of scores of volunteers throughout the decades. This includes in no small part those who serve as treasurer. Here we spotlight two individuals at a time of transition for this role.

Thanks to Joe Carroll for Eight Years of Service

FFC would like to acknowledge Joe Carroll for his excellent service as Board Treasurer. Joe was first introduced to the Foundation after



Joe Carroll pictured with his daughter Amanda.

being blessed with his daughter Amanda some 25 years ago and he has been deeply involved with the Foundation since then. Ann-Marie Rogers, acting Vice President shared, "Meeting people like Joe Carroll — and having built a friendship that will last long after his service on the Board — is only one of the many ways we all have benefited from being part of the FFC community." 📷

Welcome to Our New Treasurer, Caitlin Hughes



The Hughes family.

Caitlin Hughes and her husband Brian are being kept busy these days by daughters McKenna (2 years old) and Brooklyn (1 year old). The family connected with FCC in March 2021 when Brooklyn was born with a left complete unilateral cleft lip. They found the FFC Parent Group to be a great resource as they worked through various challenges and continue to learn about Brooklyn's path forward.

In addition to being a mother, Caitlin is a Partner at the public accounting firm RSM US LLP. Her background in accounting led her to give back to the foundation which had "already done so much for my family." *Welcome Caitlin!* 📷



FOUNDATION FOR Faces of Children

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Connect with FFC Online



Support FFC



The Foundation for Faces of Children (FFC) is dedicated to supporting the social, psychological/emotional, and educational needs of individuals, and their families, affected by craniofacial differences. We seek to improve the lives of children with craniofacial differences and inspire them to reach their full potential.

Our mission is to:

- Provide patients and families with the most accurate, up-to-date, and accessible information about facial differences.
- Advocate for the best care possible for children with facial differences.

We are a not-for-profit organization entirely supported by private donations, grants, and fund-raising initiatives. Please contact us if you would like to participate in or sponsor a fundraising event.

We achieve this by:

- Collaborating with leading specialists.
- Endorsing the team approach to care.
- Partnering with individuals and organizations with similar goals.

Board of Directors

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