

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 22, 2021

Press Contact: Ami D'Amelio
ami@justflownh.com or 603.703.5588



Friends of Aine Receives Volunteer NH 2021 Group Volunteer Service Award

Manchester, NH – Friends of Aine, a nonprofit organization providing bereavement support services to grieving children, teens, and families, has been honored with a Volunteer NH 2021 Spirit of NH Volunteer Service award. The organization's volunteer facilitators received the 2021 Outstanding Volunteer Service Award in the Group category during the award presentation at Concord's Bank of NH Stage on Wednesday.

Friends of Aine is supported by 23 trained volunteer facilitators who help empower children and teens to name and share their experiences, normalize their grief through activities that explore topics related to grief, and learn coping strategies to help navigate their grief. They deliver these services within age-specific grief support groups to children and teens ages four to 18.

Over the past year, these volunteer facilitators held in-person and virtual peer-to-peer grief support events for children and families, serving 96 participants and donating more than 775 hours.

"We are thrilled that our dedicated and compassionate volunteers—who give so much of their personal time, talent, and energy to help grieving children and teens—have been publicly honored for their service," says Christine Phillips, Co-Founder, Friends of Aine. "Our organization is humbled and grateful to be counted among the deserving winners of Volunteer NH's 2021 Spirit of NH Awards."

Along with its volunteer facilitators, Friends of Aine is also very fortunate to have additional volunteers who support the organization in various capacities throughout the year, including its special events.

Details about the Spirit of NH Awards are online at volunteernh.org/spirit-of-nh-awards. For more information about Friends of Aine and its grief support services, visit friendsofaine.com.

ABOUT VOLUNTEER NH

Volunteer NH is a nonprofit organization established in 2001 and governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Governor and approved by the Executive Council. With a mission to promote the



tradition of service in New Hampshire, Volunteer NH supports and sponsors national service initiatives and provides training, recognition, and a central site for volunteers and volunteer programs to help them strengthen their communities.

ABOUT FRIENDS OF AINE

Friends of Aine is the only nonprofit organization in New Hampshire whose sole mission is to support grieving children, teens, and families. Through a network of trained volunteer facilitators, its peer-to-peer support programs assist children and teens with sharing their experiences, exploring topics related to grief, learning coping strategies, and not feeling alone in their grief. Thanks to the generosity of donors, there is no cost to families. Friends of Aine also provides training, education, and research to families and professionals. The organization is inspired by Aine Phillips, who died suddenly at the age of eight, and the lack of existing grief support at the time for her surviving sister, Bella. For more information about Friends of Aine, visit friendsofaine.com.

###