

## Grace Cottage Earns 4-Star Rating and Named To National Rural Honor Roll



**NRRS** National Rural Rating System

Grace Cottage has been awarded a prestigious 4-star rating by the National Rural Rating System (NRRS), a program recognizing excellence in rural healthcare, and has also been named on the 2025 National Rural Honor Roll.

Rural hospitals on the National Rural Honor Roll have met the highest standards for patient experience, based on

cumulative ratings provided by patients during 2024. The National Rural Honor Roll was created to honor rural hospitals and clinics that consistently deliver exceptional healthcare, showcasing organizations that are leaders in patient-centered care. Grace Cottage is the only hospital in the Northeast to have been awarded the 4-star rating in 2024.

“This rating is a testament to all of our employees, whose dedication to delivering high-quality care and exceptional patient experiences is so appreciated by our community,” said Grace Cottage CEO Olivia Sweetnam.

## New Primary Care Clinic Named The Top Regional Priority

Every year, the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation (BDCC) and the Bennington County



**BRATTLEBORO  
DEVELOPMENT  
CREDIT CORPORATION**

Regional Commission (BCRC) select projects that align with the goals of the Southern Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), a federally-approved five-year action plan for regional growth. This year, their review committee designated 12 of their 83 submissions as “Southern Vermont Vital Projects” and Grace Cottage’s new primary care clinic project was included for the second year in a row. It was also named by BDCC as Windham County’s #1 Regional Priority Project.

Fundraising for the project continues, and thanks to many generous pledges and donations, we have raised \$12,504,430.32 to date for the \$21M project. Every penny is counted and makes a difference.



More than 60 people attended the John & Susan Eastwood Outpatient Rehabilitation Services ribbon-cutting ceremony on December 18. (l. to r.) John Eastwood, Senior Rehab Director Crystal Mansfield, former CEO Doug DiVello, CEO Olivia Sweetnam, Board of Trustees Chair Ed Druke, and Susan Eastwood.

## John & Susan Eastwood Outpatient Rehabilitation Services

In appreciation for a very generous gift given in thanks for the care that their family has received over decades, Grace Cottage’s Outpatient Rehabilitation Services proudly bears the names of John & Susan Eastwood of Townshend. “John and I are so happy to be able to help out,” said Susan Eastwood. “Grace Cottage has done so much for our family, for so many years.”

“I was so impressed when I saw the new facility in the Heins building,” said Dick Desrochers of Grafton. “This was a great move for Outpatient Rehab. There’s so much more privacy, space, and comfort for patients!”

The Outpatient Rehab Department’s volume has increased at a rapid pace, more than doubling in the last few years. This improved space will allow the physical and occupational therapists to help care for more patients than ever before.

Our 17 licensed therapists offer a variety of treatments, including Pelvic Health Therapy, Lymphedema Therapy, Musculoskeletal, Soft-Tissue, or Hand Rehabilitation after Injury, Post-surgical Rehabilitation, Pediatric Physical and Occupational Therapy, Balance, and more.

### A grateful patient writes:

“Every single employee, at any level, is very kind and patient and everyone knows just what to do. I’m very lucky to live so close to Grace Cottage!” — *Christina Angell*, Townshend, VT



**Save The Date:**  
**Saturday, March 1 at Stratton**  
See page 4 for more information!

# A Word From the CEO



I could not be more proud of Grace Cottage as we continue to win national, regional, and state awards and accolades while caring for a record number of patients in our community. Healthcare is difficult in the state of Vermont, as well as nationally, with many changes on the horizon, but we are responding to the needs of our patients and our community, and in the best way we can, while continually exploring ways that we can be more financially sustainable.

We were very pleased and touched that 90 people came to our Community Forum in support of Grace Cottage at the Townshend Town Hall in October to speak up about how important Grace Cottage is to them and to their friends, neighbors, and families. It's this kind of enduring support, both emotional and financial, that makes Grace Cottage stand out. I've worked in quite a few hospitals in Canada (where I'm from) and in the U.S., and I can tell you, without a shadow of a doubt, that Grace Cottage is the best. Our employees are joyful and proud that they work here; patients comment on this all the time, incredulous that, in a business as stressful as healthcare, Grace Cottage employees smile, engage, and often go the extra mile for patients whenever possible. There is no hierarchy here – everyone is on a first-name basis (often with patients as well). No matter what their job is here, every employee is treated with equal respect and caring.

Yet, despite our strong positive culture and the great successes we've enjoyed over the past year, we understand why Vermont's regulatory body for healthcare, the Green Mountain Care Board, is concerned about the financial state of all of Vermont's hospitals. At Grace Cottage, we're caring for more patients than ever in primary care, outpatient rehab, and in our emergency department, yet reimbursements from Medicare, Medicaid, and commercial insurers don't cover our costs, and they haven't for years. We've always been able to make up the difference with generous donations from our community, but are continually striving to be self-sustaining, looking long and hard at ways to decrease losses while also increasing service offerings that are meaningful for our community. Our Board of Trustees (volunteers who have a strong presence in our local community) and our Leadership Team work in tandem to explore options for more financially sustainable ways to do business, while enabling us to continue to care for our community in the caring and professional way that we have for more than 75 years.

No matter how large or small, thank you for the role that you play in Grace Cottage's success, whether you are an employee, an ambassador (word-of-mouth is our best advertising), a volunteer, and/or a donor. Each and every one of you help keep Grace Cottage not just surviving, but thriving. — *Olivia Sweetnam, CEO*

Grace Cottage CEO Olivia Sweetnam e-mails an informative *Message to the Community* once a month. To receive this communication, send an e-mail to [info@gracecottage.org](mailto:info@gracecottage.org) with the subject line "Add me to your Message to the Community."

## "Grace Cottage Hospital is Perfectly Healthy"

*To the Editor of the Brattleboro Reformer: (reprinted with permission)*

Imagine this – a healthy, vibrant, and much-loved woman goes in for an annual checkup. Her doctor examines all of her vital signs and lab reports and expresses concern. She does not fit the statistics he likes to see for a woman her size, age, and location. He tells her she must change the way she functions and her role in her community. She needs to make more money. He concludes, "You also need heart surgery."

As ridiculous as this sounds, this is what could happen to Grace Cottage Health Care. The doctor is a consultant to Green Mountain Care who said Grace Cottage must change from being healthy, vibrant, and much-loved to fit the mold he thinks will be better and more cost-efficient. He not only wants to change the heart of Grace Cottage, he wants to break the heart of all of us who depend on Grace's current structure.

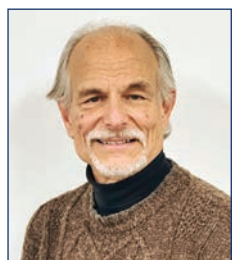
We rely on our care center to react to our community's needs, and since 1949, Grace has responded to us, based on what we patients require to be healthy, not what is forced by some top-down

dictate. Grace conducts various fundraising events each year, giving us community members a chance to join our neighbors in supporting our beloved care center. This is not a weakness. This relationship is how we have maintained a great health care home for 75 years.

For more than 20 years, I have been involved with Grace Cottage as a patient and volunteer. For five decades before that, I used the health care provided in six other states. Perhaps those providers were more cost effective, but none were nearly as helpful to me as Grace Cottage. When I listen to friends in those other states tell horror stories of the services they receive, and when I think of my own previous treatment, I know I am extremely fortunate to have the services of Grace Cottage.

The Green Mountain Care Board needs to reject the consultant's report and not seek to change Grace Cottage. She is perfectly healthy as she is. — *Mary McCoy, Windham, Oct. 4, 2024*

## Welcome New Board Member



The Board of Trustees of Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital is pleased to welcome Dr. Joe Camardo to the Board. Camardo received his M.D. from University of Pennsylvania, and is Board Certified in Internal Medicine. He was a research physician in neuroscience at Columbia University and University of Pennsylvania, and then practiced as a primary care internist at Presbyterian Hospital in Philadelphia. He joined Wyeth Pharmaceuticals in 1989 as medical director, where he worked for more than 20 years, responsible for the company's clinical development and medical affairs. Following that, Camardo worked for Forest Laboratories, Celgene, and ADCTherapeutics in various roles, including head of global health research, and chief medical officer.

"My wife, Linda, and I have a second home in Jamaica and have been coming to Vermont for more than 30 years," said Camardo. "I have been looking for a way to use my experience and knowledge to help support the practice of medicine, and joining the Grace Cottage Board provides me with an opportunity to contribute to a very important healthcare organization in Vermont."

# Welcoming Two Practitioners

Grace Cottage has welcomed two new practitioners; Nancy Castner and Amanda Lindsey started accepting new patients this past fall at Grace Cottage Family Health.



**Nancy Castner** received her B.S. in Nursing from the University of Massachusetts, her Master of Science in Nursing at Drexel University in Philadelphia, a Certification in School Nursing from La Salle University in Philadelphia, and her Doctor of Nursing Practice from the University of Vermont. Castner is a Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner.

Throughout her 25-year career, Castner has cared for pediatric and adult patients in a variety of settings, including pediatric emergency and trauma, pediatric and maternity home care, as a certified school nurse, and in rural primary health care. She lives in Ludlow with her partner, Alex, and is the mother of three grown sons.

**Amanda (Mandy) Lindsey** graduated from the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She received her Master of Science as a Pediatric Acute Care Nurse Practitioner from Wayne State University in Detroit. Her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree is from the University of Michigan. She is a Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner who worked for nine years in Utah as a pediatric nurse practitioner on the Heart Failure/Transplant Team and on the Cardiothoracic Surgery team at Primary Children's Hospital.



Lindsey moved to Vermont with her husband and young daughter in July, 2024.

## ♥ Wishes Granted...

- Dr. Renee Bergner donated funds for the purchase of a blanket storage cart for the Housekeeping Department.
- Jim & Sandy Wilbur made a donation for the purchase of 12 pulse oximeters for Grace Cottage Family Health.
- Tink & June Severance donated the funds for the purchase of cryosurgical tips for Grace Cottage Family Health and a collapsible cart for the Housekeeping Department.
- Loren & Betsy Cox made a donation for the purchase of a pizza warmer and wide-rim dishes for the Dietary Department.
- Elliott & Pam Greenblott made a donation for the purchase of a jet ventilation catheter, a medical storage cabinet, and an oxygen tank holder, all for the Emergency Department.
- David Farnum donated funds for the purchase of a monofilament testing kit for the Rehab Department.
- The Brattleboro Women's Golf Association made a generous gift, as they have done annually for many years, to be put towards palliative care at Grace Cottage.
- Lynne Carey & Michael Gardner made a donation for the purchase of a pediatric "crash" cart for the Emergency Department.
- Tom & Mary Grape donated the funds for the purchase of a vital signs cart for Grace Cottage Family Health.
- The Daffy Charitable Fund made a donation for the purchase of padded folding chairs for use by family and friends visiting patients in the Emergency Department and in the hospital.

## ♥ Wishes Made...

- The Dietary Department is in need of a heavy-duty commercial blender to puree foods for patients who have difficulty swallowing. \$1,643.
- Grace Cottage Family Health is in great need of a Welch Allyn Audiometer in order to check hearing more rapidly and accurately (particularly needed for patients who are applying for a Commercial Driver's License, a test that is required). \$2,015.
- Two additional digital scales are needed in the primary care practice. \$400 each.
- The Housekeeping Department needs a Shark vacuum. \$230.
- The Laboratory is in need of a Siemens Automated Clinitek Status Urinalysis Analyzer. \$700.
- Grace Cottage Family Health needs three upholstered steel transport chairs. \$120 each.
- The Housekeeping Department can use a Maytag washing machine for smaller loads. \$950.
- The Dietary Department would benefit from a large cart for busing dishes. \$425, and a variety of stainless steel pans and bowls ranging from \$51 - \$187 each.

*Grace Cottage's Wish List is updated monthly on our website, at [gracecottage.org](http://gracecottage.org), or call 802-365-9109 for more information.*

# GIVING TUESDAY

## Giving Tuesday 2024 Was A Success!

Thanks to 56 generous supporters from 12 states and Canada, our GivingTuesday campaign on December 3 was a great success. Donations totaling \$30,941 were put toward the purchase of several pieces of equipment needed in our new Outpatient Rehab Services gym. We are so grateful for your support!



## Praise for the Dietary Department

Grace Cottage's Dietary Department scored 100% in just one, but two surprise inspections of the kitchen and cafeteria by inspectors from the Vermont Department of Health during 2024. We couldn't be prouder of our amazing team. The hard work and dedication they exhibit every day is inspiring and, as patients, visitors, and employees know, the meals that they prepare, 365 days a year, are always delicious and nutritious!



## Make Tracks for Health on March 1, 2025

We hope to see you at our second annual *Make Tracks for Health* at the Nordic Center at Stratton Resort (across from the Sunbowl) on Saturday, March 1 from 10 a.m. until noon. Last year's event was so much fun, as volunteers and participants snowshoed or cross-country skied through the beautiful woodland paths, and then gathered by the fire for hot chocolate and treats. Rental equipment is available for the event, through advance registration. We thank Stratton, Solstice at Stratton, and M&T Bank for their sponsorship of this family-friendly event that raises money for a great cause! Find out more and register at [gracecottage.org/events](http://gracecottage.org/events).

## 16th Annual Spring Into Health 5K – May 10, 2025

Springtime will be here before you know it, so mark your calendar now for our 16th annual *Spring into Health 5K* on Saturday, May 10th on the Townshend Common. Many Grace Cottage employees, including the event founder, Dr. Moss Linder, will be on hand to ensure a fun and safe event.

Registration is \$20 per participant (children under the age of 18 are free with signed parent/guardian permission), and registration is open now, at [gracecottage.org/events](http://gracecottage.org/events).

You are welcome to run, walk, roll, or stroll your 5K with us at 8:30 a.m. on the Townshend Common or, if you prefer, virtually at a time and place of your own choosing. The idea is to take charge of your own health and to get moving!

The 2024 *Spring Into Health 5K* was sponsored by M&T Bank, Linda Bastian, Big Picture Farm, Cota & Cota, River Bend Farm Market, Smith Family Maple Syrup, and WEEI 93.5 FM Sports Radio.



## Tee It Up For Health Golf Tournament Saturday, June 7, 2025 - Haystack Golf Club in Wilmington

Many of our golfers return to this fun event year after year, and new golfers are always eagerly welcome! Funds raised at this 16th Annual *Tee It Up For Health* Golf Tournament will go toward Grace Cottage's new primary care clinic building.

**DATE:** Saturday, June 7, 2025; Noon Shotgun Start

**LOCATION:** Haystack Golf Club  
70 Spyglass Lane, Wilmington, VT 05363

**REGISTRATION:** \$175 per golfer / \$700 per team includes greens fees, several contests, cart, golf balls, box lunch, snacks, logo gift, and awards dinner. 32 teams joined us last year.



2024 Tee It Up for Health at Haystack Golf Club

### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Platinum Sponsor (\$3,500, includes flag, hole sign, four golfers, lunch & dinner, logo wear, publicity)
- Gold Sponsor (\$2,500, includes flag, hole sign, two free golfers, lunch & dinner, logo wear, publicity)
- Silver Sponsor (\$1,000, includes flag, hole sign, one free golfer, lunch & dinner, logo wear, publicity)
- Hole Sponsor (\$500, includes flag, hole sign, and publicity)
- Bronze Sponsor (\$300, includes flag and publicity)
- Flag Sponsor (\$150, includes embroidered flag with your name or business name, displayed at the event)

We're grateful to all of our 2024 sponsors, including the Event Sponsor, The Richards Group. Sponsorship publicity includes a press release in the *Brattleboro Reformer*, *The Commons*, and *The Deerfield Valley News*, and on the event page on our website throughout the year. All sponsors are mentioned in our hospital newsletter, *Cottage Door*, which is sent to more than 7,000 households.

For more information, visit our website at [gracecottage.org](http://gracecottage.org); call 802-365-9109; or e-mail [info@gracecottage.org](mailto:info@gracecottage.org).  
Golfer registration is open online now!

### A grateful patient writes:

"Our family has been coming to Grafton for 51 years and, during that time, your wonderful doctors, nurses, and staff have been there to address every issue we've presented, including bandaging after bike and ski accidents, upset stomach, flu, pneumonia, a stroke. The care, support, and concern received by the patient is outstanding. Thank you everyone at Grace Cottage for being so efficient and caring to all who come through your doors seeking your help.

We are blessed to have such a fine medical facility in our midst and available to all of us."

— Judy Rowley, Grafton, VT and Southbury, CT

# 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FAIR DAY

Saturday, August 2, 2025

Townshend Common, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Free Admission | Free Parking | Free Entertainment

Hospital Fair Day is a highlight of the year for many area families and visitors, including ours. For decades, the Holts have traveled from far and wide to gather at our farmhouse on East Hill in Townshend to help out on and before Fair Day, always held on the first Saturday in August. Along with many other volunteers and Grace Cottage employees, our cousins, kids, nieces, and nephews help with set up on the Townshend Common the week before the Fair, and pitch in, mostly at the White Elephant Booth, to help sell and, when the Fair ends, to clean up. Many residents and second homeowners hold their annual family reunions, as we do, on Fair Day weekend because it's such a fun event for all ages. And it supports a great cause – our local, independent, non-profit community hospital. What could be better?! The net proceeds of this year's Hospital Fair Day will go toward the construction of the new primary care building at Grace Cottage.

The success of Hospital Fair Day, though, depends on donations to fill the booths: Plants, White Elephant, Books, Art, Jewelry, Pictures & Frames, Toys & Games, and Baked Goods. Items of value are needed for our Auction; this year we will be accepting cars, boats, fine jewelry, silver, antiques, lamps, and small pieces of furniture (the larger the piece, the less likely it is to sell, these days – it's an unfortunate reality).

Fair Day also depends on volunteers, lots of them, before, during and after the Fair. Tell us what you're interested in doing, and we will be happy to put you to work! Call at 802-365-4455 or e-mail us at [gracecottagefair@gmail.com](mailto:gracecottagefair@gmail.com). We gratefully embrace new (and old!) volunteers, and we have a lot of fun. Have you ever wondered how to give thanks for the care you and/or loved ones have received at Grace Cottage? This is a great way to do it!

Let's make the 75th Annual Hospital Fair Day the BEST YET! – *Helen Holt & Connie Holt*, Hospital Fair Day Co-Chairs



## Grateful families write:

"We want to thank Grace Cottage for the exemplary and loving care our family received there recently. Ben Woodard, along with the fabulous Hospice Team, many other wonderful professionals, and volunteers were there for our sister, Rosalie Bischof, every step of the way, 24/7, during the final 10 days of her life. The well-thought-out Hospice Suite is top notch and what we consider to be such a remarkable contribution to our community.

This was a very difficult time and would have been much harder to handle if not for the individual attention and compassion given to all of us in such a monumental time of grief and need. Words cannot describe how wonderfully competent and present your very special staff was, from the doctors to cleaning crew. You all made such an effort to be sure Rosalie was comfortable at all times, moving through her last days with grace and dignity, not to mention how you helped our entire family get through this. Please accept our appreciation and gratitude for all that you are to so many people. You are truly a gift and we will forever be grateful for you!"

– *Jonathan & Elyn Bischof and family*  
Jamaica, VT

"My family and I have had many experiences with the professional and truly special care that Grace Cottage provides for patients. My history with Grace Cottage began with

Dr. Otis many years ago when I was a child.

My daughter, Christine, was born there in 1969, when her father was serving in the Navy during the Vietnam War. My family members and I have used the emergency room, inpatient care, physical and occupational therapy, and family practice numerous times over the years. And, recently, I was truly overwhelmed by the expertise, kindness, and compassion my family was shown by the entire staff when we needed to use the hospice suite for my husband for almost a week this past summer. John's end-of-life care was exceptional. I will be forever grateful."

– *Sally Wadsworth*  
Stratton, VT

# Gift of Giving

It is with mixed emotions that I will be retiring on April 4, after 28 wonderful years at Grace Cottage, but the time has come. I will be 70, we have an infant granddaughter, and my list of places to visit, books to read, and walks to take keeps getting longer rather than shorter! My years here have not been “work”, but a labor of love, because Grace Cottage is such an exceptional and unique place (I’m always accused of hyperbole, but in this case, it’s true!). My co-workers, our vendors, our volunteers, and our donors have all brought such joy, depth, and wonder to my life, each in your own way; you’ve enriched all of my days here and I am blessed.

I leave knowing that Grace Cottage is in excellent hands. Our Leadership team is superb, with a combination of some with years of experience here (Stephen, Crystal, Chris, and Heather) and some with experience elsewhere, now bringing new, fresh ideas and skills (Olivia, Lynn, Jen N., Jen Z., Wyll). And when I hired my successor five years ago, I knew that Charma Bonanno was the right person to be the Director of Development, Marketing, and Community Relations, and Executive Director of Grace Cottage Foundation. The transition will be seamless.

You will always be in my thoughts and heart. Thank you so much for all that you do in so very many ways to help make Grace Cottage the very special place that it is (and, yes, I’m writing this to you, specifically; you know who you are!). — *Andrea Seaton*



*Andrea Seaton, Senior Director of Development at the recent ribbon cutting ceremony.*

## Honoring Andrea Seaton

Andrea will leave behind an incredible legacy when she retires in April. She’s made an indelible mark on Grace Cottage in her 28 years here, and it’s hard to imagine not seeing her smiling face each day. We’ll miss her inspiring leadership, her gentle encouragement, and fierce advocacy for Grace Cottage’s patients, employees, and community.

In honor of the enormous impact she’s made, we proudly announce the Andrea Seaton Fund, a part of our new clinic campaign. Donations given in Andrea’s honor will go toward dedicating a special place in the new clinic building so that her service will be remembered by all. If you would like to contribute to this special fund, you may make a check out to Grace Cottage with “Andrea Seaton Fund” on the memo line or accompanying note; or you may make an online donation by using the “Donate Now” option at [gracecottage.org](http://gracecottage.org) and typing a note there.

I hope you’ll join me in congratulating Andrea and wishing her well as she begins her new adventures! — *Charma Bonanno*

### Grateful patients write:

“My stay has been perfect. There is a feeling of caring at Grace Cottage, that is so unusual in healthcare today. I first heard of Grace Cottage from Dr. Fox in Londonderry, who always praises it, but this was my first time as a patient. I’d recommend it to anybody.

It’s worked wonders for my recovery. My visitors have seen the culture of caring right away saying, ‘What an amazing hospital!’ Everybody cares, from the LNAs, nurses, to the therapists and the dietary team.

The food is really good, too!”

— *Michael Jeffery, Landgrove, VT*

“I was very impressed by your ER. My medical concerns were addressed promptly and professionally. I am also so glad to be a patient of Grace Cottage’s primary care practice. Everyone is so friendly and helpful, including Dr. Moss Linder and those who work with him. I tell people this all the time!”

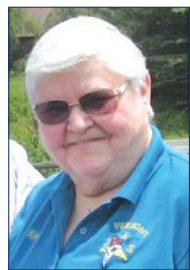
— *Gary Avery, West Chesterfield, NH*

“The care that I get at Grace Cottage is always ‘A1’. The staff really seems to love everyone they treat.”

— *Ray Ballantine, Jamaica, VT*

“My primary care is at Grace Cottage and I’ve done Physical Therapy there, too. I don’t know how you do it, but everything is always good. The staff is always great and everyone is always so cheery! Just keep doing what you’re doing!”

— *Christopher Osgood, Putney, VT*



### The Gift of Giving – Kathryn Coleman

Grace Cottage recently received a bequest from Kathryn Louise Coleman of Winhall. A native of Vermont, Kate grew up in Brattleboro and Winhall. A graduate of Leland & Gray and Northampton Commercial College, Kate worked briefly for Holstein Friesian Association in Brattleboro and then became the Town of Winhall’s Treasurer and then the Town’s

Tax Collector until her death on November 20, 2024. Kate was a longtime member of the Eastern Star; was Past Matron of Mount Lebanon in Jamaica and Grand Treasurer of the Vermont Eastern Star. Kate, in her usual modest fashion, hadn’t told us of her bequest in advance; we wish that we had known so that, on behalf of all the patients that we serve, we could have thanked her in person.

## Cottage Door

is published by Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital  
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Grace Cottage Hospital & Grace Cottage Foundation are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations.

The mission of Grace Cottage Foundation is to raise funds on behalf of Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital.

Donations to Grace Cottage Foundation are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Grace Cottage Foundation’s  
Federal Tax ID # is: 03-0343282.

Donations may be made by cash, credit card, check, stocks, bonds, or other tangible assets.  
Call Andrea Seaton or Charma Bonanno at (802) 365-9109.

## Donations Were Recently Received In Honor Of:

Abby Abbott ❖ Andrea Anker ❖ Dan Arguimbau ❖ Dr. Ewa Arnold ❖ Dr. Robert Backus ❖ Ballou Family Members ❖ Charma Bonanno  
Residents of Brookline, VT ❖ Jennifer, Hayden and Grayson Brooks ❖ Keith Collier ❖ Siobhan Eddy-Young ❖ Dr. Wyll Everett  
Stephen Goldberg ❖ Grace Cottage Employees ❖ Grace Cottage Volunteers ❖ Richard Hamilton ❖ Lawrence, Eliza, Ryen and Jace Jatsek  
Dr. Moss & Dr. Elizabeth Linder ❖ Priscilla "Pokey" Lyman ❖ David & Nancy Martin ❖ Peter & Kathleen Martin ❖ Seth & Devona Martin  
Brian Mayher ❖ Kayla Mulready ❖ Catherine Nemchek ❖ Josh Rosenblum ❖ Andrea Seaton ❖ Charlotte Seaton Rohde  
Dr. Timothy Shafer ❖ Walter Stowell

## Memorial Gifts

**Donations have been received between August 23-January 10 in memory of the following individuals:**

Henry Abbott ❖ Alwin & Joyce Ameden ❖ Isabelle Ameden ❖ Kjell Anker ❖ Archambault Family ❖ Stuart Archambault  
Francis & Minnie Arms ❖ David Austin ❖ David M. Austin ❖ Marie & Gene Avenia ❖ Fred Bacon ❖ Ken & Beulah Bailey  
Chris and Pris Ballou ❖ Larry and Pat Ballou ❖ Peggy Baran ❖ Russ Barber ❖ Mollie Beattie ❖ Betty P. Benson ❖ Jack & Shirley Benson  
Burdette & Rosalee Bills ❖ Cecil Bills ❖ Janet Bills ❖ Leon & Marlene Bills ❖ Ethel "Margo" Boyd ❖ Yvonne Boyd ❖ George Bristol  
Brooks Family Members ❖ Roy & Margaret Brooks ❖ John Brosnan ❖ Beryl Berry Brown ❖ Eugene Brown ❖ Gladys Brown ❖ Joy Mayes Brown  
Kevin Brown ❖ Greta Burke ❖ Maynard Bush ❖ Stephen Byczko ❖ Russell Campbell ❖ Noel Carroll ❖ Effie Chamberlin ❖ John & Nancy Chard  
Raymond & Charlotte Clayton ❖ Chris Coleman ❖ Phil Coleman ❖ Phyllis Coleman ❖ Harry & Luella Conklin ❖ Gail Cooper ❖ Neva Corse  
Dottie Coyle ❖ Ruth Daigneault ❖ Martha Desrochers ❖ Elsie Detjen ❖ Richard and Mary Dexter ❖ Phil Dibble ❖ Bill & Lucina Dippel  
Jerome Driscoll ❖ Joan & Ted Dunham ❖ Nancy Eckhardt ❖ Judge Warren & Marjorie Eginton ❖ David Einermann ❖ Herbert Eisenberg  
William Elio ❖ Don Elliott ❖ Victor English ❖ Kathy Ernst ❖ Dr. Robert & Elizabeth Ernst ❖ Brian A. Evans ❖ Brian D. & Nancy Evans  
Bryan & Ruby Evans ❖ Doug & Alice Evans ❖ Father John Evans ❖ James Faas ❖ Cora Fletcher ❖ William Fletcher ❖ Tim Flynn  
John & Dorothy Fornuto ❖ Walt & Larry Forrest ❖ Mary Evans Fox ❖ Dawn Franceschetti ❖ Shannon Furioni ❖ Patricia Fusco ❖ Louise Godt  
Roland Gould ❖ Jack Greene ❖ Ellis Greenwood ❖ Dr. I. William Grossman ❖ Val & Betty Guimond ❖ Arnold Gussin ❖ Alexander Hadden  
Leonard Hall ❖ Joyce Hamilton ❖ Florence Hicks ❖ Barry Higon ❖ Bernardine Hoard ❖ George & Thelma Holden ❖ George Holden, Jr.  
Stan Holt ❖ Vance Hosford ❖ Dr. Charles Houston ❖ Jane Howard ❖ Eris Howe ❖ Dr. Luke Howe ❖ Andrew Hudock ❖ Dean Hudock  
Michael Hull ❖ Ursula Hull ❖ Helen Hureau ❖ Silver S. Husky ❖ August Iacobellis ❖ Leon Ingall and Warren Kronemeyer ❖ Ray Ingram  
Forrest "Zip" Jacobs ❖ Harry & Betty Jensen ❖ Joel Johnson ❖ Sidney Johnson ❖ Joyce Jones ❖ Robert Jones ❖ Leon "Skeet" Kenyon  
Janet Kierys ❖ Leyeyo Kipamba ❖ Amy Kleppner ❖ Charles & Ruth Knights ❖ Doug LaBarr ❖ Doug & Maureen L'Abbee ❖ Margeret Lafave  
Leo Laitres ❖ Robert & Dorothy LaMay ❖ Jack Lambert ❖ Richard & Barbara Lamprey ❖ Richard Lang, Jr. ❖ Richard & Ruth Lapan  
Merrill Lawrence ❖ Don Leigh ❖ Levesque Family Members ❖ Laurie Linley ❖ Howard Lott ❖ Jamis Lott ❖ Junellen Lott ❖ Norman Lott  
Randi Lott ❖ Steve Lott ❖ David Lowe ❖ Herman & Lila Lowe ❖ Reginald Lowe ❖ George Lucas, Jr. ❖ Dr. Richard Lyman  
Gladys MacDonough ❖ Jeanne Marion ❖ Dr. Bill & Joan Martin ❖ Catherine May ❖ Lester & Susan Mayer ❖ Elton McCausland  
Richard McGrath ❖ Bruce & Ruth McGray ❖ Leonore McIntosh ❖ Jim & Barbara McMennamin ❖ Frank & Betty Merrill  
Roy & Evelyn Meyer ❖ Walter Meyer ❖ Richard & Crescent Miller ❖ Francis Momaney, Sr. ❖ Arlo & Eleanore Monroe ❖ Philip Moriarty  
Henry Moseley ❖ John Nardone ❖ Lisa Young Noble ❖ John O'Connor ❖ Pearl O'Connor ❖ William O'Connor ❖ Dr. Carlos & Ruth Otis  
Hannes Overgard ❖ Bruce Parlman ❖ Jim & Jane Parlman ❖ David Parmelee ❖ Joanne Patenaude ❖ Thomas Payne ❖ Neil & Ruth Pelsue  
Iver Peterson ❖ Dr. Karl Pfister ❖ Bob Phelps ❖ Richard Plunkett ❖ Dr. Blake & Helen Prescott ❖ Clyde & Clara Prouty  
Donald & Elaine Prouty ❖ Theresa Quillard ❖ Victor Rabinowitch ❖ Betty Radens ❖ Betsey Regan ❖ Joseph & Ann Reither  
Lois Penner Riley ❖ Charlie Robb ❖ Bernard Robinson ❖ Elaine Robinson ❖ Marion Robinson ❖ Norman & Evelyn Robinson  
Oscar Robinson ❖ Wilfred & Edie Rounds ❖ William & Florence Rounds ❖ Casey Rowley ❖ Philip Rowley ❖ Robert Martin Semrau  
Ruth Shiller ❖ Heidi Shine ❖ Mildred Smith ❖ Philip Smith ❖ Jean Sorrentino ❖ Elizabeth Spencer  
William Staats & Florence ❖ Janet Stowell ❖ Catherine N. Stratton ❖ Stiven Sucic ❖ Michael Sinclair Sutton ❖ William & Leona Tabell  
Walter Tarbell ❖ Porter & Lillian Thayer ❖ Milford Thompson ❖ Joel Tidd ❖ Dr. Jim and Dr. Marjorie Trousdell ❖ Reginald Vessey  
John Wadsworth ❖ Dr. Bill Wallace ❖ Euphemia Wallace ❖ Henry Wallstein ❖ James Walsh ❖ Joan Ward ❖ Michalina Wasung  
Larry & Mary Weir ❖ Len & Bernice Welch ❖ Connie Weldon ❖ Alma Welker ❖ Wanda Welker ❖ Garry West ❖ Mona West  
Barbara Whitcomb ❖ Dick Whitcomb ❖ Karl & Elvina White ❖ Merton & Hazel Wilson ❖ Robert Wolfe ❖ Dr. Marvin Wool  
Robert Works ❖ Douglas Wright ❖ Wright Family Members ❖ Joan Zully

*We extend our sympathy to the families and friends of these loved ones, and our appreciation to those who have given in their memories.*

*When memorial gifts are received by Grace Cottage, the donor is thanked, and the next of kin is notified of the gift. (The amount given is never divulged.)*

## A grateful patient writes:

“During the past two months I have used the ER and the hospital at Grace Cottage for two injuries and chest pains and, on all occasions, I received excellent care. Starting with my ER admission and treatment and, this last time, to an overnight, all of the care was ‘top shelf’. I would recommend Grace Cottage to anyone, and I already have!”

— *Skip Raymond*, Londonderry, VT



FAMILY HEALTH & HOSPITAL

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**WAIT! PLEASE!** If you're throwing this newsletter into the "round file" or recycling bin without opening it, please let us know. The money we save on printing and postage will be used for patient care instead. Call 802-365-9109 or email [info@gracecottage.org](mailto:info@gracecottage.org) to opt out and we'll remove you from our Cottage Door and appeal mailing lists.

**FRIEND US ON FACEBOOK:** "Like" Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital on Facebook for up-to-the-minute news about what's going on in and around Townshend. You can be part of the conversation and connect with other Grace Cottage friends – you'll be surprised at how many there are!

## Grateful patients write:



“On New Year’s Eve, 2023, we were at our family’s home in Windham when we pulled out a fertility injection needle, only to realize it was bent and unusable. We were devastated to potentially lose the opportunity to grow our family that month, until my mother-in-law suggested that we go to Grace Cottage Hospital to see if they were willing to help us that night.

We were met with such compassion and competence at your ER that we all teared up

a bit! The kind woman at reception and the nurses (especially Liz!) all went above and beyond to help.

Fast forward one year and because the Grace Cottage team helped us that day, we have our beautiful three-month-old baby, Tate, pictured here. We are so grateful. Thank you, thank you!”

— *Stephen & Ellie*, Windham, VT

## Grace Cottage's "Cabin Fever" Online Auction February 14-24, 2025 [32auctions.com/GraceCottage2025](https://32auctions.com/GraceCottage2025)

Grace Cottage's annual *Cabin Fever Auction* offers more than 150 items donated by generous businesses and individuals, with all proceeds this year benefitting Grace Cottage's new primary care clinic building.

From 8:00 a.m. on February 14, until 8:00 p.m. on February 24, you can browse and bid on items for every taste and budget, including treasures you can't buy anywhere else. Auction items range in value from \$20 to priceless, from the practical to the sublime.

Bid to win a stay in a luxurious Caribbean resort or a South African safari adventure, or gift certificates to favorite local restaurants, practical items like an oil change for your car, overnight stays in area inns, jams and syrup, and lots more! Bid low and get notified when someone outbids you, or "Buy Now" and make it yours right away! Either way, you'll feel good supporting this annual fundraiser, knowing that it's going to help Grace Cottage care for our patients.

Items are being added through February 14th and beyond. Check out the growing selection at [32auctions.com/GraceCottage2025](https://32auctions.com/GraceCottage2025) and register to bid so that you can hit the ground bidding on Valentine's Day!

