



From the Desk of the Executive Director,

It started in 2007 and here it is 2023 and Children Across America has helped over 5000 kids in the Milford area. Our passion and commitment to underserved children is stronger than ever. STEM, Girls Love to Code, Healthy Lifestyles for Kids and Child Safety Programs. The need is greater than any one organization can fill but every day myself and a group of awesome volunteers try our best. Last year we opened an office in Avon to serve the children in Avon and Brockton. Our future plans include Dorchester but without money, it's just a great idea. We continue writing grants and have awesome fundraisers and have been very successful.

I love every one of our kids as if they were my own and they constantly amaze me with how smart they really are. Our volunteers are passionate and committed, we couldn't do this without them. We have an amazing Board of Directors who do so much; I can't thank them enough.

Many thanks to everyone who makes this dream of mine a reality. A hand-up, not a handout is what we are all about. 17 years and counting, I am excited about what the future holds.

Raymond E. Fellows,
Executive Director
Children Across America

JANUARY + FEBRUARY'S EVENTS



Comedy Show

We had our Annual “Love of Laughter” comedy show fundraiser in February.

There were Raffles, Silent Auctions and a 50/50 Raffle during the cocktail hour, as well as pizza, snacks and chocolate included in the price of the ticket. Our Chairperson Michelle Beckerman Williams and her team also made cookies to advertise the new Mascot Bele!

Thank you all involved to make this a huge success!

The Annual Stem Fair

The Deca Kids from Hopedale High School Collaborated with us to create the annual STEM Fair for the Hopedale Elementary School Students.

We learned how to build a free-standing structure using marshmallows and dry spaghetti, and how displacement works! After a fierce competition of the science-based jeopardy game, we all got to play with robots and coding on the laptops. At the end, everyone left with a new exciting love of learning and some fun coloring sheets about the importance of reading.





Valentines Cards for Seniors

This Valentines Day, our wonderful and caring children celebrated by being Community Champions!

We decorated Valentines Day Cards to give to the local Senior Center. This helps us learn so many things! Firstly, we learned the importance of being a part of a community. Secondly, we used our spelling, handwriting, hand eye coordination, and spatial awareness to put together the cards.

We can't think of anything more important than using our time to uplift others. Thank you Jenny Sweat for putting this together!

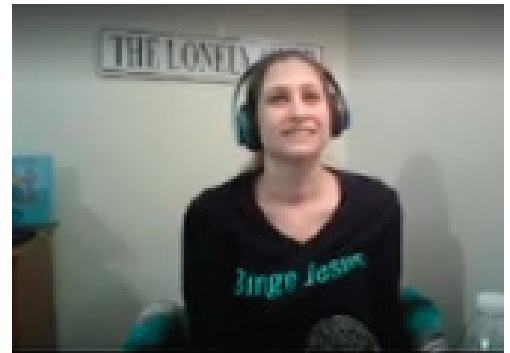
Live On Stream

The Lonely Diner is the first of many Live Streamers we will collaborate with this year. Since February 1st, she has sported our logo and a link to our donation page on her show.

The Lonely Diner is an animal behaviorist, that does a wide variety of streams online. Amongst her many interactive themes are cooking, drawing, gaming, just chatting, taste testing unique foods, and many more.

If you would like to watch The Lonely Diner and her dog "Millie" Click the links below.

[Thelonelydiner - Twitch](#) [The Lonely Diner - YouTube](#)



Children Across America

www.childrenacrossamerica.org

UPCOMING EVENTS



Child Car Seat Safety Event

A car seat safety check is an interactive event that's designed to teach parents the in's and out's of car seat safety, and they're the perfect opportunity to address any questions or concerns that you may have about car seat safety.

This July at the Bellingham High School parking lot, we will be holding a Car Seat Safety Check open to the public. No reservations will be needed! This will be held free of charge to everyone. Certified Safety Technicians Ray Fellows and Nessie Hobson will be there for any person who has a car seat they need to have installed, checked, or just have questions about how to be safer.

Free Car Seats can be provided for families in need. Please reach out to Nessie Hobson to apply for yours.

Children Across America firmly believes that learning how to be Safer is just as important as knowing how to read. If you would like to have your child's car seat checked before our event, please email Nessie to schedule an appointment.

Nessie Hobson,
Childrens Safety Programs Director,
VanessaHobson@childrenacrossamerica.org



Poker Tournament

Eastern Poker Open will be holding a Poker Tournament to Benefit Children Across America.

Eastern Poker Open is back and it's local! Join us on March 31 - April 2nd at Doubletree by Hilton Milford!

The Open will combine a \$30,000 Championship, a Series of OPEN Charity Tournaments that includes a \$1650 HIGH ROLLER with massive guarantees to benefit some great local causes, a Televised Final Table, and Hundreds of players from our local EPT Community!

If you would like to know more about this event, please [click here](#).

Paparazzi Fundraisers

Get fabulous for a good

Children Across America is selling Jewelry as a fundraiser.

Welcome to my site! 1085215 (paparazziaccessories.com)

You can buy your Jewelry online through the link above or visit us at one of our many events throughout the year.

We will be at the Local Bellingham Walmart on May 6th and 20th, June 3rd and July 8th. Stop by to grab your free coloring pages and crayons!

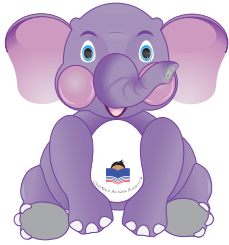
Keep an eye out on our social media and website for more local shopping events this year!

The Summer Special Event

If you bring a friend to sign up for this newsletter you will both get to pick out a free piece of jewelry! What a fabulous deal!

The Free Jewelry must be picked up in person. Shipping is not included.





MEET BELLE



This summer Belle will be traveling around New England to teach the importance of STREAM Learning!

Will she be coming to your town?

Scheduled:

Bellingham Walmart 10am - 1 pm:

May 6th

May 20th

June 3rd

July 18th

Dates and time to be announced:

Ashland Clock Town Liquors

Worcester UMass Memorial

Bellingham High School: July 25th

Taunton Elks

Ashland Market Basket: August 5th and September 23rd



WELCOME TO THE BOARD



Gustavo Montoya

Director Of Innovation and Technology

Gustavo is a Venezuelan immigrant, with first generation US children. His wife has volunteered in the past (2 years as part of Peace Corps in Honduras), worked in Make a Wish, and is now a public-school teacher.

He understands the challenges associated with first generation American children and the socioeconomics challenges associated sometimes with it. Needless to say, Gustavo is very invested in the mission of helping these children overcome those challenges. He Believes education and literacy is on the forefront of the solution.

TINA KARUNARATNE



Having worked in the healthcare industry both as an Administrator and Nurse, Tina knows firsthand how important access to good and equitable healthcare is a gap that must be bridged. More importantly, as an immigrant and a first-generation college graduate, she is passionate about bridging the gap of literacy and love for reading.

Since August of last year, Tina have been on the DOVE (Domestic Violence Ended) Board of Directors. She brings a wealth of knowledge to the board that will bring us to the next level.

Below is her LinkedIn profile:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/tina-weldt-karunaratne-7b836210>



Mike Hopkinson

Mike Hopkinson is a quality engineer in the Bio industry and has years of management experience. He will be invaluable in helping us define processes, has multiple contacts in the pharma industry and can be instrumental in helping us fundraise.

Below is his LinkedIn profile:

Taylor McClafferty



Taylor McClafferty is looking to learn more about how nonprofits work. She is in the dental field and would one day like to start a nonprofit to help kids get the dental work they need. She has great contacts in her field and in the Brockton Community . As a skilled public speaker, she will give a boost to Children Across America through exposure and fundraising.

Taylor studied Photography at Massachusetts College of Art and Design and has a strong background in Graphic Design. She is also a practicing Freelance Artist with a demonstrated history of working in the internet industry. Skilled in Photography, Web Content Writing, Logo

Welcome our newest team member!



Rachel Mancour

Rachel is a 3D Artist and Illustrator with a degree from University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. She has joined the Art Team as a part time volunteer. Her work is beautiful and is a great asset to the Artist Team! She has begun the process of creating a Multicolored Giraffe that teaches kids it's okay to be different.

The Giraffe will join the group of Characters in “Belle and Friends” that will be featured in our coloring books.

If you meet Rachel, be sure to welcome her to the Children Across America Family.