

Annual Report of  
The Maria Seymour Brooker Memorial  
2021 - 2022



**Brooker Memorial**  
Preparing Children for Life-long Success



# Volunteer Leadership

## BOARD OF MANAGERS

*As of June 30, 2022*

William J. Marchand

*President*

Brenda L. DiCarlo

*Vice President*

Miles C. Borzilleri

*Treasurer*

Edwin G. Booth, Jr.

*Secretary*

Charles V. Beyer

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Judith M. Hogan

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Donna Mattiello

Catherine S. Oneglia

Atty. Margaret Roraback

Alan Temkin

Cathleen M. Todor

Frank R. Vanoni, M.D.

## CHILD CARE COMMITTEE

Charles V. Beyer,

*Chair*

Brenda L. DiCarlo

Mark Loomis

William J. Marchand

Catherine S. Oneglia

Judith Theeb

Cathleen M. Todor

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

- Child Care Enrichments in Yoga and Gardening
- Dental Care for Children, ages 1-20
- Dental Care for Pregnant Women
- Early Learning and Child Care Center: Infants, Toddlers, Pre-school, Nursery School, Before and After School Care
- Relatives as Parents Program for Grandparents and Other Kin Raising Kin
- Torrington Pediatric Therapy at Brooker — powered by Cheshire Fitness Zone
- Weekly Blood Pressure Screening with Charlotte Hungerford Hospital

## DENTAL COMMITTEE

Judith M. Hogan

*Chair*

Maria Gonzalez

Thomas A. Klem, D.D.S.

William J. Marchand

Linda O'Connell

Mary Teddick, R.D.H.

Frank R. Vanoni, M.D.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

William J. Marchand,

*Chair*

Charles V. Beyer

Miles C. Borzilleri

Brenda L. DiCarlo

Judith M. Hogan

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

Miles C. Borzilleri,

*Chair*

Edwin G. Booth, Jr.

William J. Marchand

Atty. Margaret Roraback

Alan Temkin

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Justin Giampaolo

*Chair*

Maria Gonzalez

Amy Marchand

Cathleen M. Todor

## SCULPTURE COMMITTEE

*(Ad Hoc)*

Charles V. Beyer

Tyson Chamberlin

Cathy Coyle

Brenda DiCarlo

Lisa Ferris

James Fontana

Judith McElhone

Alan Temkin

## PROGRAM PLANNING

### COMMITTEE

*(Ad Hoc)*

Charles V. Beyer

Cathy Coyle

Brenda L. DiCarlo

Lisa Ferris

Maria Gonzalez

Judith M. Hogan

Charlene Lee

Amy Marchand

William J. Marchand

Donna Mattiello

Catherine S. Oneglia

# From the Executive Director

## *Full Speed Ahead!*

I'm happy to report our programs are back up to full steam following two years of what I call the "pandemic stall." As you'll see in the pages that follow, Brooker did not lose any time in getting back to doing what we love: caring for kids, interacting with our community, and mobilizing resources to bring better and more services to children in the region.

We were delighted to resurrect many of our traditions like parades, ice cream socials, and staff gatherings. Staff and children were thrilled to get back to on-site yoga and music enrichment, providing dental education at KidsPlay Museum, visiting with our families at community events like the Strawberry Festival and providing school-based dental care.

Last year, we made a significant decision to transition our Center for Children's Therapy to a private provider of pediatric therapy. In November 2021, Cheshire Fitness Zone became our formal partner and is providing physical, occupational and speech therapy to children in northwest Connecticut. They have occupied the therapy wing at Brooker and are growing rapidly – hiring new staff and seeing dozens of new patients every month.

Our child care parents provided feedback on our annual survey and gave rave reviews of our teachers and our facility. Responses indicated a high level of satisfaction with the quality of education and care their children are receiving on a daily basis.

Our dental program stayed steady during the pandemic and is back to growth-mode. In fact, we are busier now than we were pre-pandemic.

Getting back to putting on our successful fundraising event – The Litchfield Hills BrewFest – was a highlight! We are excited that Torrington Savings Bank has signed on to a three year commitment as the event's Presenting Sponsor. The event grows every year and 2022 was no exception.

We welcomed new staff members to our team and we welcomed three new board members. Our core group of volunteers was steadfast and upbeat helping us with many projects during the year. We were excited to have several new volunteers turn out for our spring volunteer work day to prepare the children's vegetable garden for the growing season.

All these accomplishments are reflective of Brooker's focus on achieving our mission. It feels good to get back to "normal" where we are able to focus all our efforts on "preparing children for life-long success." We are ready and excited to put the pedal to the metal and keep Brooker going full speed into the future! As always, thank you for your support and your belief in Brooker.

Sincerely,



Cathy Chiron Coyle

Executive Director

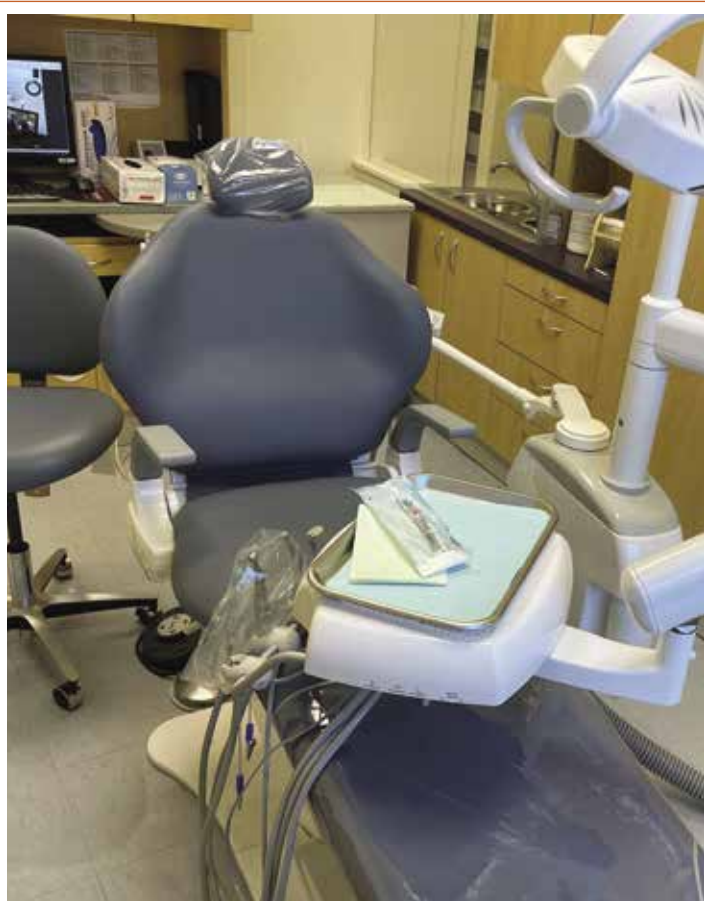




# Pediatric Dental Center

## DONATION TO BROOKER PEDIATRIC DENTAL CENTER

Brooker Memorial was fortunate to receive an anonymous donation from a local organization that wanted to help our pediatric dental center. They contacted the office manager and asked what would make a difference in our daily operation. After speaking with the staff, we told this organization about our aging hygiene room treatment chairs and the fact they were beginning to have mechanical issues. We were thrilled to learn this organization wished to fund replacement of all three dental chairs! We are grateful to have such wonderful community support of our programs.



## NEW DENTAL TEAM MEMBERS

Brooker Pediatric Dental Center continues to grow with dozens of new families coming into the practice every month! To continue our goal of providing excellent and timely care to our patients, we have added a few more

staff members to our professional team. Julia Nield and Kristine Navin are both Registered Dental Hygienists who bring years of experience to our practice. We also welcomed Cara Dougherty and Becky Good to the front office staff. We are very lucky to have such a wonderful team who truly cares about our patients and families.



## NATIONAL DENTAL HEALTH MONTH IN FEBRUARY

Hygienist Sharon Grieco spent a morning at Kidsplay Children's Museum and also visited the pre-school program at Harwinton Consolidated School teaching children about healthy dental habits and how to brush their teeth. She read them stories on good dental habits and then did a puppet show that taught the children how to brush their teeth. At the end of the show, all the children got to practice brushing the teeth of Miss Sharon's very special puppet friends. The children also received toothbrushes to take home to practice. Being out in the community and educating children on the importance of healthy snacks and proper brushing is one of our staff's favorite things to do!



## 15 YEARS AND 5,000 VISITS IN SCHOOL DENTAL PROGRAMS

We celebrated our 15th year of providing dental care in Region One schools! Over these fifteen years, our hygienists have provided more than 5,000 visits. The school dental program was started in 2007 with a grant from the Foundation for Community Health in Sharon. The program's longevity is due to continued grant funding by The Foundation for Community Health. This school year we continued our hybrid Covid program by offering grant covered services at Brooker or in the school setting for those students who were not able to come to Brooker. A total of 170 children were treated with 35 seen in school and the remainder at Brooker's Torrington office.

This past year, Debra Ravlin, RDH, our hygienist who provides dental care in the Region One schools took on additional responsibility of also providing dental care in the Torrington and Botelle School programs, replacing Sharon Grieco, RDH, who was our hygienist in the Torrington Schools for many years. Sharon continues to practice at our office and provide educational programs in the community.

The Torrington program start was delayed until February 2022 due to Covid. Because of the shortened program period, we asked that student sign up be limited to those who were not current with their dental cleanings. Debra provided a total of 75 visits in the four Torrington Elementary schools.

New to our school lineup this year was Botelle Elementary School in Norfolk. Providing dental care to students at Botelle was made possible with an expanded grant from the Foundation for Community Health which also funds our Region One School program. Brooker offered a hybrid program this year due to Covid concerns and restrictions in the school setting. A total of 27 students signed up for dental care through Botelle School. Eighteen students were seen at school and 9 at our main office location. Of the 27 students seen, there was a 42% decay rate—much higher than the Connecticut average for untreated decay in elementary school children. The experience working with Botelle School was a positive one and we are pleased that plans are in place to continue the program in the next school year and beyond.



# Child Care & Early Learning Center



## PARADE TIME!

We love a parade and any excuse to be in one. We love them because they're fun and because it's a great opportunity for us to interact with our local community. This year saw the return of our annual Halloween Parade where we walked to visit Doyle's Medical Supply, the PAC Group, and the Charlotte Hungerford Training Center. Staff at these companies joined in the fun by decorating their space, handing out candy, and many even dressed up. We also visited Doyle's during our Silly Hat Parade in April to celebrate National Week of the Young Child. And lastly, the



Early Learning and Child Care Center participated in Torrington's Memorial Day Parade after a 2 year break due to COVID. Families, children, and staff walked or rode on our float pulled by Doug Robison, father of teacher Danielle Robison. So keep an eye out for us when you're downtown. You never know when we may come up with an idea for an impromptu parade!

## STAFF TRAINING

Brooker's Preschool and School Age teaching team participated in a 6-week Conscious Discipline training. Conscious Discipline is an evidence-based, research backed methodology for social/emotional learning. It provides strategies for responding to each child's individual needs. This training will help us continue to improve children's self-regulation, sense of safety, and help them to feel a part of a larger school family. The training was provided by Lori Borysewicz from EdAdvance. Lori is the Coordinator for the Plymouth Family Resource Center and has trained countless early childhood educators. The training was funded through a grant to EdAdvance from the Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation.

## ENRICHMENT

Brooker strives to provide a variety of enrichment activities for the children enrolled at our center.



Activities such as yoga and music are ongoing. We continue to involve the children in gardening and learning about the lifecycles of plants and animals. We raise and release butterflies and lady bugs each year. We also have an asset in our Executive Director Cathy Coyle. Cathy does various cooking activities with the children on a regular basis. This past fall she helped the children prepare, cook, and taste sweet potatoes harvested from our garden. In the spring she led a fun egg comparison activity for the preschool children. She brought in several different types of eggs and photos of different birds. The children had so much fun guessing which bird laid each egg, comparing the sizes and colors and taking turns holding the eggs. We truly enjoy having Cathy be a part of the children's learning and we're pretty sure she enjoys it too!

## YOGA

In December we welcomed a new yoga instructor to the Early Learning and Child Care Program. Jean Cunningham comes to Brooker once a week and practices yoga with the toddlers and preschoolers. Jean is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and has been in the social work field for over 20 years. She is the owner and CEO of Phoenix Counseling & Wellness, a private practice in Torrington. Jean's passion for yoga began many years ago when she was assisting a toddler's dance group. She has always enjoyed working with children so she decided to combine her passion and her work to become a Little Flower Yoga (LFY) Teacher. She teaches the LFY methodology to children of all ages. Jean believes that children should be exposed to yoga

and mindfulness at an early age. This exposure will help them build a strong foundation and be able to incorporate these skills into their daily lives as they grow. When Jean has spare time, you will find her spending time with her husband, their four children and spouses, six grandchildren and two grand dogs. Jean also enjoys reading, scrapbooking and camping.



## PROGRAM COLLABORATIONS:

Helping children learn to be healthy is one of the goals of the Early Learning & Child Care Center. We are fortunate to be a part of a larger agency that offers services with the same goal so we can work together. Each year for National Dental Health month we collaborate with our Pediatric Dental Center to provide a "trip" to the dentist. In addition to learning about dental health in the classroom, each class is invited to visit the dental center for a tour, a ride in the dentist chair, and a brief chat with hygienist Sharon Grieco. The goal is to not only reinforce the importance of taking care of our teeth, but to also make a visit to the dentist a positive experience.



# Other Programs

## RELATIVES AS PARENTS PROGRAM

Brooker's Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP) works with family members who are unexpectedly raising children. In most cases the children are grandchildren, nieces or nephews whose parents are not able to fulfill their parental responsibilities. The group provides emotional support, resources and a network of families who are going through similar situations. RAPP kinship coordinator Jan Lyon retired from Brooker in September 2021 after creating this Brooker Program in 2017. We restructured the program coordinator role into a volunteer position and in December, we welcomed Jeff Geddes as the new RAPP coordinator. Jeff is a trusted community partner, and works at Torrington Savings Bank as Vice president of Community Relations and CRA Officer. Jeff jumped right into planning events for the group and was excited to connect with the current families. Jeff's goal is to hold an activity, seminar or lunch meeting each month to keep the group engaged and supported. Some highlights of this past year included: a trip to KidsPlay for a puppet show, an informational seminar from Attorney James D. Hirschfield about Guardianship, "movie night" at the Torrington Library, and a lunch meeting at Brooker to give the new and current members a chance to talk, get to know each other and learn about the needs of each family. Brooker is excited to see the program grow and we are grateful to have Jeff as its coordinator.

## CHESHIRE FITNESS ZONE – TORRINGTON PEDIATRIC THERAPY

In 2010, Brooker Memorial began providing pediatric speech, physical and occupational therapy to children in the Litchfield County area. As demand for the program grew over the years, the Brooker board decided it was necessary to find a partner to operate the program who would be able to meet the demand and enhance the program beyond Brooker's current capabilities. In November 2021, Brooker was pleased to announce Cheshire Fitness Zone as the new owner of Brooker's Center for Children's Therapy. Since then, therapists from Cheshire Fitness Zone have been providing therapy services in the Brooker building. The impact

to families has been positive including shorter waiting lists and more appointment availability during the week. The working relationship between the Brooker staff and Cheshire Fitness zone has proven to be a great partnership. The therapy program is growing and thriving under the direction of Cheshire Fitness Zone.



## RUTH CHADWICK CARE CLOSET

Supporting children and families has been the work of Brooker Memorial for more than 100 years. We are thankful that we have the Ruth Chadwick Care Closet Fund to help families in need. The fund is in memory of former board member and volunteer Ruth Chadwick. The Care Closet allows Brooker to help families who are going through a hardship of some kind, such as a death in the family, loss of employment, or other situations that cause a family to struggle financially. Families contact Brooker and let us know what their need may be and we are able to help with gift cards to stores, gas cards, clothing, shoes, and other basic living essentials. Every year at Christmastime we reach out to a few families in each department that the staff feel could use a little extra holiday joy. We ask the families for a wish list for each child in the family and our Care Closet volunteers shop to fulfill them. Families that are chosen are always very grateful for this help at the holidays.

# Staff 2021-2022

The Brooker staff continued to show their dedication and dependability this past year. Through the pandemic and lifting of restrictions, staff worked hard to ensure all our families and children stayed safe while in our care. Our team readily takes on new challenges and shows up to work each day with a smile and a positive attitude. Brooker's ability to grow and thrive is a direct result of the capabilities of its team. We thank and salute each of them listed here for their many contributions. This year we congratulate the following employees who reached a milestone anniversary: Paula Armstrong, Child Care Float Teacher (15 years), Dr. Archana Karanki, Dental Director (15 years) and Charlene Lee, Child Care Director (15 years).

## ADMINISTRATION

Cathy C. Coyle, M.B.A., Executive Director \*\*\*  
Kaitlyn Graboski

## CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S THERAPY

(July 2021-November 2021)  
Susan Allen, C.O.T.A./L.  
AnnaMari Curtis, C.C.C.-S.L.P.  
Ronalee Herz, C.O.T.A./L.  
Deborah McGinn, C.O.T.A./L.  
Marge Owens, M.S., P.T.  
Deborah P. Rabeuf, M.S., C.C.C.-S.L.P.  
Danielle Sampieri, M.S., O.T.R./L.  
Anne Yanaway, P.T., D.P.T.  
*(In November, the Therapy Program transitioned to ownership by Cheshire Fitness Zone, and all therapists were welcomed to join their team.)*

## CHILD CARE & LEARNING CENTER

Charlene Lee, Director \*\*\*  
Christine Donahue, Assistant Director \*\*\*\*\*  
Paula Armstrong \*\*\*  
Kendall Bilts  
Katherine Bloom Bronski  
Pablo Cruz  
Nicole DePaoli\*  
Lacey Gover  
Vicki Holly  
Arian Latimer

Carmen Quinones  
Brandi Rivera  
Danielle Robison\*\*\*  
Tammy Tronina\*\*  
Molly Weir\*\*

## MAINTENANCE

Thomas Lopardo\*

## PEDIATRIC DENTAL CENTER

Archana Karanki, D.M.D., Dental Director\*\*\*  
Lisa Ferris, Program Manager & Director of Community Relations\*  
Rylei Abraham  
Susan Andrews  
Estefania Camacho  
Cara Dougherty  
Jennifer Dupill\*\*\*\*  
Susanne Eaniello\*\*  
Inna Epshtein\*  
Becky Good  
Sharon Grieco, R.D.H.\*\*\*  
Sandy Lepage, R.D.H.\*  
Kristine Navin, R.D.H.  
Julia Nield, R.D.H.  
Debra Ravlin, R.D.H.\*\*  
Moises Salas, D.D.S., M.S.D.H.\*  
Rawan Sarsour, D.D.S., M.S.D.  
Carole Thebarg\*\*

## RELATIVES AS PARENTS PROGRAM

Jan Lyon, M.A., E.C.E.\*\*

\* 5+ YEARS OF SERVICE  
\*\* 10+ YEARS OF SERVICE  
\*\*\*15+ YEARS OF SERVICE  
\*\*\*\*20+ YEARS OF SERVICE  
\*\*\*\*\*25+ YEARS OF SERVICE  
\*\*\*\*\* 30+ YEARS OF SERVICE





# In the Community



## STOCK THE SHELVES

Brooker is proud to be involved with a new community initiative called Stock the Shelves. This concept was founded in March 2022 by a small and enthusiastic group of business people who, through networking and their volunteerism, have become friends. The group was made aware of food insecurity in the community and decided they needed to do something to help. Stock

the Shelves operates by asking local businesses to host food drives to collect food from employees and patrons. The committee then picks up, sorts and distributes the items to eleven local food banks in the area. In just four short months, Stock the Shelves has collected and distributed over 5,000 pounds of food! The initiative also established a fund at the Northwest CT Community Foundation and has collected a substantial amount in donations that enabled them to distribute checks in the amount of \$300 to each of the food banks. The food banks used the funds to purchase needed items. For more information visit: [www.stocktheshelvesnwct.org](http://www.stocktheshelvesnwct.org)

## 11TH ANNUAL LITCHFIELD HILLS BREWFEST

On a beautiful Saturday in June, more than 1,800 people came out and enjoyed the 11th Annual Litchfield Hills BrewFest at Ski Sundown presented by Torrington Savings Bank. The event featured more than 80 vendors who provided a large variety of microbrew, wine, spirit, and moonshine tastings. Apricot Brandy and Brian Mattiello provided musical entertainment throughout the event. We had a great selection of food trucks and a raffle and silent auction. More than



\$55,000 was raised through the charitable event and will fund Brooker Memorial's pediatric dental center, early learning and child care programs and Relatives as Parents Program along with St. Maron Church activities and Summit Adaptive Sports Program at Ski Sundown.

We would like to thank the committee for all their hard work and dedication in making this event a huge success. Special thanks to all of our sponsors including our major sponsors: Torrington Savings Bank, Thomaston Savings Bank, Northwest Community Bank, and Supreme Industries; our cup and lanyard sponsors: Sullivan Automotive, The Cottages at Litchfield Hills, Petricone's Pharmacy and Apothecary, Torrington Ford/Toyota, Dr. Baujin & Dr. Braverman Family Dentistry, Dymax Corporation and CT Pellet; and our band sponsor Keystone Place at Newbury Brook. Without their support, this event would not be possible. We are looking forward to next year's BrewFest on Saturday June 10, 2023.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Brooker Memorial loves to be involved in community activities. This past year we had many opportunities



to do so! In July, 2021, we participated in the back to school backpack drive on Franklin Plaza hosted by the The Torrington Police Athletic League. Brooker was there handing out information about our programs and gave toothbrushes to all the families. In October, we participated in the Trunk or Treat hosted by LARC at Camp Moe. There were goblins, princesses, pirates and



other spooky characters who came to trick or treat from community organizations participating. We also took part in the Strawberry Festival held at Coe Park in June. At these events we educate families about all of the programs Brooker offers, we meet and visit with families who have come to Brooker in the past and we also get to see current families who love to visit with our staff and proudly exclaim they are a "Brooker family!"





# 2021-2022 Scrapbook

A look back at some of the day-to-day happenings from the past year that make Brooker Memorial such a cherished community institution.



*Are you my mother? One day, Executive Director Cathy Coyle walked into a toddler classroom. Little Noah sprinted to her and jumped into her arms. She scooped him up and gave him a hug. When she spoke, he looked at her, confused, and then realized this petite, curly-haired woman who looked just like his mommy wasn't his mommy!*



*One of this year's Cavity-Free Club champs shows off his winning smile!*



*Everyone loves Pajama Day!*



*Just another day creating and refining fine motor skills!*



*Santa visited for the Relatives as Parents holiday event.*



*Snow days are always fun days at Brooker!*



*Hush little baby...*



*Everyone loves the sandbox!*



*Weekly yoga is offered at no extra cost to families by volunteer instructor Jean Cunningham.*





# Volunteers

Brooker is very fortunate to have many dedicated and reliable volunteers. Our volunteers consist of community members, corporators, staff, and parents who share their time and skills to help Brooker in any way they can. Our volunteers help with a multitude of tasks- gardening, shopping for child care, clerical work, helping at our Brewfest, teaching yoga to our child care students and so much more.

The volunteers listed below provided more than 1500 volunteer hours to Brooker in the past year, including staffing the Litchfield Hills Brewfest in August 2021 and June 2022.

Barbara Balnis  
 Charles V. Beyer  
 Edwin G. Booth, Jr.  
 Kathy Broege  
 Taylor Caine  
 Rhonda Capitanio  
 Tyson Chamberlin  
 Hung Chau  
 Lorene Chiron  
 Bob Cintron  
 Hayat Comporesi  
 Jack Comporesi  
 Steve Consolini  
 Bill Coyle  
 Cathy Coyle  
 Jean Cunningham  
 Doreen Deary  
 Brenda DiCarlo  
 Dave DiMauro  
 Dan DiVirgilio  
 Lyle Duprey  
 Ellen Durstin  
 Susanne Eaniello  
 Lauren Elias  
 Christine Escobar  
 Lisa Ferris  
 Mark Finkelstein  
 Jim Fontana  
 Molly Fraher  
 Don Ganem  
 Susie Gardiner  
 Jeff Geddes  
 Justin Giampaolo  
 Anne Gioia  
 Anne Giordano

Becky Good  
 Brian Good  
 Launa Goslee  
 Kaitlyn Graboski  
 Laurie Graboski  
 Stephen Graboski  
 Lacey Gover  
 Bob Hart  
 Cindy Hart  
 Judith M. Hogan  
 Thomas F. Hogan  
 Bruce Johnson  
 Scott Jones  
 Scott Kellogg  
 Daren Knox  
 Melanie Knox  
 John N. Lavieri  
 Charlene Lee  
 David Lee  
 Hailey LeFebvre  
 Lance Leifert  
 Jenna Legan  
 Jamie Lemieux  
 Laura Lemieux  
 Mark Linehan  
 Donna Maraia  
 Amy Marchand  
 Anne Marchand  
 Gail Marchand  
 William Marchand  
 Katherine Marchand-  
 Beyer  
 Dan Mathieu  
 Brian Mattiello  
 Donna Mattiello

Judith McElhone  
 Ken Milio  
 James Mogob  
 Scott Mooney  
 Donna Motuzick  
 Susan E. Nardine  
 Carlos NeJaime  
 Daniel NeJaime  
 Michael NeJaime  
 Michael G. NeJaime  
 Norman NeJaime  
 Rich NeJaime  
 Mike Neperski  
 David Parillo  
 Kay Perrotti  
 Mary Petrosky  
 Lisa Pozucek  
 Sue Preis  
 Sal Rinaldi  
 Mia Rivera  
 Danielle Robison  
 Doug Robison  
 Kristin Robison  
 Tammy Robison  
 Anita Rosa  
 Susan Sawula

Melissa Scheerer  
 Jon Sheaffer, Jr.  
 Fred Simon  
 Sam Slaiby  
 David Smail  
 Lisa Soliani  
 Michael Soliani  
 Patricia Soudier  
 Nick Spino  
 John Stanley  
 Sally Stanley  
 Ginger Sullivan  
 Kevin Sullivan  
 Mary Teddick  
 Gregory Telles  
 Josiah Telles  
 Alan Temkin  
 Judith Theeb  
 Rick Valsecchi  
 Frank Vanoni  
 Aaron Wall  
 Duane Wootton  
 Nick Zabbara  
 Patty Zabbara  
 Cammie Zarrella  
 Steve Zarrella



# Donations and Support from the Community

As a non-profit organization, Brooker operates with earned revenue from child care and dental services, grants from foundations, investment income and donations from the community. We are grateful to the following individuals, businesses and organizations who supported our programs and the families we serve. Donations are used to support our child care program including The Little Green Thumbs Garden, yoga classes, healthy snacks and staff development; our Pediatric Dental Center including our Cavity-Free Club, school dental programs, community education and our financial assistance fund. We would also like to thank the businesses in the community that supported the 11th Annual Litchfield Hills BrewFest. The event would not be successful without their generous donations.

The list below includes donations received between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022

## ANNUAL FUND, GIVING TUESDAY, GIVE LOCAL and 2022 BREWFEST

Adams Samartino & Co.  
 Advanced Physical Therapy  
 Aflac of Litchfield County  
 Alternative Employment, Inc.  
 Amazon Smile  
 American National  
 Ms. Ann G. Amicone  
 A&R Autobody  
 Art's French Fries  
 Jade Athas-Berkshire Hathaway  
 Mr. John A. Badjar \*  
 Barrante's Cleaners  
 Barron Financial Group  
 Bartolotta  
 Baujin & Braverman Family Dentistry  
 Becton Dickinson Canaan  
 Bella Insurance Group, LLC  
 Ms. Gail Berglund  
 Ms. Tina Bernacki  
 Better Baking by Beth  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles V. Beyer  
 Birch Lane Ice  
 Blackwood Associates, Inc.  
 Mr. & Mrs. Edwin G. Booth, Jr.  
 Borla & Associates, LLC  
 Mel Brickman-Health Markets  
 Dr. & Mrs. Harry Briggs  
 Brooks, Todd & McNeil  
 Burlington Oil  
 Ms. Paula Bush

Susan & David Carroll  
 Mr. Steven Caruso  
 Cheshire Fitness Zone  
 Mr. Richard V. Chiron  
 Ms. Tamara Christiansen  
 Ciesco Memorials  
 Coach Mel's Group Fitness  
 Commercial Sewing  
 Community Health and  
 Wellness Center  
 Conquest  
 The Cottages at Litchfield Hills  
 Mr. & Mrs. J. Arthur Coffill  
 Mr. & Mrs. Alan Colavecchio  
 Jeff Cole - STIFEL  
 Barry Cone's Heating, Air  
 Conditioning & Plumbing  
 Ms. Priscilla Conlon  
 Connecticut Community Foundation  
 Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Connors  
 Cook Funeral Home  
 Dr. Roger D. Coutant  
 Cathy & Bill Coyle  
 Critical Cooling, LLC  
 Mr. & Mrs. Rodney P. Crosley  
 CT Pellet  
 Ms. Doreen Deary  
 Ms. Deirdre Houlihan DiCara  
 Ms. Brenda DiCarlo  
 Ms. Patricia Diorio  
 Jason Dismukes Engineering  
 Consultant  
 Doyle's Medical Supply  
 Dunkin'

Mr. & Mrs. George Durstin  
 Dymax Corporation  
 Eastside Electric, Inc.  
 Edible Arrangements  
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Edison  
 Ms. Mary Fischer  
 Mr. James V. Fontana  
 Forever Kitchen Cabinets  
 Friendly Hands Food Bank  
 Mr. Thomas Fuchsman  
 Mr. William Fuchsman  
 Ms. Jeanne Fusco  
 Richard Gauthier Drilling &  
 Blasting, Inc.  
 Gengras Subaru  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Geddes  
 The Honorable Charles and Mrs. Gill  
 Ms. Anne Gioia  
 Gleeson-Ryan Funeral Home  
 Ms. Becky Good  
 Ms. Kaitlyn Graboski  
 Grunder's Farm Equipment, Inc.  
 Chris Gueniat-Northwest CT Realty  
 Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Harrigan  
 Harwinton Graphics  
 Charles Heaven & Co., CPA  
 Ms. Elaine Hinchcliff  
 Hi-Tech Mechanical Heating &  
 Cooling  
 Atty. & Mrs. Thomas F. Hogan  
 Hometown Pizza II  
 Mr. Derek Howell  
 HTH Automatic Sprinkler, LLC  
*Continued on next page)*



# Donations and Support from the Community

Impact Fire  
 In-Stitches  
 Mr. & Mrs. John E. Janco  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ben Joiner  
 JTM Travel Services  
 Ben Kelley #531 KTM Racing  
 Ms. Dawn Kelley  
 Keystone Place at Newbury Brook  
 Klebe Fuel Company  
 Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Klem  
 Ms. Cheryl Kloczko  
 Konopka Electric, LLC  
 Mr. & Mrs. John N. Lavieri  
 Mr. Jack Leifert  
 Mr. Lance Leifert  
 Diane & Mark Libby  
 Lippincott Moving & Storage  
 Litchfield Veterinary Hospital  
 Mr. & Mrs. Mark Loomis  
 Maaser Family Reunion  
 Maletta Pfeiffer Physical Therapy  
 Ms. Sandra Mangan  
 Ms. Alyssa Marchand  
 Ms. Deanna M. Marchand  
 Ms. Marilyn Marchand  
 Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Marchand  
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 Mr. & Mrs. Erich Marriott  
 Mr. & Mrs. Brian Mattiello  
 Mr. & Mrs. James Mazzarelli  
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 Mark McEachern & Gail Kruppa  
 Ms. Judith McElhone  
 McKenna Orthodontics  
 Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Merz  
 Ms. Jackie Miller  
 Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Millette  
 Mitchell Volkswagon  
 Ms. Tina Mitchell  
 Atty. Victor Muschell  
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Muth  
 NeJaime's Fine Wine & Spirits  
 Northwest Community Bank

Northwest Corner Dental Partners  
 Northwest Hills Credit Union  
 O&G Industries  
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 The Francis J. & Louisa J. Oneglia Foundation, Inc.  
 Ms. Margaret Owens  
 PayHub Payments  
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 Ms. Linda T. Perosino  
 Petricone's Pharmacy  
 Phalen Funeral Home  
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 Torrington Ford/Toyota  
 Torrington 4-Wheel & Off Road  
 Torrington Insurance Agency  
 Torrington Savings Bank  
 Ms. Tammy Tronina  
 Monsignor Robert F. Tucker  
 Union Savings Bank  
 US Playground Surfacing  
 Dr. Frank R. Vanoni  
 Ms. Lesa A. Vanotti  
 Ms. Elizabeth Gelormino Varrichio  
 Ms. Nancy R. Wadhams  
 Walton Custom Building  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jonathon Weber  
 Ms. Kathi Weinstein  
 Atty. James A. Welcome  
 Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Zabbara  
 Zeller Tire & Auto Center

## TRIBUTE GIFTS:

*In memory of Judith Addazio*  
 Mr. & Mrs. Mark Linehan  
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael NeJaime

*In memory of Courtney Avallone*  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Avallone  
 The Hon. & Mrs. Michael Magistrali

*In Memory of Judith Bekasi*  
 Mr. John E. Bekasi

*In memory of Diane Castle*  
 Ms. Priscilla Conlon

*In memory of Ruth Chadwick*  
 Ms. Elaine Hinchcliff  
 Todd & Carol Chadwick Kenner

*In memory of Mary Chevalier*  
 Mr. Gary Arnold and Ms. Anne Giordano

*In memory of John & Ellen Conlin*  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Coyle

*In memory of Robert & Margaret Coyle*  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Coyle

*In memory of Donald Curtiss, Sr.*  
 Ms. Cathy Roscello

*In memory of Delia Donne*  
 Ms. Rosemarie Meyer

*In memory of Brianna Hope Ferris*  
 Mr. Lance Leifert & Ms. Lisa A. Ferris

*In honor of Judith Hogan*  
 Ms. Tina Bernacki

*In memory of Kym Magyar*  
 Ms. Gladys Cerruto

*In honor of Callan O'Brien*  
 Mr. & Mrs. Peter O'Brien

*In memory of Margaret M. O'Brien*  
 Mr. William G. Harding

*In memory of Kevin Purcell*  
 Mr. William G. Harding  
 Ms. Susan Nomelli-Crosley  
 Mrs. Lucille R. Purcell

*In memory of Blanche Żubrowski*  
 Ms. Barbara Sepples

## IN KIND DONATIONS:

Adventure Park  
 Alfredo's Deli  
 Barker Character Comic & Cartoon Museum  
 Bayside Resort  
 Beauty Mark Tattoo  
 Bella Luna  
 Blackhawk Sports Fishing  
 Blue Ox Wallingford  
 Boathouse Restaurant  
 Mr. & Mrs. Edwin G. Booth, Jr.  
 Burlington Construction  
 Conquest

Café 38  
 Canaan Country Club  
 Carls True Value  
 Coach Mel's Group Fitness  
 Jody Cohen  
 Connecticut Beer Tours  
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 Crumbs by Toast & Co.  
 Mr. Danny DaPonte  
 Detail Unlimited  
 Ms. Susanne Eanniello  
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 Elements Massage  
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 Hair Spray Salon  
 Home Depot  
 Imagine Float  
 Kelly's Crystal Boutique  
 Lake Compounce  
 Laser Planet CT  
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 Liquid Nirvana  
 Litchfield Distillery  
 Litchfield Paint Company  
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 Mr. Bill Marchand  
 Massage Envy  
 Mind Factory Escape Games  
 Mr. James Mogob  
 Mystified Escape Room  
 Mr. Michael NeJaime  
 New Britain Museum of American Art  
 North Country River  
 Northwest Connecticut Chamber of Commerce  
 Nutmeg Fudge Company  
 Mr. Rob Persechino  
*Continued on next page)*



# Donations and Support from the Community

Ripe Tomato  
 Rachel Rose Oils  
 Ms. Danielle Robison  
 Ms. Tammy Robison  
 Salon Tanning and Nails  
 Salt Time  
 Saybrook Point Resort & Marina  
 Simko  
 Simsbury Inn  
 Ski Sundown  
 Mr. Michael Soliani  
 Spa at Litchfield Hills  
 Spare Time Bristol  
 Stone Age Rock Gym  
 Stonybrook Golf Course  
 Thomaston Opera House  
 Torrington Country Club  
 Torrington Library  
 Torrington Municipal & Teachers  
 Federal Credit Union  
 White Flower Farm  
 Wigwam Escape  
 Winvian Farm  
 Worcester Art Museum  
 Xperiment Virtual Reality  
 Nick & Patty Zabbara  
 Zini's Restaurant

## MAJOR GIFTS TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS:

The Brookdale Foundation Group  
*(For Relatives as Parents Program)*

Foundation for Community Health  
*(For Region One and Botelle School Dental Programs)*

The Robert R. Rosenheim Foundation  
*(To fund creation and installation of a sculpture for Brooker)*

Visiting Nurse Services of  
 Northwest Connecticut  
*(To support Brooker Pediatric Dental Center)*

\*deceased

## LEGACY GIFTS 1918-2022:

We would like to gratefully acknowledge the many individuals who have supported Brooker Memorial over the years with bequests & other legacy gifts. Their thoughtful planning and generosity have been instrumental in Brooker's success.

Billy Archer Fund  
 Lina Bourquin Estate  
 Charles F. Brooker Fund  
 Mary L. Brooker Fund *in memory of her sisters: Elisa Brooker Travis, Emma Brooker Oviatt, and Sarah Maria Brooker*  
 Rose Bruno Estate  
 Francis C. Burnell Estate  
 John Calder Estate  
 Florence K. Colombie Estate  
 John Davey Trust  
 James A. Doughty Estate  
 William D. Farley  
 Marguerite E. Gagnebin *in memory of Albert Gagnebin*  
 Florence M. Hunt Estate  
 Harriet E. Kelm Estate *in memory of her grandparents: Edgar B. Newbury and Rebecca E. Newbury*

Rufus King Estate  
 Joyce and Fred Kirkwood  
 Lena Meyer Estate  
 Leon and Jennie E. Meyer Fund  
 Mary Elizabeth Rivera Estate *in memory of Mary Elizabeth Rivera, Catherine Rivera and Edward J. Rivera*  
 Norma H. Rushworth Estate  
 Ella Seymour Coe Estate  
 Edwin M. Stone Trust  
 Clara Swayze Estate  
 Robert C. Swayze  
 Marjorie Stearns Turner  
 Fred Uri Wadhams Estate *in memory of Margaret Travis Wadhams*  
 Margaret T. Wadhams Estate

## THE LEON & JENNIE E. MEYER FUND

In 2020, Len Meyer and Wendy Tam visited with Brooker and discussed their interest in creating an Endowment Fund in memory of Len's parents Leon and Jennie Meyer. **The Leon and Jennie E. Meyer Fund** was established with an initial gift from Len and Wendy. In the past year the following people have made gifts to this fund.

Mr. Gary Arnold and Ms. Anne Giordano  
 Ms. MaryAnn Flanagan  
 Mr. Len Meyer & Ms. Wendy Tam  
 Ms. Rosemarie Meyer

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 Sybil Haggard Chamberlin &  
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*Continued on next page)*





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## VOLUNTEER GARDEN PROJECT

In April 2022, Brooker held a volunteer workday to prepare the gardens for the season. Volunteers gave the fences fresh paint, cleaned out the beds, and added new soil. They also cleaned the flowerpots and flower gardens and planted beautiful annuals. The volunteers worked

hard and had a great time meeting new people. We would like to thank those who came out to help. The gardens are a great resource in our work to educate child care students about the process of planting, growing and harvesting fresh vegetables. Without all of our volunteers, it would not be possible!

# A legacy of community service, inspiration and joy

From a Care Closet Recipient:  
*"I am a stay at home mom with 5 children; one of my children has special needs. I am not working because I have to take care of the children, It means so much to me that my family was chosen for the Ruth Chadwick Care Closet."*  
 – AT

*On Valentine's Day a toddler was very excited to bring in a heart shaped box of chocolates for his teacher. We told him to say "Happy Valentine's Day" and he very sweetly said "Happy Birthday!"*

*"Brooker Memorial has been amazing for both of my kids. It's an incredible program, making sure everyone is taken care of during Covid and all of the kids/teachers are very happy! The teachers tend to stay long term there— which you know means they are taken care of. They have yoga, music and other instructors as well! I could rave forever on them, lol!"*  
 – KM

*"Dr Karanki is wonderful and kind. She puts you and your child at ease with her patience."* – AC

*"I'm continually amazed at seeing all of the incredible things that are happening at Brooker; the lobby was just busting with children and families — all being connected to, and benefitting from the many wonderful services you offer!"*  
 – AG

*The kids had gotten into a conversation about birthdays. Victoria looked at Maeve and asked "So... What town is your birthday in — April, March, or...um..16?" After a rather long pause Maeve simply replied "Albany." "Albany?" Victoria asks. "Yup" says Maeve. "Well that's a funny name for a birthday!" replied Victoria.*

*"Every staff member that we've interacted with has been so friendly and welcoming. It's hard to leave your child for the first time, but everyone has been so kind and reassuring. Our daughter has been having a great transition into her classroom and we are so happy that she is doing so well. Brandi and Kendall are both very talented teachers and have made our family feel so welcome! We love how easy it is to communicate with them at drop-off and pick-up, and we love getting updates and being able to send quick notes through the app."*

– MC

*"Just to make you smile, Avery's excitement about going to school is something I wish you could see. She literally jumps up and down when she wakes up on Tuesday and Thursday knowing it's a school day. She can't wait to come more days next year. You truly make learning so much fun and she just loves you!"*

– HM

*"Couldn't have had a better experience. Everyone was extremely pleasant. It was my son's first time at the dentist so he was a little scared (he is almost 2) and our hygienist was so patient and kind!!"*  
 – MS

*"The dental hygienist that cleaned Charlotte's teeth was absolutely amazing. The way she interacts with children is so reassuring to them when they are nervous. I love bringing my children here!"*  
 – CF

*"To the Staff of Brooker Memorial: For the past 7 years each of you have played a significant role in our lives. Our children have been loved from the moment we arrived at Brooker. On the first day of drop off I had tears in my eyes and today, I have tears in my eyes to be leaving. Thank you for everything, from the holding tiny hands and watching first steps to hearing their voices and soothing their tears. We thank you for the fun days, the crafting days, the yoga days and all the regular days in between. We will forever be grateful to the team at Brooker. We look forward to continuing a relationship through volunteering and lending a hand whenever we can.*

Love from The Marchand Family "





# Financials & Statistics

## CHILD CARE

The Early Learning and Child Care Center provided care and education for 77 children last year.

We provided a safe, nurturing environment for 4 children in foster care.

We supported 10 children with one time or ongoing tuition scholarships

26 of our children received tuition assistance from Connecticut's Care 4 Kids Program



**67%**  
of our enrolled families were referred by Brooker family and friends



**57%**  
of our school year Nursery School Program attendees were younger siblings of students who had previously completed the program



**100%**  
of survey respondents say that staff are responsive to their needs

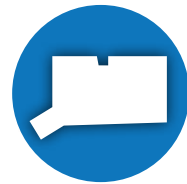


**93%**  
of survey respondents (current parents) rate our program as excellent

**TORRINGTON PEDIATRIC THERAPY AT BROOKER** — powered by *Cheshire Fitness Zone*  
Cheshire Fitness Zone became the program operator/owner of Brooker's Center for Children's Therapy in November 2021. Here are some data points about the program and demonstrating their steady growth.



**2,166** visits from November through June 2022



**TOP 3 TOWNS** patients reside in: Torrington, Litchfield, Winsted



**INSURANCE MIX:**  
CT Husky: **75%**;  
Private Insurance: **25%**



**THERAPY HOURS:**  
Monday — Thursday,  
9 am -7 pm



**10** Therapists providing care



**MOST COMMON DIAGNOSES:**  
Speech delay, autism, neurological impairment



**MAJORITY OF CHILDREN SEEN** are between 3 and 8 years old

Cover Photo: Lisa Ferris

PEDIATRIC DENTAL CENTER	2019-2020	2020-2021*	2021-2022
Total unduplicated patients seen at the Dental Center & at Schools	3,401	3,342	3,977
Total number of children seen in the Schools	567	0	148
Number who were new to the practice	638	560	856
Number of these who were first seen at the Schools	168	0	110
Total Patient Visits at the Dental Center and at Schools	6,349	7,057	8,068
Total dentist visits	2,109	2,315	2,809
Total hygienist visits at the Dental Center and at Schools	4,240	4,742	5,111
Hygienist visits that were conducted in schools (cleaning and sealant visits)	624	0	148
Percent of patients seen by a hygienist who had no decay	75%	72%	70%
Average Unfilled Appointment % (cancellations, no-shows and unfilled appointments)	14.03%	13.84%	18.97%
Uncompensated Care (represents fees written off that are above the \$10 or \$25 per visit fee paid by uninsured patients whose income qualifies them for our scholarship program. This is part of Brooker's contribution toward ensuring all children have access to dental care.)	\$30,508	\$20,539	\$26,763
Percent of uninsured patients	10%	11%	4%
Percent of patients insured by Private Ins (Includes HUSKY as secondary)	14%	13%	15%
Percent of patients insured by Husky	76%	76%	81%

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022\*

<b>REVENUE</b>	
Dental Services	\$1,051,521
Child Care Tuition	580,392
Children's Therapy Services	25,489
Grants	178,850
Contributions & Events	64,833
Trust Fund Income	51,694
Investment Income & Prior Year Cash On Hand	271,906
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$2,224,685</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Dental Services	\$1,192,757
Child Care	670,987
Family Support/Education	92,010
Children's Therapy	135,037
Administration/Building	133,894
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,224,685</b>
<b>YEAR END NET</b>	<b>\$0</b>

\* Unaudited statement

## DENTAL DATA HIGHLIGHTS:

- We have seen a 53% increase in new patients over the prior year.
- School visits are down due to the pandemic; some children that participated previously were seen at Brooker instead of at school.
- We saw fewer uninsured children and more HUSKY-insured children.







*“My children have the best care at Brooker Memorial Pediatric Dental. Miss Sharon provides excellent care during my child’s cleaning and Dr. Karanki is also amazing. Thank you for such great care and professionalism”*

- DDM



### ***Our Mission:***

***To prepare children for life-long success through education, health services, family support and programs of excellence.***



157 Litchfield Street • Torrington, CT 06790  
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