



HMEA News

Reach for Independence

HMEA celebrates another successful **incredABLE 5K** walk, run, and all day family fun

HMEA held its 16th annual **incredABLE 5K** at DELL Corporation (formerly EMC) in Franklin on May 21st and thousands of people came out to run, walk and enjoy the all day family fun day! Surprisingly, this was one of the better ‘weather’ days this area had seen in quite a while, making for an even more **SUCCESSFUL** and enjoyable day for everyone!



(from left to right) Doug MacPherson, HMEA Vice President of Development and Public Relations, Steve Nelson, former NE Patriot linebacker, and Fox25 morning news anchor, Gene Lavanchy

Gene Lavanchy, Fox25 morning news anchor, hosted the event, along with **Steve Nelson** former linebacker for the New England Patriots. Three members of the Revolutionary War enactment group, **Pawtuxet Rangers** presented the colors, and started the race and walk using authentic muskets from that period. Local talent, **Alyssa Surette** opened the ceremony by singing “God Bless America”, and she also sang “Can’t Stop The Feeling” by Justin Timberlake from the movie Trolls while walkers were heading toward the starting line. Additionally, we had many ac-



(from left to right) Corporal Joe St. Lawrence, Colonel Ron Barnes (HMEA’s Vice President of IT), and Lieutenant Colonel Phil Rowell blasting off the **incredABLE 5K** walk

tivities planned for all ages throughout the day, including crowd pleasing mascots, such as “**Wally**” the **Green Monster** and his sister “**Tessie**” from the Boston Red Sox, “**Bessie**” the Cow from Garelick Farms, “**Nibbles Woodaway**” from NE Pest Control, “**NiRoPe**” from Cardi Brothers Furniture, and “**Jake**” the **Lion** from the Worcester Bravehearts.



(from top left to bottom right) Wally and Tessie, Bessie, Jake, NiRoPe and the Big Blue Bug entertaining the crowd at HMEA’s **incredABLE 5K** family fun day!

Three New Board Members Welcomed



Nagela "Naj" Clement

Nagela "Naj" Clement is currently a Quality Assurance Specialist for Takeda Pharmaceuticals in Cambridge, MA. She holds a BA in Economics with a minor in Anthropology and has been working in the biopharma industry for over 10 years, assisting with drug products for various rare diseases around the world. She lives in Framingham, MA with her 5 year old Yorkshire Terrier companion.



Patrick Gauthier

Patrick Gauthier is currently the Director of Business Operations for Maxim Healthcare Services office in Taunton, MA. He has been with Maxim since 2011 when he started as a Healthcare Recruiter for the Worcester, MA office. Maxim provides home health and staffing services to individuals throughout the country and holds 6 offices in Massachusetts, and over 300 offices nationwide.

Patrick holds a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a focus in Marketing from Bryant University. He currently resides in North Providence, RI with his wife.



Victor Rie

Equality, fairness, everyday learning, and a life of service are **Victor Rie's** passions. He believes in treating people with dignity and respect while holding himself accountable for his actions. He also believes everyone has a purpose and a contribution to make in making our world a better place. Victor has over 13 years of working experience in human services, sales and finance in various roles. He graduated from Worcester State University with a Bachelor's in Accounting and Economics and is on track to complete his Master's in Finance at the D'Amore-McKim School of Business at Northeastern University. Currently, he works at CA Technologies in Framingham, MA. Victor hopes to use his experiences to be of service to this great organization, as Albert Einstein said "*Only a life lived in service to others is worth living*".



Mark Your Calendar
Friday, October 20th, 2017

HMEA's
**Autism
RESOURCE
CENTRAL**

20th
Anniversary

at the Guiding Stars Awards Gala
Cyprian Keyes Golf Club ♦ Boylston, MA

Tickets \$75.00/person

For more information about this event, visit our website at
www.autismresourcecentral.org



Kevin Dotterwich, one of two original Darnell School students, is now a 2017 graduate of the Hudson, MA school. He is surrounded by his head teacher, **Michelle Masson**, (left) **Kristen Campione**, Director of Student Services at his home school district, and **Jan Bolton**, Educational Administrator and Vice President of Children's Services. **Congratulations, Kevin!**



Top Left to Right: Greg White, Mary Sellu, Jim Fitzpatrick, Paula Belanger, Margaret Chaisson. Bottom left to right: Charlene McEntee (BOD), Jack Dunn, Jeffery Loverude, Denise Sabino.
Missing from photo: Giselle Dias, Stephen Wallace (BOD).

HMEA's New Family Advisory Council

As of March 2017, HMEA has a newly created Family Advisory Council for the Adult Services Division. The Council's role is to work in partnership with the leadership team at HMEA and the Board of Directors to advise and provide feedback regarding service quality and satisfaction. Nine members were selected through an application process conducted last fall and these members represent residential, day habilitation and employment programs where their family members receive services. The Council is still seeking a representative from the Shared Living area.

One of the important roles of the Council members is to serve as liaisons to current families and to act as connectors for new families to HMEA. Families can

contact individual members of the council through their email addresses to learn more about family participation in program events, share family perspective about services and/or initiatives, and seek information.

The Council has a group email address, as well as individual emails: FamilyAdvisoryCouncil@hmea.org

Paula Belanger	pbelanger@hmea.org
Margaret Chaisson	mchaisson@hmea.org
Mary Sellu	Sellumary318@yahoo.com
Denise Sabino	sabino2043@gmail.com
Jack Dunn	wessley007@comcast.net
Jim Fitzpatrick	jdfitzpatrick@verizon.net
Jeffery Loverude	jloverude@hmea.org
Giselle Dias	katiemiracle@comcast.net
Gregory White	gregorywhitej@aol.com
Charlene McEntee	cmcentee@hmea.org
Stephen Wallace	stephenwallace714@gmail.com

The Family Advisory Council will meet on a quarterly schedule and will regularly communicate with HMEA families to provide updates on their work and to seek family perspective and feedback on important agenda items. Stay tuned for their regular article in the HMEA agency newsletter.



TechACCESS of RI, a program of HMEA

has moved its headquarters to
161 Comstock Parkway | Cranston, RI 02921
Phone: 401.463.0202 | Fax: 401.463.3433

To learn more about TechACCESS and the services it provides for people with disabilities please visit their website at:

www.techaccess-ri.org



Haitian children welcoming **Lissy, Wendy** and **Jayne** to their country

Mission Trip to Haiti with Impact Nations

From March 10-18th 2017, my daughter Lissy, her French teacher Wendy and I traveled to the Saint-Marc region of Haiti to work in five medical clinics, an orphanage, and a prison. We brought much needed medical and school supplies, and clothing to poor communities, installed water filtration systems, and taught patients about proper health care practices. For me, as a Nurse, the lack of quality health care and services was astounding. I treated more than 300 patients daily and diagnosed a variety of illnesses and diseases such as tuberculosis, ringworm, scabies, stage



Lissy holding a baby

four breast and liver cancer, malnutrition, acid reflux, UTI's, yeast and respiratory infections, STD's, flu, and infected wounds. My nursing skills were put to the test as were my sensitivities to extreme poverty.

The trip came about as a result of my daughter's interest in Global Health, particularly in Haiti. She has spent her High School Senior year studying Haiti in an independent French 6 class with her teacher who joined

us on the trip. Lissy witnessed firsthand what she had read about and seen in documentaries. Our collective experience working, caring, teaching, sharing meals, nursing and understanding the Haitian culture showed us the beauty, strength, pride and generosity of some of the poorest people in Haiti.



Lissy surrounded by three young Haitian boys

I am so grateful for being part of the medical community and for the services we provide in this country. Both Lissy and I wish to thank the HMEA employees for their contributions in support of the Haitian people who lack what I think we often take for granted. I sincerely believe the three of us came to understand that as individuals we can in fact make a huge difference in the lives of others. While this mission trip was the first for Lissy and me, I anticipate that it will not be our last.

Jayne Paolillo, R.N.
Bellingham Day Hab



Doing yardwork at one of HMEA's residences are volunteers from DELL's Manufacturing facility in Franklin

A Legacy of Good

On their website, Dell reports that in FY '16 their employees logged 811,000 hours of volunteer time across 66 countries and as of the end of FY '16, 71 percent of team members had logged volunteer hours into their **Legacy of Good Community** website. HMEA has had a long-standing relationship with EMC which was bought by the Dell Corporation.

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Over the past 4 years alone, their employees have donated over 500 hours of service to HMEA. From yard work to kaizen sessions, these volunteers have generously shared their time and talent to further HMEA's mission. Recently, three groups from Dell made 4 of our residential programs look fantastic by staining decks and handicap ramps, and trimming bushes, planting flowers and spreading mulch. We are so grateful for the support of these hard-working volunteers and our residents and staff couldn't be more thrilled with how beautiful their yards look for the summer season. Thank you, DELL!



Two more DELL Manufacturing facility volunteer groups who volunteered to stained decks and wheelchair ramps at HMEA residences.



HMEA's Habitat for Humanity Volunteers

A New Home Built with Love

HMEA goes above and beyond for its families! **Pat Lynch**, HMEA IFFS Program Coordinator, was instrumental in helping one of our supported families get a new handicap accessible home in Fitchburg through Habitat for Humanity. This family has 7 children, 5 of the children have disabilities, 4 of them have mobility issues and use adaptive equipment.

Their new home will help them meet the needs of all their children. The no to low interest mortgage payments they will make on this house will be used to pay for other Habitat for Humanity projects helping other families in need to realize their dreams as well. The family is required to provide "sweat equity" by working 350 hours on the project or by volunteering in another way with Habitat for Humanity. HMEA staff are volunteering hours that will go toward this requirement. On June 28th, seven HMEA staff members installed railings, secured rafters, plumbed lines and waterproofed the basement. We have two more build days scheduled for July and August. If you would like to get involved in helping to make this family's dream a reality, contact **Tracy Andryc** at tandryc@hmea.org or 508-298-1129.



Congressman Joseph Kennedy, III takes a moment for a personal word with Marie Beaudoin who has been supported at HMEA for many years.

Washington DC comes to Bellingham, MA

Recently, Congressman **Joe Kennedy III** visited HMEA's Bellingham Day facility for a tour, and to meet and greet and hear the plight that would occur to some of the staff, families and the supported individuals if "TrumpCare" and the \$800 billion cut to Medicaid should go through.

"TrumpCare cannot happen," he said during a visit to the Horace Mann Educational Associates facility. "We always think (things are) a crisis, but if that happens, the sky really would fall." (quote from Milford Daily News article 7/7/17).

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Volunteers are seldom paid; not because they are worthless, but because they are PRICELESS!

— Unknown

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Congressman Kennedy toured the program and met personally with a number of individuals and staff and thanked each one for allowing him to come to the program and see firsthand what supports would be lost should TrumpCare go through. "Organizations like this would either not be able to exist, or would be unable to provide this level of care," he said.

After the tour, he sat down with CEO **Mike Moloney** and other key staff to hear specifics of the needs of HMEA and other similar organizations with regards to Medicaid and workforce shortages as a result of the immigration bill and other devastating issues that would affect services for years to come. "Forty percent of our staff are either foreign-born or first-generation; these people come to us and they're fabulous, fabulous workers," Moloney said. "We need progressive immigration policies."

2017 Autism Resource Central 5K RUN WALK for Autism Acceptance

Another successful event for HMEA's program, Autism Resource Central, was realized on Saturday April 29, 2017 at the DCR's Quinsigamond State Park in Worcester where the program held their annual 5K Run Walk for Autism Acceptance!

EVERYONE had a great time. In addition to the runners and walkers, this fun-filled day had loads of activities going on all day for children and adults who came out to support this great program and to help raise funds for children and families living with autism. Thank you all for participating! Here's a few pictures from the HMEA tent.



Continued from page 1

incredABLE 5K (continued)

Returning to the event were two of our favorite clowns; **Clarity** and **Maggie**, delighting the guests with their balloon animal skills, stilt walking, and of course, the ever popular '**Bunny**' Clarity's very pet-able bunny rabbit!



(left) Clarity the Clown with her pet rabbit, 'Bunny'. (right) Maggie the Clown showing off her balloon making skills at the incredABLE 5K.

This year in the Kids Corner we had the **Boston Red Sox Showcase**, which is a 14' truck that expands into a full blown Fenway experience. People could swing away in the batting cage, take a virtual tour of the players locker room, take the challenge to steal 2nd base, or test their pitching accuracy. We also welcomed back our long-time friend the **Bubble Music Man**, Rob Peters, who filled the field with a million bubbles to the delight of many 'dancing' children.



Red Sox Showcase set up and ready to go for anyone to try their hand playing baseball Fenway Park style!



Kids dancing and swatting at the millions of bubbles made by the Bubble Music Man.



HMEA staff volunteers

The **incredABLE 5K** would not have been possible without our incredible planning Committee who met monthly for five months to ensure a successful, fun-filled event for all. And, of course, the support of 230 talented volunteers, including members of HMEA staff, families, sponsors, business partners, local area high schools etc., who volunteered a total of 805 hours. As a result, expenses were reduced and the HMEA programs reap the rewards. **THANK YOU**, to our committee members and volunteers!



Family, friends and committee member volunteers

We thank our many Sponsors and Gifts-in-Kind supporters for their generosity in making our **incred-ABLE 5K** so memorable. Thank you to:

Rockland Trust (Charitable Foundation \$10K and Bank \$3K); Ocean Spray; Poland Springs; Walmart Stores; Starkweather & Shepley; Honey Dew Donuts (Plainville); Michael White; Edmund & Amy Maroney Charitable Foundation; Cardi's Furniture; Bowditch & Dewey, LLP; SpencerBANK; Bimbo Bakeries USA; DELL Corp./Silicon Valley Community Foundation; Garelick Farms; Fidelity Bank; Eagle Stainless

Tube & Fabrication; Enterprise Holdings Foundation; Whole Foods; D'Angelo, Inc.; Sodexo Foods/Dean College; T & J Heating, AC & Plumbing, Inc.; MyFM Media 101.3; Food Source Plus; DJ Dick Loon; ACCUPoint, LLC; Printsart Office Products; A.J. & Sons, Inc.; AAA Northeast; Rock, Pixel, Scissors; Roche & Roche, PC; Pysche Systems Corp.; 24 South Street, LLC; Medway Oil Co.; JACO; Alyssa Surette; Big Blue Bug Solutions; Lincoln Financial Group; Roche Brothers Supermarket; Dean Bank; Nadeau Corporation Construction; Double Tree Hotel Milford; CBIZ Tofias, Inc.; BP Wealth Management, LLC; John Brooks Law, LLC; ASC Partners; Exeter Properties; Cranky Pants Communications; Serve S, LLC; Economised Time Services; Thomas White; UPS Foundation, Inc.; Franklin Industrial Park Association; City Wide of Boston; Plansee USA, LLC; Tegra Medical; KGA; DS Graphics; Guardian Storage; Vaccon; Cabinet Gallery; Cleary Insurance Agency; Robert and Diane Nicastro; Ramstroms Service Center; The Plaza at Bellingham Commons.



Whether you came out to run, walk, or participate in the many activities **THANK YOU** for helping us raise funds for the children, adults and their families who are supported at HMEA.

Now on to next year's **incredABLE 5K family fun day!**



**We look forward to seeing you! Mark your calendar
SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2018**

HMEA's 3rd Annual
Central Massachusetts Autism Summit

HIRE AND HIGHER

Leveraging the 'Autism Advantage'
to Meet the Region's Workforce Demands

On April 11, human service providers, employers, educators, state employees, people with autism and their families attended HMEA's 3rd Annual Central MA Autism Summit, at The College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, to hear from experts in the field and to understand the personal challenges and successes of people with autism in the workforce. In his opening remarks, **Tim Murray** of the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce indicated that the biggest challenge faced by employers in Central MA is workforce shortage and that programs designed to help employers hire qualified people on the spectrum can address this shortage and reduce the high unemployment rate among people with autism. Keynote speaker, **John Elder Robison**, inspired the crowd by sharing his experiences and accomplishments as a person on the spectrum who owns a successful business and has written several books. **The Arc of Philadelphia** and **Autism Speaks** presented best practices, trends in the field, and innovative programs that assist people with autism to become employed and support the employer to ensure the match is successful.

Attendees found the presentation by **Asperger/Autism Network Speakers Bureau** to be invaluable in increasing their knowledge of the struggles of people with autism who are seeking entry into the workforce. Students from **Clark University** reported the results of the Central MA Workforce Needs Assessment that was completed by employers, people with autism and people who have a family member with autism. The results showed that for people with autism the biggest barriers to employment are lack of transportation, sensory considerations in the workplace, and the process of interviewing. **Michael Moloney**, HMEA's CEO, issued a challenge to employers to make a commitment to hiring people with autism and providing the supports they need to be successful. **Tegra Medical**, one of our Summit sponsors, immediately accepted that challenge and sched-



(left to right) **Philip Campbell**, HMEA's VP of Community Development, **Tanya Regli**, from the Arc of Philadelphia, our Keynote speaker, **John Elder Robison**, **Michael Moloney**, HMEA's CEO, and **Leslie Long** from Autism Speaks

uled an interview for someone with autism who was in attendance and subsequently hired him.

Afternoon workshops by **Till**, **HMEA**, **MA General Hospital**, the **Flutie Foundation**, and the **Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission** focused on programs throughout the state that are working toward employing people on the autism spectrum and educating businesses on the kinds of supports that are needed for this workforce to thrive. In the coming year, HMEA will be working with local businesses to create programs and supports to make employment matches that are beneficial for both the employer and employee.

HMEA's Autism RESOURCE CENTRAL Friday, August 18, 2017
TEE UP FOR AUTISM
www.firstgiving.com/arccm/2017-tee-up-for-autis
Cyprian Keyes Golf Club
Boylston, MA
\$125 per golfer. Includes golf fees, lunch and two complimentary rounds
8 am: Registration
9 am: Shot-gun start
Behavioral Concepts Inc.



Does your Company match your donations?

According to Charity Dynamics, more than half of fortune 500 companies have matching gift programs. While an estimated \$5 billion are paid each year in matching gifts to charities, an estimated \$6-\$10 billion are left on the table each year. Why? Because most employees are not aware that their company will match their charitable contributions.

The Committee Encouraging Corporate Philanthropy (CECP) reports that on average only 9% of employees of a matching gift company participate in their company's program. However, CEOs at CECP's 2014 CEO event, identified employees as the most important stakeholder influencing decisions to expand community investments. In other words, employers are looking to their staff to identify worthy causes in their community that they can support in meaningful ways. Many companies, like Dell, also have volunteer grant programs that make a contribution to a non-profit based on hours donated by their employee.

Guidelines and amounts vary by company and typically, individuals must submit forms to their employer that they can get from their human resources department or their company's website.

Want to know if your company will match your donation? You can search for your company in the Double the Donation widget on the donation page on HMEA's website (hmea.org/make-a-difference/donate) to find out the specifics of their gift matching.

Don't leave money on the table that could make a difference in the lives of people with developmental disabilities, double your donation for double the impact.

Grant Funding for HMEA Programs

FY '17 was another successful year for grant funding of projects at HMEA. Many of these grants support programs that need the funding but is not in the budget.

- WalMart Sate Grant: \$25,000 for Employment First Initiatives
- Massachusetts Developmental Disability Council: \$20,000 for HMEA's Autism Resource Central Family training
- Wells Fargo Foundation: \$10,000 for Employment First Initiatives
- Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation: \$10,000 for Students for Higher and \$2,500 for HMEA's Autism Resource Central
- Greater Worcester Community Foundation: \$8,000 for Students for Higher program
- Rockland Trust Foundation: \$5,000 for Employment First Initiatives
- Robert Stoico/First Fed Foundation: \$5,000 for residential home improvements
- Shriners of RI: \$5,000 for TechACCESS programs
- Marlborough Savings: \$5,000 for residential home improvements
- Mansfield Charitable Foundation: \$3,000 for Day Habilitation programs
- Danny Foundation for Autism: \$3,000 for HMEA's Autism Resource Central
- Bessie Pappas Foundation; \$2,500 for Day Habilitation programs
- Schwartz Foundation: \$2,500 for Day Habilitation programs
- Acadia Insurance: \$2,400 for Darnell School
- Avidia Bank Charitable Foundation: \$2,000 for the Darnell School
- Hologic: \$1,500 for medical supports
- Rollstone Charitable Foundation: \$1,000 for Day Habilitation programs
- Webster Five Foundation: \$1,000 for Day Habilitation programs

HMEA's donation dollars breakdown...



Growth

1%

A Thankful Acknowledgement of our FY '17 Annual Fund Campaign Donors

All of us at HMEA would like to take a moment to acknowledge and thank our many donors, and to express our sincere gratitude for their generosity and their support of HMEA's mission this past fiscal year.

As we close the door on FY '17, we realize we're entering into uncertain economic times as new policies now being discussed in our nation's Capital could have a profound affect on all of us, but much more so on individuals and families who live with disabilities. We are dedicated to continue providing the stellar care and supports to individuals whose families have entrusted the care of their loved ones to HMEA. Our commitment is to remain a shining example for all human services agencies to emulate and with continued donor support we are sure to succeed.

FY '18 began on July 1st, and we'll begin preparing our Annual Fund Campaign in early to mid-Fall. In the meantime however, you can still make a donation by simply visiting www.hmea.org, and selecting the DONATE button. You can also find out more about the work and programs of HMEA and its support of the developmental disabilities community.

HMEA's Fiscal Year 2017 Donor List

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- Charles J. and Barbara K. Anderson
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- Moms Club of Franklin, MA

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HMEA's Fiscal Year 2017 Donor List (continued)

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- William Woods



Leave your Legacy and support the future of HMEA

Become a founding member of the Horace Mann Promise Society

At some point in one's life there comes a moment to determine how you want your and/or your family legacy to be remembered. After caring for loved ones, many people choose to make a Legacy Gift through their will to causes and organizations they care about.

Wouldn't you like your legacy of giving to live on?

Many people think you must be wealthy to have an estate and leave a gift. That's not true.

We have four immediate real-life gift plans, that we know of, that will occur on the passing of four constituents of HMEA:

1. A no longer needed life insurance policy will be given to HMEA
2. The estate of an individual supported by HMEA will be transferred to HMEA upon that persons passing
3. Real estate property will be given to HMEA
4. A percentage of a person's assets is bequeathed to HMEA upon that person's passing

There are so many ways to leave your legacy. If interested consult your lawyer or accountant. For details on becoming a founding member of The Horace Mann Promise Society contact **Doug MacPherson** at HMEA at 508.298.1105 or dmacpherson@hmea.org.

BE REMEMBERED FOR THE
RIGHT REASONS. LEAVE A
Legacy AND A *smile* IN
YOUR *heart* BEYOND *life*.

JASMINA SIDEROVSKI



8 Forge Park East
Franklin, MA 02038

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Permit No. 22**

To learn more about HMEA please visit us online at www.hmea.org



Your gift could...

- **\$10 plus** can help to purchase educational toys for Children’s programming; one hour of personal training at a YMCA; or a bus pass to and from work.
- **\$50 plus** might provide weekly art therapy classes for a month; or work accommodations to assist someone with physical disabilities.
- **\$100 plus** will help provide computer programs and equipment to enhance a child’s ability to communicate; or a season pass to local theaters allowing individuals to enjoy new and exciting experiences in their communities.
- **\$250 plus** provides assistive technologies that allow individuals to effectively communicate; intensive job coaching; environmental accommodations that allow people in wheelchairs better access to their community and jobs; technologies that help staff better support children and families.

And, there’s so much more! Your support helps to enrich the lives and promotes independence for people HMEA supports. Please consider giving generously to HMEA’s FY ‘18 “Summer Fun” Campaign. To give online please visit HMEA’s website...

www.hmea.org

HMEA 2018 Summer Fun Campaign

\$1000 \$500 \$300 \$100 \$50 Other: \$ _____

I pledge \$ _____ to the HMEA FY ‘18 Campaign.

Please designate my gift: unrestricted

In honor of (please print): _____

In memory of (please print): _____

Payment Method:

Check made payable to **HMEA Summer Fun Campaign**

Credit Card: MasterCard VISA Discover Amex

Card Number: _____

Expires: _____ CID # _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Your Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Your Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

I would like to receive more information on becoming a Founding Member of the new **Horace Mann Promise Society**.

A Matching Gift Form is enclosed (see your Human Resource department for a matching gift form).