



2023 ANNUAL REPORT



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of The Dragonfly Project is to bring a message of hope to people who are grieving.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Pete Bonde

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karen Bonde, Chair

Janell Stanton Soderberg, Vice Chair

Brianna Walvoort, Secretary

Winda Roets, Treasurer

PJ Tombarge, Member at Large

Jennifer DeBruin, Member at Large

Emma DeBruin, Member at Large

Anne Brooker, Honorary Board Member and Founder

P.O Box 12964
Minneapolis, MN
dragonflyproject.org

NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2023 was a great year for The Dragonfly Project. We are celebrating our 21nd year as an organization! Our mission is to provide a message of hope, and one way we measure that is by the number of packets we give out. This year we provided 12,800 packets to grieving families all over the country and beyond. This brought our organizational total from conception to 168,000 packets.

Hi, I am Pete Bonde and welcome to our 2023 annual report. I hope you enjoy the pages that follow. I am the Executive Director of The Dragonfly Project. I have been gratefully volunteering for The Dragonfly Project since 2005 and am thankful to the board for this opportunity to serve, to connect with the community, and manage the day-to-day and long-term operations.

The Dragonfly Project is a project built on gratitude and volunteers. The initial dragonfly card was received with much thanks. Those early years filled scrapbooks with stories of thanks and gratitude for the gift of the card, the keychain, and the dragonfly story. We have special volunteers, and I am thankful for all of them. As The Dragonfly Project grew, we had volunteers specialize in coordinating, managing, and participating in these functions:

The Adopt-a-State program

Our Buzzette newsletter

Packet events

The School Outreach program

Putting keychains together

Serving as Board members

The Dragonfly Door program

The Military Outreach program

Sending out packets requests from our website

Gathering and responding to mail at the post office

Delivering bulk mailings

Inputting financial income

Inputting financial expenses

Ordering supplies

Our annual celebration

Graphic arts

Creating the Federal 990 Report



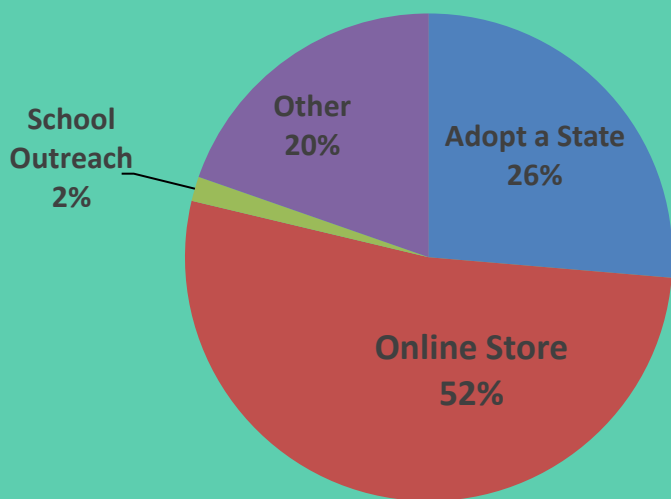
I look forward to continue serving The Dragonfly Project as executive director. Please contact me at execdiretor@dragonflyproject.org if you have any questions or comments about The Dragonfly Project.

Pete Bonde

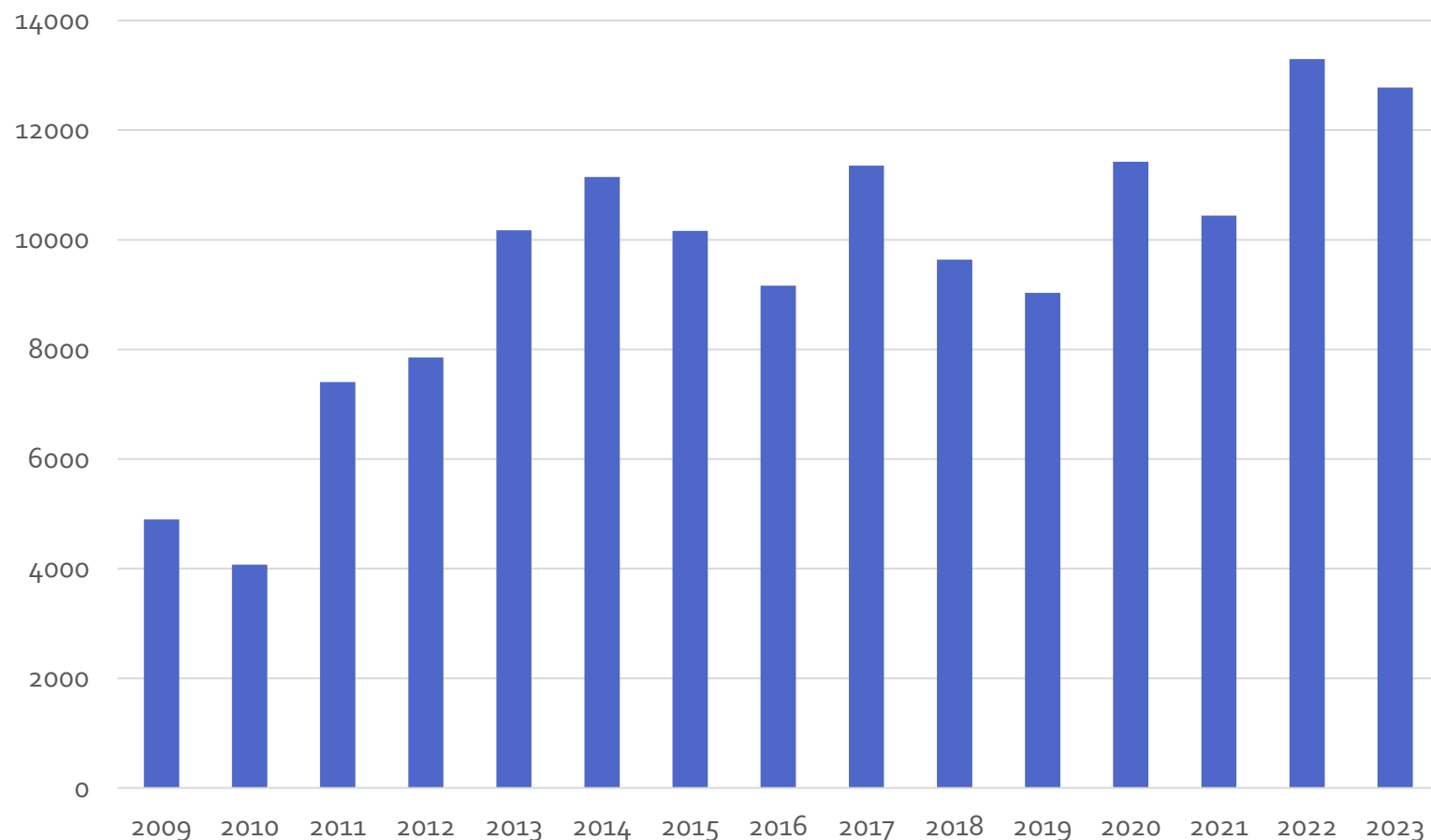
OUR IMPACT

Since 2002, The Dragonfly Project has sent out over **168,000** dragonfly packets, each representing a grieving individual touched by our mission

2023 Packets



Packets Given Away

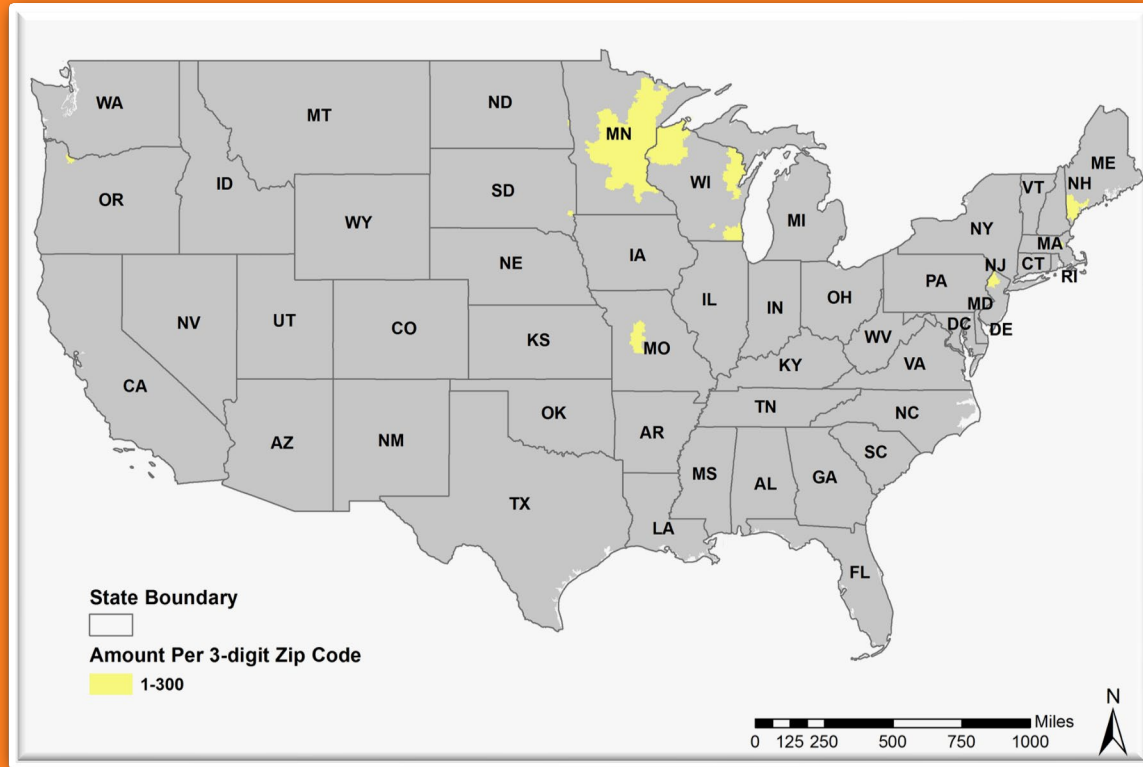


"A few months after my brother passed away, I received the card in the mail. It was so moving that I couldn't stop crying. Thank you for all you do! It matters more than you know!"

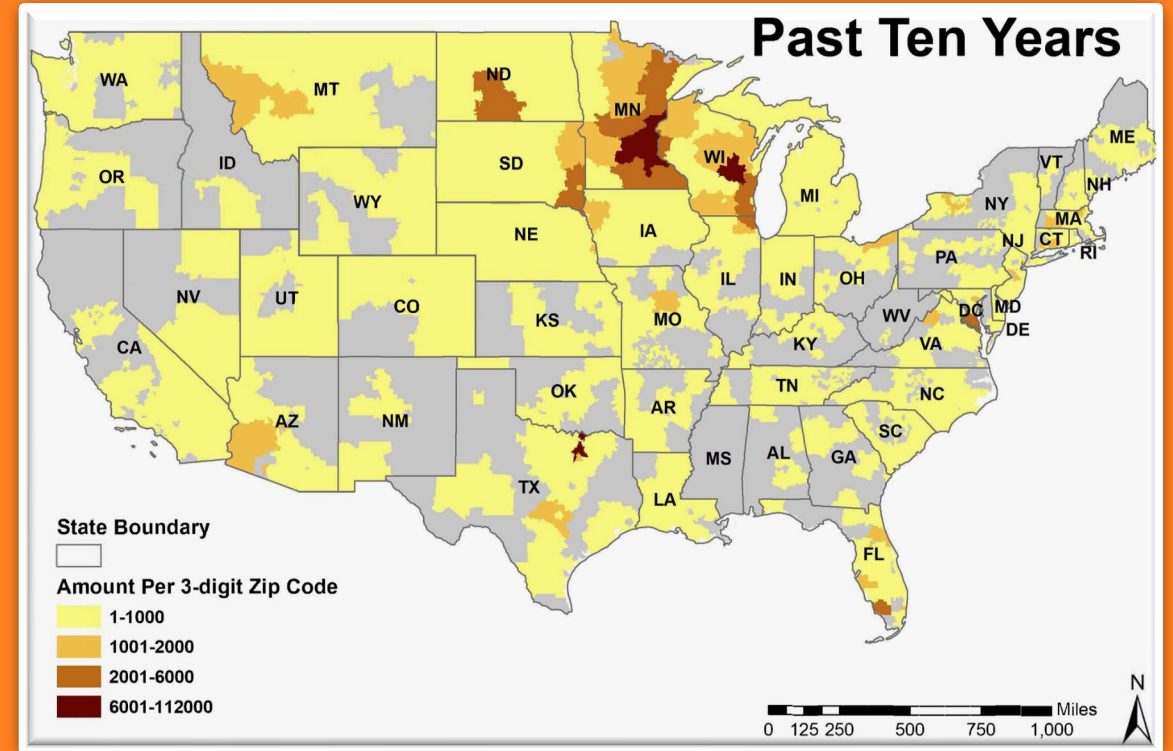
-Megann

Dollars Raised by Zip Code

2002



2013-2023



What started with a 11-year-old girl in Minneapolis has grown into a national non-profit, spreading a message of hope to grieving people across the nation and world. This exponential growth would not be possible without volunteers and donors sharing Dragonfly Packets with others.

Note: Dollars Raised includes Donations and Sales by 3-digit Zip Code

21th ANNUAL CELEBRATION AND REMEMBRANCE EVENT

On March 11th, 2023, The Dragonfly Project celebrated it's twenty first year at Nativity Lutheran Church in St. Anthony, Minnesota. This year was challenged by a snowstorm that kept many people at home. Those who were not able to make it were able to view the program through a live internet feed.

We were honored to have Nancy Proulx, from North Carolina as one of our recipient speakers. Nancy lost two sons and her sister within a year's time. She had many stories of encounters with dragonflies to share.

Julie Wylie, one of our Dragonfly supporters also spoke. Julie lost her mother and has written the book "*Cherishable*" about planning for the last phase of life. Both speaker's stories are highlighted in our Spring 2023 Newsletter.

Attendees enjoyed lovely guitar music from Carmina Stensland and songs from Luke Bonde and Annie Schlaefer. We were able to share the Memorial Photo Montage of loved ones that have passed on and a Candle Lighting Ceremony. Pete Bonde, our Executive Director, spoke about this year's challenge match of \$2,000, offered by Paula and Dan McQuillen. Thanks to our generous friends and supporters, we were able to meet the match!

After the program, attendees were able to join for refreshments and meet new and old friends.

Thanks again to all of you who keep this mission going. Our volunteers, speakers, those who donate and of course our board.

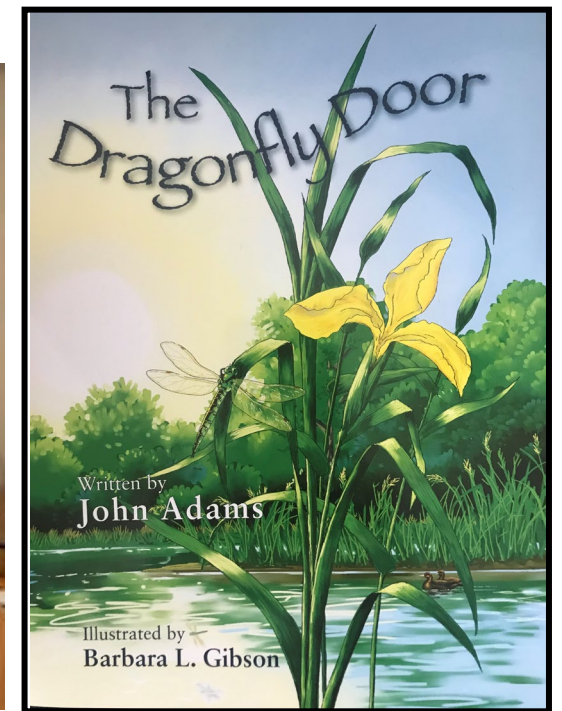


SCHOOL OUTREACH and DRAGONFLY DOOR OUTREACH

In 2023, we sent out 210 packets and 23 books to 2 different schools as part of our School Outreach program. In this type of outreach, we send out packets to families and staff after the loss of a student and provide a copy of *The Dragonfly Door* book for the school's library.

Since receiving a very generous donation of *The Dragonfly Door* book from the author, John Adams, we have continued to expand our school outreach program. In 2023 we gave out a total of 112 books, which includes our school outreach count, online store and the following:

- "Little Libraries", a free distribution of neighborhood books. This year 80 books were given in memory of Tod Boll, who started the libraries.



VOLUNTEERS

Debbie Ansin*
Jeanne Bartlett*
Julie Bonde
Karen Bonde
Luke Bonde
Pete Bonde
Lisa Bopf*
Donna Brandell
Christine Burke*
Josi Burkhart*
Leanne Burkman*
Makayla Casselman*
Mara Christiansen*
Darlene Dalessandro*
Ann Danko
Cole DeBruin
Emma DeBruin
Jennifer Debruin*
Anne De Namur*
Diane Feeney*
Eileen Fink*
Beth Fischer
Sharon Foss
Rebecca Gentry*

Shirley Gilliam*
Kelly Gleonde
Cindy Glover*
Judi Good*
Anne Greigo*
Brenna Grund*
Lisa Hanneman*
Lori Harmer*
Amy Hennen
Emmy Husfloer*
Michelle Haygood*
Arlaine Higgins
Patsy Kahmann
Kim Karsnia*
Gloria Keller*
Julie Kimball*
Joanne Kintop*
Teresa Kohman*
Lisa Kretsch*
Natalie Kritenbrink*
Michelle Kubiak*
Marcia Kurtz
Nicole Kunza*
Becky Laney*

Sue Lamprich*
Tina Langhans*
Michelle Lease
Brenda Leigh*
Erika Leraaen*
Susan Lewis*
Amy Lindgren*
Valerie Loutsch*
Valerie Marquardt
Paula McQuillen*
Regina Medina*
Isaac Mensink
Vera Miller*
Kristen Nold
Callie Ogburn*
Michaela Ohlemann*
Pam Olson*
Bob Parrott
Nicci Rider
JoAnne Roberts*
Lisa Roers
Winda Roets*
Jeanne Rosdahl*
Alura Rose*
Sharon Said*

Melissa Sandry
Georgia Savat
Jan Savat-Lynch
Joanne Schneider*
June Shashura*
Yvonne Shashura*
Mary Shaw*
Kim Sitko*
Wendy Smith*
Janell Stanton Soderberg
Kyle Soderberg
Denise Sodergren
Bertha Steele*
Katy Swimelar*
Meg Swimelar*
Wanda Taylor*
Linda Tygar*
P.J. Tombarge
Brianna Walvoort
Tammy Weber*
Kristin Wehrman*
Jackie Wilson*
Kristin Zigan*
Sonja Yadon*
Annie Young

Mercy Hospital Courage Kenny
Rehab Group

By the time any given card has reached its destination, 10 to 15 people have touched it with their hands and their hearts

Groups who volunteered to make dragonfly packets in 2023.

Nativity Lutheran Church, St. Anthony Village, MN

Lutheran Social Service Circle

God's Work/Our Hands Volunteers

Mental Health Month

Dragonfly Project Board of Directors

Thrivent Action Teams & Champion Events

Julie & Pete Bonde, w/ Nativity Lutheran Church

Emma DeBruin & UW-Madison Students

Thrivent Volunteers in Appleton, WI

Thrivent Volunteers in Minneapolis, MN

Others

Cooper High School IB Students, Robinsdale, MN

Residents at Applewood Point, Roseville, MN

Julie & Peter Bonde & Friends, Minneapolis, MN

St. Joan of Arc Confirmation Students Minneapolis, MN

WoMN Strong, Anoka, MN

Attendees at The Compassionate Friends Annual Conference

*Denotes a 2023 Adopt a State Volunteer



Thank you!

TO THE
give MAX
Nov. 16, 2023

#GTMD23

"Welcome to the
Light"
Sarah Burgess
Arranged by Luke Bonde

Luke Bonde
Annie Schlaefer

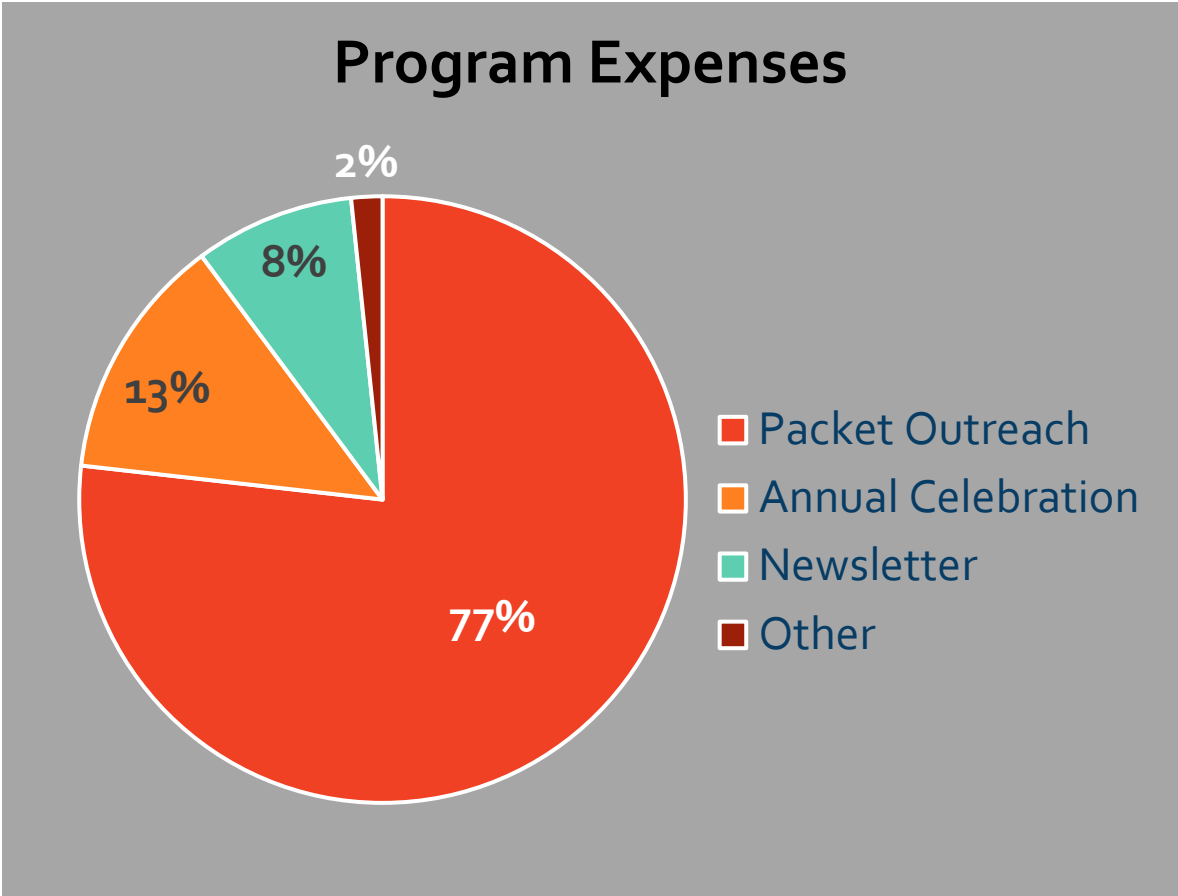
2023 FINANCIALS

Revenue

Donations (includes Packet donations)	60,795
Investment Income	8,452
Product Sales	3,016
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Total	72,263

Expenses

Program Expenses	38,620
Management and General Expenses	39,372
Fund-raising Expenses	1,216
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Total	79,208



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Minneapolis, MN

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