



Maria M. Love
Convalescent Fund *Love Notes*

March 27, 2020

Dear Past and Present Presidents, Board Members, and valued Supporters of the Maria M. Love Convalescent Fund,

In uncertain times it is important that we continue to stay connected as a community. Challenges in our world are what inspired Maria Love, and although from a different time and perspective, challenges are what will unite us as a community in the coming days, weeks, and perhaps months.

Annual Spring Luncheon and Love Notes of Giving

Given all that is happening around us we are sad to share that we have made the difficult yet right decision to postpone our Annual Spring Luncheon for the foreseeable future. We know it is a very uncertain, emotional and anxious time, and that our children's worlds, our professional worlds, and the worlds of those who rely on the Maria M. Love Fund have been turned on their heads.

In lieu of this year's Annual Spring Luncheon, we are asking our past presidents, board members and you, our loyal supporters to consider making a [Love Note of Giving](https://marialovefund.ejoinme.org/LoveNotesofGiving). The needs in our community are greater than ever. We ask that you give to the best of your ability to assist the most vulnerable of our neighbors. Please visit **Love Notes of Giving** at <https://marialovefund.ejoinme.org/LoveNotesofGiving>

Special thanks to our luncheon co-chairs Julie Gicewicz/Terry Anderson and the Spring Luncheon Committee. They have done so much preparation to have made the day special. We appreciate all their efforts and the work they have already done to make next year's luncheon successful. Hopefully they will be back to lead the charge!

Charity Ball

A long expected update on our beloved Charity Ball. In 1903, Buffalo celebrated its first Charity Ball. A remarkable 116 years later, the heart of the Maria M. Love Convalescent Fund's mission—to help people get back on their feet—is still fulfilled by the proceeds from the Charity Ball, the Fund's largest annual fundraiser.

The 2019 Charity Ball, held December 13th at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center, brought over 1,200 middle school and high school children together for an evening of dressing up and dancing the night away with friends, all while sustaining the important work that the Fund does. In addition to the wonderful opening dance tradition, highlights of the ball included the large LED light-up dance floor and fun photo booths. Board members were both pleased and gratified that so many children thanked them for a great evening as they left at the end of the night.

While the Charity Ball has changed with the times, the tradition remains the same. As children dance the night away during the holiday season, the community comes together in the spirit of philanthropy to lift others up. We are pleased to announce that the 2020 Charity Ball will be held on Friday, December 4th at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. Save the date! Kate Bowen Smith, Heather Rumsey Gibson, and Jennifer Bernacki Smith, are pleased to serve as co-chairs again and look forward to another great event at a new venue. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Please email mlcharityball@gmail.com for details.

We implore you to take good care of yourselves and your beautiful families. We are forever grateful for your great care and giving.

With grateful hearts,

Nancy Stevens, Executive Director

Mary Bacon, President