

Love Notes

Winter 2022

Our mission is to provide interim financial assistance in order to promote independence and enhance the quality of life of Erie County residents with medically related conditions who may be temporarily ineligible for aid from traditional sources and to provide such additional assistance in the area of basic human needs.

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Greetings from the Maria Love Fund Executive Director Nancy Stevens

We hope you're in good spirits and health! These are challenging times for us all, and The Maria Love Fund is doing everything possible to sustain daily operations to provide services to those in our community who rely on our funding. Even though we have had to reduce our distribution dollars, our partnership with social service agencies remains committed to helping those in need and we are grateful to work together. We are thankful to our Board of Directors who continue to get creative with our fundraising campaigns; and even with the uncertainty that COVID-19 continues to present, we know that more than ever, our community needs us.

In times like this, we're reminded of how interconnected we all are. Thank you for being part of our community. You can advocate for us by sharing our mission and website with a family member or friend. Please visit us at www.marialovefund.org!

Stay Well!

Greetings from the Maria Love Fund President Sarah Williams

We welcome the new year with Tidings of Love and Gratitude! Thank you for giving the gifts of health and healing with your donations to our "Tidings of Love" campaign! We are pleased to announce that we are extending our campaign through February 14, 2022! To give, please go to our website at marialovefund.org.

Many thanks to the creative planning of Charity Ball 2021 Co-Chairs Darcy Zacher, Kirsten Maidment, Heather Jermak, Kristie Pottle, and Dana Stoffman as they were determined to hold a fun and safe, in-person dance party for high school students who have missed out on so many social activities due to the pandemic.



CB21
Maria Love Fund




Save the date **May 19, 2022**

"CB21" was held on November 6th—one month earlier on the calendar than usual, at a spectacular new venue—Buffalo RiverWorks! The new "vibe"—created by our hosts, DJ Yes, DJ Milk, and DJ Marley (—Nichols Senior and son of Mark and board member Kirsten Maidment), along with performances by Buffalo Aerial dancers ... altogether made for a once-in-a-lifetime evening! Thank you to the CB21 Chairs, the MLF Board, Buffalo RiverWorks, our entertainers, and our sponsors—including Presenting Sponsor, Northtown Toyota, for all the happiness created that night. CB21 was a total blast!

In March and October of 2021, the Fund was honored to host "Behind the Mask"—two virtual presentations featuring nationally-acclaimed adolescent mental health speaker and author, Ross Szabo. Conceived as a way to help teens and young adults understand and cope with feelings of anxiety, depression, and stressors created by the pandemic, both webinar talks were offered free of charge to the community, and attended by local school personnel, young people, and their families. Many thanks to Anne Benedict, Matthew Benedict's One Last Goal, for nurturing this project and to Danielle Vallas, LMHC, of D&G Wellness for Moderating both presentations.

My heart is full ~ Love & Gratitude 

Happy Birthday Maria Love!

Maria M. Love - ma RYE yah - 1840 - 1931.

Born in Clarence, NY on January 26, 1840, and raised in Buffalo, Maria was a true social services pioneer who founded the first daycare in America, and the first kindergarten in Buffalo!

"Maria" founded the Maria M. Love Convalescent Fund in 1903 when the needs in the community grew too great for her personal charity alone. Community involvement is a core value of the Maria Love Fund. Lending a hand to people when they need it most—during times of illness and recovery, is at the heart of what we do.

Thank you for helping the Maria Love Fund to promote health, wellness, and independence among the hundreds of Western New Yorkers who will receive the Fund's assistance this year.

Thank you for making a difference through your interest, involvement, and generosity.

We are so grateful and proud to share Maria Love's powerful, impactful mission with you!