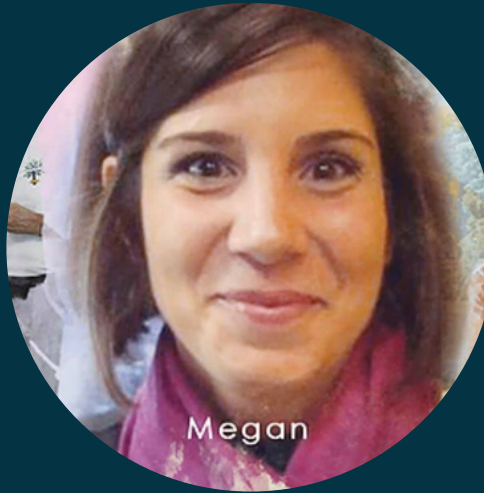




MEG's GIFT

MEG's gift is a 501(c)3 nonprofit public charity started in 2015 by the family of Megan Elizabeth Garbach (MEG), to honor her life and carry on her legacy. The mission of MEG's Gift is to positively impact mental health care in the Rochester community through financial support, education, and advocacy. This mission is guided by a vision of a more loving community that better understands, accepts, and helps individuals suffering with mental illness. That was Megan's view of life. As a group of family and friends loyal to this mission, MEG's Gift volunteers are committed to pursuing it with creativity, high energy, and enthusiasm as we model Megan's compassionate and loving ways.

In our eight years of operation, MEG's Gift has awarded over \$375,000 to various local organizations that promote mental health awareness. Each of these organizations advocate for the care of persons with mental illness, educating those whose loved one's struggle with mental illness, and provide treatment services to those in need. One major source of fundraising is our annual golf tournament including dinner and raffle. Other income sources come from sponsors, family foundations, corporate sponsorships, and memorial giving as well as proceeds from special events held in conjunction with retail and service sector establishments.



Each year our Board of Directors identifies organizations with similar missions to MEG's Gift to be the beneficiaries of our fundraising efforts. In the first two years the principal beneficiaries included St. Joseph's Neighborhood Center, and the Veterans Outreach Center. More recently, awards included the local chapters of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), the Monroe County Consortium on Trauma, Illness and Grief (TIG), the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), the Children's Institute, East House, and most recently the Villa of Hope. Each of these organizations have developed programs that positively impact the emotional health of both children and adults in need of support. Many other organizations in our community have also benefitted from MEG's Gift.

For 2023, MEG's Gift has again chosen NAMI Rochester as primary beneficiary of our fundraising efforts. The agency's mission is to provide support, education and advocacy to individuals and families of all cultural backgrounds who are living with mental illness. Their vision is a world where stigma is no longer a barrier to treatment, support is readily available, and mental illness is universally accepted as a treatable medical condition. Both the mission and vision of N

In addition to providing monetary support to worthy organizations, MEG's Gift is engaged in the community in many other important ways. Members of our leadership team have been mental health advocates as guests on local radio and TV shows, community health fairs, awareness walks and professional conferences. MEG's Gift has been featured in articles in the print media and has an active presence on social media platforms. It also publishes MESSAGES, a well-received newsletter that features articles on various mental health topics. In a short period of time, and with a committed volunteer staff along with a growing number of supporters, MEG's Gift is making a difference in our community, and we will continue to do so in the coming years. For more information, go to www.megsgift.org about 2023 fundraising events especially our Shadow Lake Golf Tournament on August 12, 2023.