

# Annual Report

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## the Umbrella Club

A Quiet Helping Hand Can Make a  
Life Changing Difference for Those in Need

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# 2023

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## President's Letter

### Friends and Supporters:

Thank you for all of your support and hard work throughout 2023. To date this was our most successful year from both an overall revenue and charitable support perspective. During the year the charity supported over 160 families who experienced financial hardship associated with a sick or disabled child.

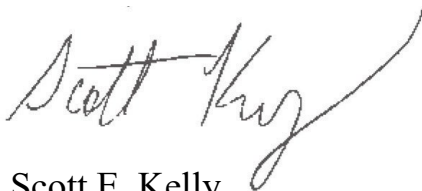
The Good & Welfare Committee, who is responsible for working with the families of sick and disabled children, did a truly outstanding job! We donated \$574,416, which represented 89% of net revenue raised during the year. Donations included a \$71,500 contribution to the Stamford Hospital Maternity and Delivery Unit NICU, The Cohen Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. This is part of a 10-year \$500,000 Capital Gift to the Hospital and is an extraordinary opportunity for the Club as the hospital makes critical upgrades to the NICU.

For 2023, we continued to account for our financial results on an accrual basis which more closely reflects how we operate and is in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). Our Auditors, Fiondella, Milone and LaSaracina, LLP have given us a "Clean Audit Opinion" for the 5th year in a row since we began external audits. With our strong financial results and management, I'm proud that we have been able to expand our assistance to the general community and we remain steadfast in helping as many families as possible and children in need throughout Fairfield County.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and our members, as well as our families in need, I'd like to express our sincere gratitude for all that you have done to make us who we are today! With your help we will continue to support families in need within our communities.

Thank you!

Sincerely,



Scott E. Kelly  
President



# Our Story

Fraternal Order of the Umbrella, Inc., d/b/a “The Umbrella Club,” is a non-profit, 501(c) 3 organization dedicated to providing compassion, support and financial assistance to families and children with severe illnesses or disabilities who reside in Fairfield County, Connecticut.



The Umbrella Club raises funds to help local children and families with medical and durable medical equipment needs. They are those who have unfortunately fallen through the cracks of various social nets for any number of reasons; those among us who lack the resources to help themselves.

Reaching out with a helping hand to touch the lives of families and individuals in need, The Umbrella Club is seen as “a shelter in the storm” – offering kindness and financial respite that provides those suffering with a renewed sense of hope and optimism. Sometimes all people need is a helping hand to move forward in improving their lives.



Families receive financial help at various Umbrella Club events





# Who We Help & Our Partners

The Umbrella Club helps children and families who are experiencing financial hardship due to serious medical conditions and/or disabilities.

We work with the following partners who share our mission:

- Stamford Hospital Pediatric Emergency Department
- Yale Pediatric Eye Care Center
- NFL Alumni of CT
- St. Vincent's Special Needs Center
- Kids in Crisis
- ARI



Thanks to the Umbrella Club, we were able to take Stella to Kennedy Krieger Institute in Maryland, a facility dedicated to children with disabilities. Stella met with multiple doctors and tried different mobility equipment.

Here are photos of a mobile stander we purchased for Stella so she can have more freedom and independence playing with friends.

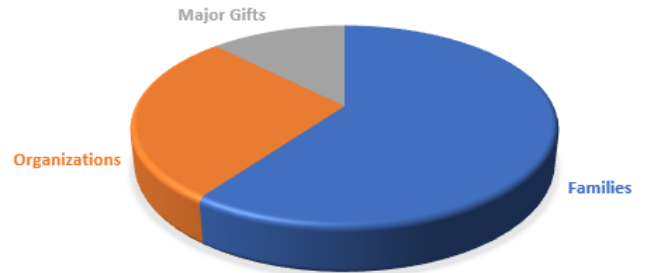


# Helping Families and Children in Need

The Umbrella Club strives to find families and children in need who have been passed over by every other organization. We know what a contribution can mean in changing the lives of others. To qualify as a candidate, the potential recipient must meet certain criteria and complete an application. Our Good and Welfare Committee reviews the eligibility and needs of each candidate and eligibility is then determined.

- We provide direct financial assistance to families
- We purchase medical equipment on their behalf
- We provide remodeling services to modify a child's home environment to meet their physical and medical needs

## 2023 CHARITABLE DONATIONS



St. Vincent's Special Needs Center Halloween Parade



Emily - Umbrella Club Recipient

# How Do We Do It?

We host three annual fundraising events:

- Winter Raffle
- Spring Golf Outing
- “Endless Summer on the Sound”  
Late Summer Auction and  
Paddle Raise

Other sources of revenue:

- Donations & Grants
- Legacy Club
- Major Gifts



Winter Raffle



Spring Golf Outing



Endless Summer on the Sound



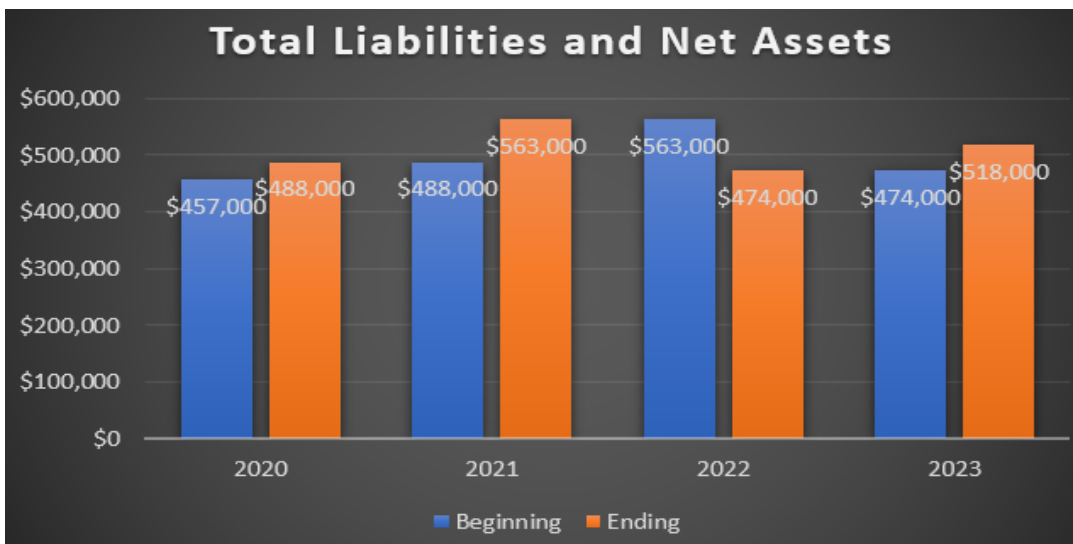
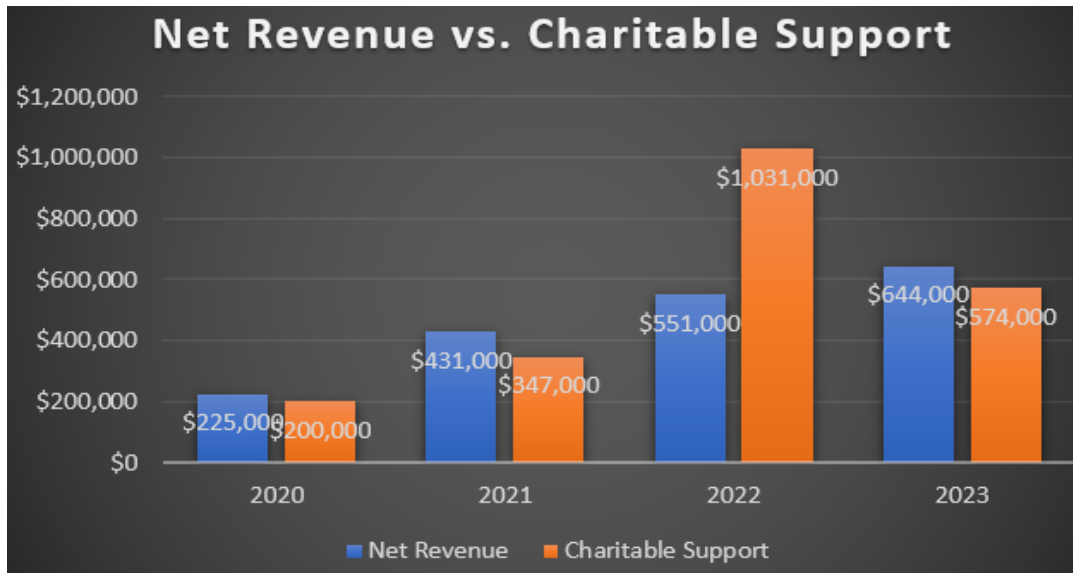


# Strong Financial Stewardship and Management



## Fraternal Order of the Umbrella, Inc. Financial Highlights for 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023

Accrual Basis



The Umbrella Club operates under the financial guidelines for charities as prescribed by the standards of the Better Business Bureau. As a 501 (c) 3 organization, annual tax return filings are available on-line to the public. The Books and Records of the Club are audited annually by an outside accounting firm: FML CPA's, Fiondella, Milone & LaSaracina LLP of Glastonbury, Connecticut.

**Audited financial statements are available at [www.Umbrellacub.org](http://www.Umbrellacub.org)**





# **Umbrella Club**

## **Board of Directors**

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### **Scott E. Kelly, President**

Vice President-Investments  
Ameriprise Financial  
Westport, CT

### **Thomas R. Heide, Director**

CEO  
Heide & Company, LLC  
Norwalk, CT

### **Michael G. Mezzapelle, Treasurer, CPA, CFP**

President  
Mezzapelle & Associates  
Stamford, CT

### **Yari Usharov, Director**

Vice President  
Offshore Distribution Fidelity Investments  
Norwalk, CT

### **Gene Fignar, Secretary**

Attorney at Law  
EMF Law Associates  
Southport, CT

### **Joseph M. Pasquino, Director**

President  
Archway Realty Group  
Stamford, CT

### **Christopher Fuller, Vice President**

Owner & Operator  
Giovana's Wine & Spirits,  
Stamford, CT

### **Peter Psychopaidas, Director**

Principal  
Promotion Sales, Ltd  
Stamford, CT

### **Robert L. Del Vecchio, Vice President**

Vice President (Retired)  
Skaarup Ship Brokers, Inc. and ICAP Shipping USA  
Norwalk, CT

## **Contact Us**

The Umbrella Club, P.O. Box 112238, Stamford, CT 06911-2238  
917-699-3610

[info@umbrellaclub.org](mailto:info@umbrellaclub.org)



[www.umbrellaclub.org](http://www.umbrellaclub.org)