



# Newsletter

November 2020 | Issue 1 | Rachael Warrior Foundation

## Thank You!

The response has been, in a word, incredible. From our initial fundraiser; Rachael's Birthday Bash through the "Let Love Soar" Gala in February 2020 – the support has been overwhelming and humbling. The generosity of the community has been inspiring as we destroyed any expectation of what this little foundation could do. The support has also been constant. Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, donations have continued, and we have felt the love and support while the entire world took a deep breath, and the way we all went about our lives changed.

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# Thanks for an incredible beginning

First and Most importantly - we'd like to say, "Thank You" for the impact you have had on Rachael Warrior Foundation. In the Spring of 2019, a small group of friends gathered around a kitchen table in Orchard Park, New York, wondering how they could channel all the love and caring that was being poured out in the wake of the senseless tragedy that was the loss of Rachael Jane Wierzbicki. Rachael Warrior Foundation was born from the realization that Domestic Violence knows no boundaries. Race, religion, socio-economic status - none of these create immunity from what we would learn is a destroyer of epidemic proportions. We had no idea how big the problem was, if we could make a difference, if people would help, or even how to set up a foundation - but we saw the need and knew someone had to do something. The decision was to dive in, and figure it out as we go.

June 2019, Rachael Warrior Foundation was honored for its service at the Ashley May 5K Run.



"A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives."

~ Jackie Robinson

During our first year, we provided aid to families and individuals that were in crisis due to Domestic Violence: The girl who's ex-boyfriend started her on fire; the children who have no parents because their mother is gone, and the father is in jail for her murder; the grandmother who now has two small children to feed because neither parent is in the picture - that is where your donations went. In the fall of 2019, Rachael Warrior Foundation supported the Family Justice Center's (FJC) fall fundraiser, and your support helped them eclipse their donation goals with historic donation amounts. As advertised, a portion of the "Let Love Soar Gala" proceeds were earmarked for Haven House and, in July 2020, Rachael Warrior Foundation presented Haven House with a check for \$10,000. To date, Rachael Warrior Foundation has provided over \$15,000 to victims of Domestic Violence or organizations specifically established to help those victims out of dangerous situations. NONE of what we've mentioned could have been done without your love and support.





Rachael's gift to the world was her love, smile and caring attitude, and Rachael's Warriors carry that with them everywhere they go and in every event they support.



Warriors collected 463 Baskets for Auction at Rachael's Birthday Bash.



The Warrior Tee-Shirt was created and launched by Rachael's Warriors. Just another example of love driving great works.





### June 2019 Birthday Bash

Conceived in the mind of DeAnna Leydecker; Rachael's Birthday bash was a truly unforgettable beginning to Rachael Warrior Foundation and was the reason we knew we had to create the Foundation. Inspired by our 128 Rachael Warrior volunteers, we saw that the community was behind this cause and, we have been blessed with the support of Rachael's Warriors since the very beginning.





We were not prepared for the outpouring of Love and the sheer number of baskets that were donated for Rachael's Birthday Bash.

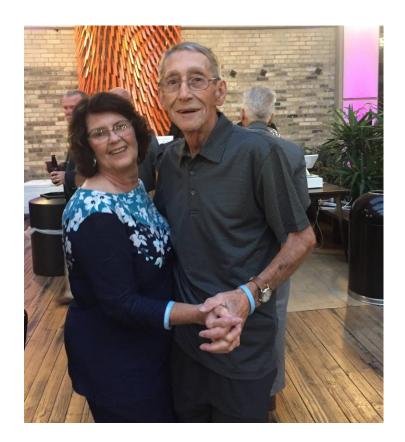


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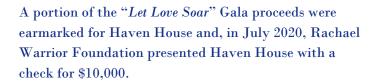
In the fall of 2019, Rachael Warrior Foundation supported the Family Justice Center's (FJC) Mosaic fundraiser, and your support helped them eclipse their donation goals and historic donation amounts.





"Let Love Soar" was an event dedicated to all the good that Love can bring – and you could feel the Love in the air.











Thanks to all our Angel Ambassadors who helped make "Let Love Soar" an incredible success. So many great people donating their time and resources to help in the fight against Domestic Violence.



Ashley May 5K

In June 2019, Rachael Warrior Foundation was honored for its service at the Ashley May 5K Run.

# At least 1 in 4 women, and 1 in 7 men, are victims of severe violence from a partner at some point in their life. Interpersonal violence can be physical, sexual, or psychological, and also includes stalking.

### Jessica Cameron Fundraiser

In December 2018, Jessica Cameron was set on fire by her ex-boyfriend. Rachael Warrior Foundation provided funds to help with Jessica's medical costs as well as support her children.



Warriors to the Rescue



### Road Ahead!

Rachael Warrior Foundation is now partnering with Haven House on their "Rebuilding with Rachael" drive – This program helps bridge gaps in government funding to allow Victims of Domestic Violence to escape their situations and start life over. We have learned the landscape of support in Western New York and are working to raise awareness and act as a catalyst to bring different groups together; increasing the size of the army in this fight. As we move into 2021, we know the task is formidable, and that nothing can be done without your help.

### Upcoming Events

### "Tailgate with Rachael"

Stay tuned for an opportunity to "Tailgate with Rachael." It will be an on-line event that we think reflects Rachael's fun-loving approach to life, offers a "Totally Buffalo" prize and will help us keep the fight going while we all move towards making lives better

# Win a Bill's Themed Firepit



### OTHER HAPPENINGS





