



www.hopefromthebottomup.com

Hope Newsletter August 2024



KPL kids
@ Uptown Library
Knowledge + Imagination + Discovery + Success

JOIN US FOR THE GRAND OPENING

Sat July 13th 12-4pm
6144 22nd Ave

The banner has a light blue background with white clouds. On the left, the "KPL kids" logo features the letters "KPL" in black and "kids" in green, orange, and purple, with a grassy patch below. The text "@ Uptown Library" and the tagline "Knowledge + Imagination + Discovery + Success" are below. On the right, "JOIN US FOR THE GRAND OPENING" is written in purple, with colorful balloons and streamers on the far right edge. The date and address are centered at the bottom.

Help Us Write the Next Chapter

The Kenosha Public Library is excited to share that we are building a *new library for every child in Kenosha* in the heart of the Uptown Neighborhood.

"We see firsthand how literacy is a factor in almost every socioeconomic issue, including parenting, health care, workforce development, and poverty. The Kenosha Public Library's efforts to increase access to the library and its many programs are helping to strengthen our community and rise to the many challenges brought on in 2020." Cheryl Hernandez, Executive Director, Kenosha Literacy Council

"Through collaborative, focused efforts, Kenosha Public Library and their Uptown Children's Library will help young people, along with their families build early literacy and kindergarten readiness skills. The endeavors of the Kenosha Public Library will aid young individuals in laying a groundwork for reading, which will assist them in their transition to school and more intricate materials. By providing these services, the Uptown Children's Library will help children and their families prepare for the future." Carolyn Freisch, CEO, United Way of Kenosha County.



To learn more about this forward looking effort, please click on this link: [Uptown Children's Library | Kenosha Public Library \(mykpl.info\)](https://www.mykpl.info) and scroll down to the 7 minute, 28 second video.

Hope-Filled Organization: One of the organizations which helped raise funds for the Uptown Children's Library project as well as many other Hope-Filled Organizations is:



from the founder

"I have always believed in the power of women to make a difference. 100 Extraordinary Women is a unique way to bring women together to support important causes."

— Jodi Sweeney, Founder of 100 Extraordinary Women™

Our Mission: 100 Extraordinary Women offers nonprofit organizations a unique way to reach women who want to support their work. We build communities of extraordinary women dedicated to doing extraordinary things.

Our Vision: 100EW's online fundraising platform for nonprofits of any size and area of focus offers a simple way to raise significant funds among women. 100EW empowers women to join together to support causes they believe in and create a bigger impact than they could on their own.

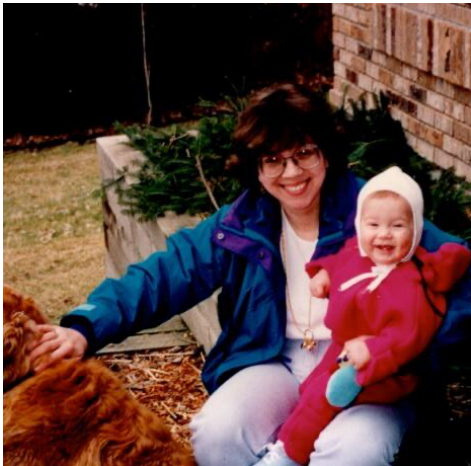
Our Impact: We've had the honor to work with dozens of organizations through the 100EW Consulting Program. Collectively, we've raised millions of dollars to help make an impact in our communities.

To learn about some of the success of this organization, click on this link: [Success Stories ★ 100 Extraordinary Women](#)



OUR STORY

Our story begins as two young mothers, each with her first child: Amy, Mary Anne's daughter, a beautiful baby girl and Franke, Susan's son, a charming baby boy. To us, our babies were lovely and perfect, but they were also diagnosed "Autistic." In the 1990s this meant that there was a long list of life experiences the "experts" told us Amy and Franke would never have.



Mary Anne and Amy



Susan and Franke

Here's a short version of the list:

- They would not speak
- They would have limited understanding of language
- They would not learn with their peers at school
- They would not drive a car
- They would not go to college or vocational school
- They would not have a job or career
- They would not go to prom
- They would not have a first date
- They would not marry or have children
- They would remain isolated in their own world and not respond to their families with affection
- They would not have friends

As mothers, we didn't know what the future held,
but we were each determined that this would not be Amy and Franke's story.

A perceptive pediatrician introduced us, thinking that we could provide support and friendship for one another. We would meet at McDonalds and watch Amy and Franke play on the climbing structure. We began to envision all that their future COULD be. In this future, Amy and Franke would pursue their own interests, they would have engaging employment, they would make friends, perhaps find romance, and they would live in a place of their own, not spend their adulthood in their parents' basements.

As Amy and Franke grew to adulthood they showed their families so much love and affection. They demonstrated that they understood speech and each has found their own effective way to communicate. They each graduated from high school. They each work and own their own business. Amy making lavender scented products and Franke

roasting coffee. They have many friends and are interested in going on dates together. They each live in their own apartment and actively participate in their community.

How did this happen? Through reaching out, connecting and partnership. We reached out to two other families and a dedicated caregiver who shared our vision, the Couches, the Kalscheurs and Kim Crisman. We started to meet weekly at Sjolinds coffee shop in Mt. Horeb to look closely at independent housing options, not only in our area, but nationally and overseas. For our loved ones, there were no independent, integrated options. In fact, many housing programs for the disabled specifically excluded our sons and daughters based on their skill level. We met for two years, discussing what we liked, what we didn't, what we were learning and what could be wonderful but didn't yet exist. When we began, no one in our group had experience creating this type of housing. We didn't even know what questions to ask, or who to ask them of! But we learned.



What we created was more than just a building or an organization, but a set of principles that have guided us at every step.

Principle 1: No matter how challenging your disability is, you can live in your own home.

Principle 2: Low income is not a barrier to living in your own home.

Principle 3: The community must be truly integrated. People with disabilities have the basic human right to live with all kinds of neighbors, neighbors of different ages, different backgrounds and races, and different family structures.

Principle 4: Disabled people should not have to leave their home community to live independently.

Principle 5: Our model should be replicable by families and groups in any community in the United States.

Here is what they built:



To read and learn more about this group, click on this link: [Caring Community - Housing for All - Home of Our Own - Home](#)

Hope-Filled Organization:



Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) offers farmer-driven, grassroots [grants](#) and [education](#) programs. Since 1988, SARE grantees have been putting the principles of sustainable agriculture into practice on farms and ranches in every state and island protectorate.

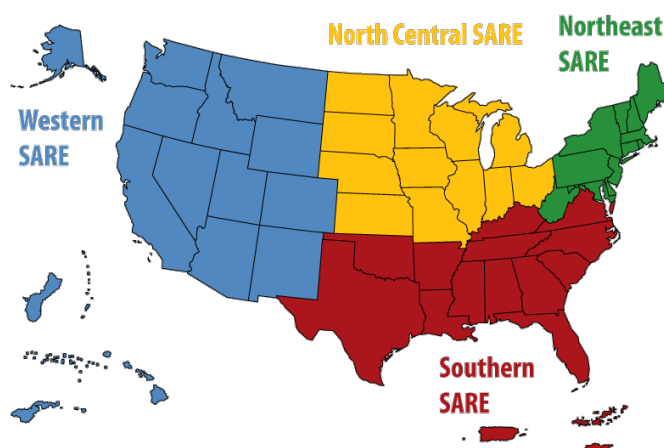
FARMER-FOCUSED RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Since 1988, SARE's competitive grants program has been supporting research and education projects that bring new ideas to farms and ranches around the country.



SARE is run by four regions ([North Central](#) | [Northeast](#) | [South](#) | [West](#)) hosted by land grant institutions. Each region is guided by volunteer Administrative Councils that make grants and set regional priorities. The councils include farmers and ranchers along with representatives from universities, government, agribusiness and nonprofit organizations. Technical reviewers, also volunteers, lend professional and practical experience to help councils evaluate project proposals.

SARE's Four Regions



To learn more about SARE the work they do and the assistance they provide to farmers, click on this link: [What We Do - SARE](#)

Share This Newsletter!

If you find this Newsletter to be a positive contribution to promote Hope and positive changes for now and in the future, please forward this Newsletter to people you think would enjoy it and who may want to share their hopeful stories and programs for future Newsletters. They can sign up for the monthly Newsletters by doing the following:



Hope From the Bottom Up website link: <https://hopefromthebottomup.com/>
Or send me an email (robert@robertbeezat.com) with the name and email address
of the person you think would be interested. I will then contact them.

Thank You