

## CHARITY IMPACT

Shutterbugs 4 Charity kicked off its fundraising efforts this past Fall with the sale of wall calendars and blank note cards which reveal the beauty of Maine, all of which reflect the stunning work of the photographers we have on our board of directors (Chris Lawrence, Benjamin Williamson, Mark Jones, Tyler Kimbar, Darylann Leonard, and Colin Chase). The Shutterbug team has been overwhelmed with the outpouring of support and thanks to the generous donations and purchases of so many of you we were able to raise over \$37,000 to distribute to local nonprofits.

The success of this first fundraiser has inspired us to be thoughtful as to how we lend our support in the future. We aim to do such things as providing "TED" like talks for youth where our board shares their love and benefits of photography in hopes of inspiring others to discover their own passion in this area or one of their own.

Additionally, our board of directors will be active in nonprofit fundraising efforts by participating in charity events, such as the Center of Grieving Children's annual Gala on 2/7/20.

Among its first donations made Shutterbug 4 charity has selected "Royal Family Kids Camp." The camp provides a week of summer camp to children ages 7-11 who have a documented history of abuse, neglect, and abandonment. The camp is held in Ocean Park, ME and provides these children an opportunity to be a kid for a week, let their guard down and just have fun.

The impact of camp has been evidenced by campers as they provide us insight as to how important this one week of camp has been on their life. A 10 year old boy shared, "This has been the best week of my life." Well, until next year when I come back." Each child goes home with an photo album of their week and a returning camper said, "I slept with my photo album every night this past year waiting for camp again!" One past camper came back to many years later as a young lady and shared, "Camp was so important in my life as a child that I want to pay it forward by being a counselor myself for a hurting child."

Royal Family Kids Camp just completed its 20th year of camp. We are pleased to be supporting them in their fundraising efforts for 2020.

Next, We have been busy at work learning about additional nonprofits (that do not have large endowments or state or federal funding) that we can help. Our Executive Director, Barbie Jones has recently visited "My Place" ( a teen center in Westbrook, soon to have a presence in Biddeford), "The Betsy Ann Ross House of Hope"( in Augusta which serves homeless female veterans and their families), FairTide (in Kittery, which provides transitional and permanent housing for the homeless along with case management and aftercare services), and The Center of Grieving Children (in Portland, which provides a full array of services to children in their families).

If you would like to nominate a nonprofit please feel free to do so in the comment section. We will continue to keep our donors updated on where we have decided to designate our donations in the future.

Thanks again for all of your support. We hope to make you all proud to be involved!

Sincerely,

The Shutterbugs Team