



SSCF Newsletter August 2022

Our Mission:

To financially assist families who have experienced the death of a child by offering monetary grants to help with some portion of funeral costs.

A REMINDER...

This summer we marked the 38th anniversary of the death of 18-year-old Christopher John Conti, I.

It is to honor Christopher's life of kindness and joy that The SonShine Charitable Fund has been established.



WHAT WE'VE DONE SO FAR...

So far in 2022, we have been able to support 18 families with funds to use for funeral expenses. This brings the total to 34 families helped since we started in 2020. Our hearts break for these families, and we pray that the monetary support we offer alleviates some of the stress they are feeling.

At the end of May, we drew winners for a Weekend Getaway raffle. Nine generous individuals and businesses donated hotel, VRBO and AirBnB opportunities that were raffled off on Memorial Day.

For the second time, In June we were able to participate with other Chautauqua County non-profit organizations in an online event called GIVE BIG CHQ (<https://www.givebigchq.org/info/faq>). During this 24-hour fundraising event more than 40 donors chose to support our Fund with donations totalling over \$3000. We are overwhelmed by your support.

We could not provide the support we offer without all of the folks who donate their funds and their time. Those who have visited any of our in person events, have purchase raffle tickets or donated online and have shared our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#) are really helping us get the word out.

[Donate | Sonshine](#)

WHAT IS COMING UP??

We will have a presence at the following events:

- The Fredonia Farm Festival ([Fredonia Farm Festival](#)) Aug 26-28: 10am-6pm
- The Cassadaga Labor Day Festival
- Red White and Blues festival in Fredonia Sept 9-10 ([Red, White & Blues - Festivals Fredonia](#)) (Fri 4:30-8 ; Sat 12-10)

Our big Fall event is the **MONTE CARLO NIGHT** that we will host at the Sheridan VFW on **Saturday, Sept 24.**

Doors open at **4pm with gaming from 6pm-10pm.**

*Big item RAFFLE DRAWING (tickets on sale now!); Smaller item BASKET RAFFLE; CARD GAMES; ROULETTE WHEEL; DICE TABLE; CATERED FOOD (\$20 per ticket)

The *Big Item Raffle prizes:

1. Box Seats for 4 to a Sabres' Game; 2. \$1,000 Store Credit from Lake Effect Furniture and Mattress (3637 Union Road Cheektowaga)
3. Fishing Charter from Dances With Fish Charters, Captain Ron Duliba (Walleye fishing out of Dunkirk NY); 4. Autographed Mini Helmet with Letter of Authenticity (Tremaine Edmunds); 5. Autographed Mini Helmet with Letter of Authenticity (Tre'Davious White); 6. Autographed Mini Helmet with Letter of Authenticity (Josh Allen)

WHAT YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW...

Our message is getting out and reaching those who have a heart for our cause. Here is an example... We want to express many thanks to Willie, Roseanne, Kari and Danny Morales. Through the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, from the "Patrick Morales Memorial Non-Endowment Fund", the Morales family made an AMAZING grant/donation to the SonShine Charitable Fund in honor and memory of their son and brother, Patrick, who passed away on October 31st, 2000 at the age of 18.

Alex was able to spread the word about our cause in a cable access interview with Doc Hamels on his Chautauqua Sunrise show on Saturday August 27. You can watch the interview here:

[Chautauqua Sunrise with Doc Hamels, Week of August 27](#)