A Message from Carrie, Sophie & Emily

This has been a big year for Starfish! We’re celebrating 20 years of history and as we look back, we close one chapter on Emily Golinsky’s 14 years of leadership, and continue our amazing journey. Alongside Board (and Hiring Committee) members Mike Ross and Alex Chu, I am thrilled to announce that, following a very competitive process, Sophie Wadsworth has joined the Starfish community as its new leader. Sophie comes to us from the Nature Conservancy in Concord, MA, where she has been CEO for 10 years. She brings with her deep experience, along with her passion and commitment to working with the kids that thrive at Starfish.

Our beloved outgoing Executive Director Emily will be present into 2020 to help with the transition and we extend our heartfelt thanks to her for her excellent leadership during this time of change. We wish her all the best in her new ventures!

As we embark on our third decade, we do so with a vibrant year-round team and a dedicated community of campers, families, staff, alumni, donors and friends. I’m glad you’re part of our Starfish family and we wish you a happy, healthy holiday and New Year.

Carrie Endries, Ph.D.   President, Board of Directors

Sophie Wadsworth   Incoming Executive Director

Emily Golinsky   Outgoing Executive Director

For privacy reasons, camper’s last names are blurred out in the online display, or on our Facebook page.

In 2014, a new tradition was born at Starfish as we created our “Awesome Place. Amazing People.” Year Shirts program. Each camper and staff receives a shirt at their first campfire of the summer, with the shirts representing the life-changing support of Starfish. To celebrate our history, and most importantly, the campers who make camp so special, and now it’s possible to track individuals across the many years that Starfish was a core part of their lives, and the connections between their families.

Welcome returners back to camp with a statement that shows confidence camp instills in us, and campers.

Footbridge February Campaign is a Success!

When it was time to plan our 20th Anniversary celebrations, we knew that nothing would be more symbolic of how camp has brought people together over the years than literally reconnecting it!

The bridge had eroded significantly over time and the redesign needed special attention to ensure that the replacement met all conservation requirements and protected the natural environment of the marsh. Following a successful social media campaign in February with the tagline “Because it’s Just. Gotta. Get. Fixed.”, we began construction in April. The new bridge uses the same footings, while also adding side safety rails and raising the height to allow the abundant wildlife, greenery, and blueberry bushes galore to flourish.

The Footbridge has been a key connection in the camp’s footprint for decades — long before the property became the permanent home of Camp Starfish. It serves as an essential pathway between the two main sides of camp, Star and Fish (what Camp Monomonic alumni knew as “Woodside” and “Lakeside”). More than 30 planes have already been sponsored by camper families, alumni, staff, neighbors, and friends of the camp. When the campaign went live, Sophie Wadsworth (2015/2016 Monomonic Alumni) who recently celebrated their first on-site reunion since their camp stopped operating in the 1990s, were supportive and excited to help sponsor the project along with Emily Golinsky (2007-2012 Monomonic Alumni) who personalized the footings and rated the project complete the plan and maintain the bridge. It’s a meaningful, lasting gift and a great excuse to visit camp to celebrate your piece of history, long into the future.

Even though the year of celebration is drawing to a close, you can still check out pictures, reminiscences, videos, and stories at www.campstarfish.org/history.

Camp Starfish celebrates 20 Years!

Two decades ago, Deb Bernstein’s MBA project became a reality: a therapeutically-infused camp for children living with emotional, social, learning and behavioral challenges. Along the way, Starfish has moved from Brewster, MA to its permanent home in Rindge, NH and expanded programs to serve over 300 children from ages 5-17+ each year. And in 2019, we celebrated our 20th Anniversary with plenty of fanfare and fun.

Events kicked off last year with a ‘Where Are They Now’ update on Jackson, Matt, Tyler, and other long-time Starfish campers. We continued with a new logo and special 20th Anniversary gifting - tumblers, calendars, pins and stuffed monomonic. Footbridge February followed (see below), then a 20th Anniversary Gala in July, the filming and debut of our new video, an Executive Director transition (see page 6 for Sophie’s intro and Emily’s farewell messages) and last, certainly not least, a festive Gala in November (see insert pages 3-4 for pictures and details on this great event that raised over $25,000).

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In a July ceremony at camp, in front of current campers and staff, families, visitors, board members, and camper alumni, Jamie was recognized for her exceptional leadership and dedication over the past decade in 2019. As a longtime staff member and a 10-year veteran of the Starfish staff, Jamie has contributed to the camp's success in many ways, including leading initiatives and programs that have had a positive impact on the camp and its community. Jamie's tenure on the Starfish staff was marked by excellence, dedication, and commitment to the camp and the values of Starfish. Her leadership and contributions have been instrumental in shaping the camp's growth and success over the past decade. Jamie's accomplishments are a testament to her hard work, passion, and commitment to the camp and its mission. Her dedication to the camp and its community is an inspiration to all who know her. Jamie's departure marks a significant moment in the camp's history, and we are grateful for her contributions and the positive impact she has had on the camp and its community.
20th Anniversary Gala!

Our “Campfire Under The Stars” celebration was a wonderful night in honor of 20 incredible years of Starfish history. With both silent and live auctions, great entertainment, and plenty of reminiscing, the Gala provided a chance for current and alumni campers, families, staff, Board members, friends and guests to gather for a great cause and a lot of fun!

Thanks to everyone who bought tickets and bid on items, the evening raised over $25,000. We also showed the debut of our new Starfish video and played a slideshow of pictures from the first two decades of camp (some of which we’ve included here in the filmstrips for you to see, along with the photos from the event). Let’s not wait 20 more years to plan another party!

Sam Montanez, Emily Golinsky & Michelle Cyr, Stephen & Gillian Montanez, Adam Sparks, Julie McVeigh, Ned Riner, Emily Golinsky, Melody & Stephen Leferman, Tiffany McCann, Mike & Alisha Pollastri, Rylie Molloy, Paulina Adams, Rachel Roberts, Jill Lundstrom, Corinne Whittemore, Maddie Wright, Angel Santac Barres & Brad Barres, Mike Pollastri, Jamie & David Mahnken, Chris Dumville & Laura Peterson, Olivia Marshall, Cat Woods.

Celebrating 20 Summers of learning, growing, and having fun!
**Event Supporters**

Thank you to these companies & individuals for their in-kind support:

- Big Dave & The Captain
- 30 Minute Fitness
- 5 Wits Adventures
- 90° Cellars
- AMC Theaters
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- Club Pilates
- Courtney Appar
- Crystal Geyser
- Daniel Bulka Fine Art Portraits
- Del Frisco’s Grille
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- Newburghport Brewing
- Oriental Trading
- Peppermill Skydive
- Picoaboo
- Project Repat
- Providence Bruins
- Remnant Brewing
- Rocke Brothers
- Salem Witch Museum
- Sam Adams Brewery
- Santa’s Village
- Securian Advisors of New England
- Siegelman Photography/Sam Montanez
- Storyland
- Tactical Baby Gear
- T-Bones Steakhouse
- Teeny's Boutique
- Tower Hill Botanic Garden
- Tree Top Adventures
- True North Ale
- Vineyard Vines
- Wachusett Brewery
- Wegmans

And A Very Special Thank You to our Hosts:

Julie & Patrick McVeigh and Reynolds McVeigh Capital Management

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**Donors, Volunteers & Attendees—Thank You!**

- Adam Sparks
- David Trefler
- Emily Veach
- Cat Woods
- Hayley Teich
- Maddie Wright
- Reyza Yawoga
- Rachel Roberts
- Chandi Shroff
- Paulina Adams
- Carrie Baldwin
- Laura Benkov
- Deb Berman
- Cid DeLeo
- Adrian Delucia
- Eric Donati
- Carrie Endries
- Teresa Fiori
- Mary Garner
- Yvette Prayor
- Laurel Reed
- Joanna Brownstein
- Amanda Armstrong
- Jill Lundstrom
- Erin Mawhinney
- Tiffany McCann
- Julia McNamara
- Sarah Means
- Rylie Molloy
- Sam Montanez
- Katherine O'Brien
- Hannah O’Halloran
- Janet & Reid Boswell
- Sophia Boswell
- Cara & Jenna Falconi
- Zoi Lucas & Eric
- Jenn Gordon
- Sarah Tagg
- Ned & Katie Rimer
- Corinne Whittemore
- Jackie Weinstein
- Marilyn & Paul Hinkson
- Sondi & John Stanton
- Deana & Jeff Stephens
- Michael & Brenda Ross
- Jennifer Smithwood-Green
- Julie & Patrick McVeigh
- Courtney & Josh Appar
- James & Elizabeth Appar
- Emily Golinsky & Michelle Cyr
- Emily Lord & Brian Morris
- Alisha & Michael Pollastrri
- Jamie & David Mahnken
- George & Lauren Marwaha
- Eric Endlich & Kristina Krok
- Melody & Stephen Leferman
- Olivia Marshall & Chris Neumann
- Stephen & Gillian Montanez
- Laura Peterson & Chris Durnville
- Angel Santos-Burns & Brad Bumns
- Jennifer & Jared Tramontozzi
- Katie Bunter-Wren & Will Wamaru
- Sophie Wadsworth & Bruce Morgan

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**Live Auction Bidding & Presentations**

Bidding for the Project Repat Camp Shirt Quilt. "From left to right: Katie Bunter-Wren & Will Wamaru, Auctioneer Angel, Emily and Carrie holding the quilt, Jamie and Deana totaling kids, Emily Lord, Josh & Courtney Appar, James & Elizabeth Appar, Amanda Armstrong, Paul & Marilyn Hinkson, Sondi & John Stanton, Jennifer & Jared Tramontozzi. The quilt raised over $500 for camperships!"

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**Live Entertainment by Big Dave and the Captain**

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Photos from Left to Right: Carrie, announcing that the Red Bench at camp would be dedicated in Emily’s honor; Chris Neumann sharing how Starfish impacted his life and encouraging attendees to continue their support; Carrie, opening the bidding for the “Send a Child to Camp” live campership auction with Emily Lord & Brian Morris; Adam Sparks and Cat Woods announcing door prize winners.
In a July ceremony at camp, in front of current campers and staff, families, visitors, board members, and camp alumni, Michael Mahnken, Starfish's 20th-year Camp Director, led a group of campers and staff in a tearful and emotional tribute to the woman who has served as camp's Executive Director for the past two decades. She has dedicated 20 years to building and leading Starfish’s outstanding staff and ensuring that every child has the opportunity to experience the transformative power of summer camp.

The event was attended by current and past campers, staff, and community members, who gathered to express their gratitude for Emily Golinsky’s contributions to Starfish and the broader community.

Emily Golinsky’s tenure at Starfish began in 1999, shortly after the camp was founded. During her time in this role, she oversaw the growth and development of the organization, establishing a strong foundation for future success. Her leadership was instrumental in shaping the camp’s mission and values, as well as its programs and operations. She has been a key figure in the camp’s evolution, guiding it through significant milestones and challenges.

As a result of her dedication and hard work, Starfish has become a beloved and respected part of the community, offering a safe and enriching environment for children of all ages. Emily’s contributions have not only benefited the camp, but also the families and communities that it serves.

To honor Emily’s legacy, Starfish is looking forward to a new chapter in its history. The organization is excited to continue building on the strong foundation that Emily has established, and to serve future generations of campers and families.

The ceremony was not only a celebration of Emily’s tenure, but also a testament to the impact that Starfish has had on the lives of countless children and families over the past two decades. The camp is poised to continue its mission of providing a life-changing summer camp experience for all who seek it.

Thank you to all of the past and current campers, families, staff, and community members who have supported Starfish throughout its journey. The camp is committed to continuing to provide a transformative and enriching experience for all who seek it.

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— Emily Golinsky
Outgoing Executive Director

The Faces of Starfish
Your support helps these and all of our campers access the life-changing support of Starfish. Thank you!

Sophie Wadsworth
Incoming Executive Director

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"Year Shirts" Tradition Expanded

In 2014, a new tradition was born at Starfish as we created our “Awesome Place, Amazing People.” Year Shirts program. Each camper and staff receives a shirt at their first campfire of the summer, with the shirts’ colors and slogans representing each year of participation. We intentionally picked our first year quote – “Watch while I do something amazing.” As campers and staff grow over the years at camp, their shirts help show the world how truly amazing the people, their growing skills, and the Camp is. The second year shirts welcome returners back to camp, with a statement that shows exactly how much self and camp strength is at Starfish.

To celebrate our history, and most importantly, the campers and staff who have made Starfish a better place, it is today, we are introducing a new tradition. We will dedicate a wall of the dining hall to showcasing all the campers, year by year. To make this possible, we need your help. We hope to have each Year Shirt displayed in the dining hall, and we can only do this with your help! Please consider sponsoring a shirt or a year, and help us create a lasting reminder of the amazing people we have been so lucky to work with for 20 years. You can find info and details online, or on our Facebook page, info@camstartfish.org.