

HEART



BROTHERS FOUNDATION™

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



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A WORD FROM OUR CEO

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on another impactful year at the HeartBrothers Foundation, I am grateful for our community of patients, caregivers, volunteers, and supporters. Together, we continue to make a real difference for those facing heart failure.

This year, the HeartBrothers House hosted 120 families for 636 nights, saving an estimated \$127,200 in hotel costs. We provided over \$150,000 in financial assistance, easing burdens during critical times, and held 36 free support group sessions through our Patient, Caregiver, and HeartSisters programs. Our 11th Annual Symposium brought together nearly 50 survivors, caregivers, and experts, advancing heart failure care.

Through campaigns, events, and webinars, we reached thousands with messages of heart health and organ donation. We also hosted six successful fundraisers, including four golf tournaments, our annual Run/Walk, and the O'Brien Benefit. Volunteer Jay Toland was honored as Patriot's Difference Maker for visiting 500 patients, exemplifying the heart of our mission.

Looking ahead, 2026 will be a year of growth, as we expand programs to continue meeting the evolving needs of the heart failure community. None of this would be possible without the generosity and support of our donors, volunteers, and community. Together, we are building hope, compassion, and resilience for all those affected by heart failure.

With gratitude,

MIKE ASHWORTH
US@HEARTBROTHERS.ORG
PRESIDENT & CEO

2025 REVIEW

- **Provided housing for 120 families, totaling 636 nights at the HeartBrothers House saving our guests an estimated \$127,200 in total hotel stays.**
- **Financial Assistance: Provided over \$150,000 to families, easing financial burdens during critical times.**
- **Hosted 36 free support group sessions through our Patient, Caregivers, and HeartSisters Support Group.**
- **Held our 11th Annual Symposium uniting nearly 50 transplant survivors, caregivers, and experts to share advancements in heart failure care.**
- **Outreach: Through campaigns, events, and webinars, we reached thousands with messages of heart health and organ donation advocacy.**
- **Fundraising Events: We hosted six successful fundraisers, including 4 golf tournaments, our annual Run/Walk and the O'Brien Benefit.**
- **Team HeartBrother Volunteer Jay Toland was honored as Patriot's Difference Maker for visiting 500 patients and going above and beyond.**

When the HeartBrothers Foundation was founded over 11 years ago, our mission was simple: to make a difference for just one person facing the challenges of heart failure.

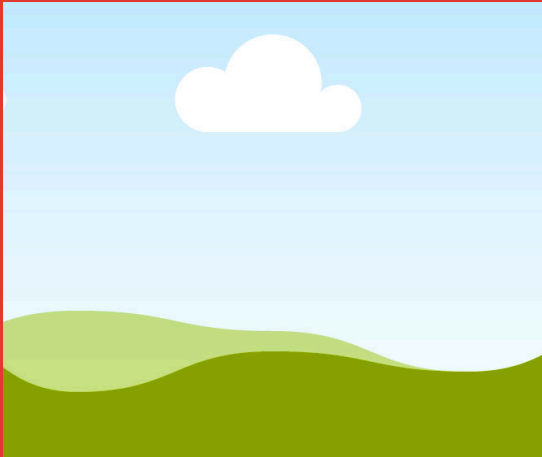
Today, that mission has grown into a thriving community, reaching and supporting countless families across the country.

We are deeply grateful for every individual, caregiver, and supporter who has walked this journey with us. Yet our work continues.

Here's to the year ahead—full of hope, healing, and helping—one heartbeat at a time.



SUPPORT GROUPS



PATIENT

A monthly Support Group for Patients and their loved ones.

"Outside of my family, nothing and no one has done more to aid my recovery from transplant surgery than the HeartBrothers & Sisters I've met through the patient support group. The only thing we have in common is our disease and the extraordinary fact that we're still alive. Not only is that enough; it is the most important thing. The extraordinary empathy and wisdom and honesty we can share because of it is invaluable in helping me not just to continue to live, but to live fully."

- Luke Hill, Transplant Survivor

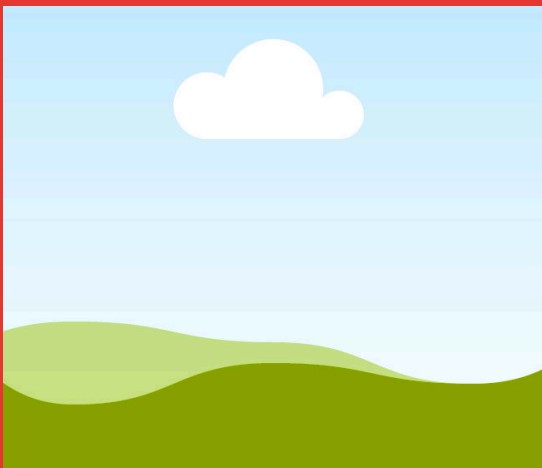


CAREGIVER

A monthly Support Group just for Caregivers.

"Joining the HeartBrothers Caregiver Group is exactly what I needed to do in a time where I felt helpless trying to support my husband during his pre-transplant journey. This group and it has been an incredible source of strength for me. It's a group of genuinely supportive human beings who make sure no one feels alone. It's a sounding board, a place where we can vent, cry, laugh, and persevere together. It's a safe space to ask questions, share fears, and offer encouragement. Knowing there are people who truly understand has made a huge impact on how I support my husband, myself, and my family."

-Meghan Goldweber, Caregiver



HEARTSISTER

A monthly Support Group dedicated to Young Women & Mothers.

"This is a group where I can seek advice on transplant related medical concerns that others may not understand and also express the frustrations or positive feelings related to transplantation in a safe space. The other women I have met through this group support each other wholeheartedly and create a space where everyone feels comfortable to speak about their experiences and provide tips/tricks that can help others throughout the process. I never had anything like this before and am grateful to be a part of this support group now."

- Stephanie McCarthy, Transplant Survivor

OPPORTUNITY: We are looking for one Sponsor to support each of the Support Groups at the \$10,000 level. This sponsorship is first come, first served. That means:

- 1 Patient Support Group Sponsor
- 1 Caregiver Support Group Sponsor
- 1 HeartSister Support Group Sponsor

← This Could be you.

HEARTBROTHERS HOUSE

The HeartBrothers House had been a dream since the founders underwent their own heart transplants over a decade years ago—they had witnessed first-hand how challenging it was to cover spouses' astronomical lodging costs as they traveled back and forth while we received critical care, had LVADs implanted, waited for donor hearts, and recovered from our transplants. HF doctors, nurses, and social workers we've asked have consistently identified short-term housing costs and availability as the greatest gap in care for HF patients and their families.

Launched in 2020, the HeartBrothers House offers two fully furnished apartments at a cost of just \$100 per night to HF families. The operating costs of running our units exceed \$140,000 annually, while the amount we recover is approximately \$60,000, leaving a deficit of \$80,000. With your support, we can bridge this gap and continue operating the units or even reduce the nightly fee. Thank you for your consideration.

"My recent stay at the HeartBrothers House was such a blessing while my husband was unexpectedly hospitalized at Mass General during his heart transplant evaluation. The whole process from start to finish was very easy and the HeartBrothers team was very helpful along the way. The house is located very close to Mass General and it was an easy drive to visit my husband each day. The house is fully stocked and had everything I needed and is conveniently located next to Whole Foods & CVS. I was able to take a walk around the area which was beautiful. I can't thank the HeartBrothers Foundation enough for the support they provided to me during such a stressful time so I could be close to my husband. Thank you from the bottom of my heart."

-House Guest, June 2025



OPPORTUNITY: Support the HeartBrothers House today:

- 12 Months (Both Units)= \$140,000
- 12 Months of Housing= \$70,000
- 6 Months of Housing= \$35,000
- 3 Months of Housing= \$18,000
- 1 Month of Housing= \$6000

Email: us@heartbrothers.org for more details

TEAM HEARTBROTHERS

Team HeartBrothers, now over 100 strong, is a remarkable group of heart transplant survivors and caregivers dedicated to supporting those navigating the challenges of heart failure. Each member brings a wealth of personal experience and empathy, creating a unique and meaningful connection with the patients and families they serve.

Through compassionate support calls, Team HeartBrothers provides a lifeline for heart failure patients, offering guidance, encouragement, and understanding during their most challenging times. These calls are a testament to the power of shared experiences in fostering hope and resilience. In addition to remote support, the team visits all New England transplant centers, working closely with medical teams to provide in-person encouragement and resources. These visits bring comfort and inspiration to patients and their families, reminding them that they are not alone in their journey.

At the core of Team HeartBrothers is a deep commitment to embodying the mission of the HeartBrothers Foundation. Their dedication, strength, and compassion serve as living proof of the impact of community, support, and resilience in overcoming the challenges of heart failure.

The Team also participates in an annual Team Symposium, an event fostering connection and educating members on the latest heart failure advancements. Featuring presentations from top cardiologists and pharmaceutical companies, the symposium ensures the team stays at the forefront of care. We kindly ask that you sponsor the Team Symposium at the \$10,000 level.



◀ **JAY TOLAND, TEAM HEARTBROTHERS LIAISON**
FUN FACT: JAY HAS VISITED OVER 500 PATIENTS SINCE HIS LIFE SAVING TRANSPLANT!



◀ Jay was honored at the Patriots vs. Dolphins game, where he met Robert Kraft and was recognized for his unwavering commitment to the HeartBrothers Foundation. In honor of his incredible volunteer work, the Patriots Foundation awarded HeartBrothers a \$10,000 grant. On behalf of the HeartBrothers, thank you, Jay, for all you do!



PATIENT ASSISTANCE

The HeartBrothers Foundation is committed to easing the financial burden faced by heart failure patients and their families. Our Patient Financial Assistance Program provides support for essential, non-medical expenses such as transportation, lodging, and other costs that can arise during treatment and recovery.

In 2025 alone, we aided over 325 patients through our Patient Grant Program, providing \$165,000 in assistance, averaging nearly \$14,000 per month in grants. By addressing these challenges, we aim to alleviate stress and ensure patients can focus on their health and healing. This program is made possible through the generosity of our donors and sponsors, whose contributions directly impact the lives of those navigating the complexities of heart failure.

325

The total number of grants given in 2025.

\$165K

In 2025, about \$165,000 was awarded to patients during one of the most challenging periods of their lives—before and after heart transplants.

\$690K+

The total contributions made by the HeartBrothers Foundation over the past decade.

OPPORTUNITIES:

Become a Corporate Sponsor to support this program and other essential initiatives. Sponsors will have their logos featured on our website, eblasts, and highlighted on social media throughout November with a gratitude post. Additionally, all Corporate Sponsors will receive semi-annual updates from the HeartBrothers Foundation.

- **Platinum+ Sponsorship \$100,000**
 - 1 available
 - 1 feature in quarterly newsletter
 - Large logo on website, eblasts, and newsletters.
- **Platinum Membership \$50,000**
 - 3 available
 - Large logo on website, eblasts and newsletters.
- **Gold Membership \$30,000**
 - Medium sized logo on website, eblasts and newsletters.
- **Silver Membership \$15,000**
 - Small logo on website, eblasts, and newsletter.
- **Bronze Membership \$10,000**
 - Extra Small logo will be on website, eblasts, and newsletters.

Email us@heartbrothers.org to learn more.

HEART FAILURE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Did you know 1 in 5 people will develop heart failure (HF) in their lifetime? Many cases can be prevented with better awareness and education—and that's where our Heart Failure Awareness Campaign comes in.

Launched in 2023, this Awareness Campaign has already made waves, with over 4 million ad impressions and 200,000+ website visits. Our campaign page offers clear, engaging info on HF prevention, warning signs, treatment options, and everyday management, helping to save lives and improve outcomes for patients and families.

We promote this vital content through e-blasts, social media, newsletters, hospital brochures, and targeted online ads, tracking every step with data to maximize impact.

Now, we're gearing up to make an even bigger difference in 2025—and we need your help!

OPPORTUNITY:

Sponsor our Awareness Campaign at \$10,000, you'll be fueling this life-changing initiative, helping us reach more people, and create a healthier future. All sponsors will be featured on our Heart Failure Awareness webpage.

**META
2024**

1.9 M
Meta Reach

3.1 M
Impressions

**GOOGLE
2024**

1.8 M
Google Reach

600,000
Google Impressions

PATIENT EDUCATION

Heart failure patient education is a critical component of improving outcomes and quality of life for individuals living with this challenging condition. With nearly 80% of heart disease attributed to lifestyle factors such as diet, exercise, and stress management, empowering patients with knowledge can significantly impact their ability to manage and prevent complications.

Education provides patients and caregivers with the tools to understand their diagnosis, navigate treatment options, and make informed decisions about their care. It also fosters a sense of control, reducing feelings of helplessness and improving mental well-being. Patients who are well-informed are more likely to adhere to prescribed therapies, recognize early warning signs, and adopt healthier habits that can enhance their overall health. We will work with our sponsors to provide education regarding topics such as: Symptoms, Treatment Options, HCM, LVADs, Emerging Therapies, Co-Morbidities, and More.

OPPORTUNITIES:

Cardio Chat Patient Guide

Cardio Chats have patients submit their heart-related questions to cardiologists, nurses, and other healthcare professionals. These expert responses are compiled into a comprehensive, easy-to-read downloadable patient guide. The guide provides valuable insights and practical advice, empowering patients with the knowledge they need to manage their heart health effectively.

- \$1000 per Cardio Chat (1 per month)
- \$12,000: Sponsor the year; 1 available

HeartWise Social Posts

Sharing knowledge for healthier hearts with weekly social media posts focused on carefully curated topics. Topics listed above such as: symptoms, LVADs, HCM, or other mutually agreed upon topics.

- 1 Month - \$1200
- 2 months - \$2400
- 3 months - \$3500

Ask the Doctor Videos

"Ask the Cardiologist" features pre-recorded videos with expert cardiologists answering questions submitted by our audience. These videos will be shared on our website and YouTube channel, providing valuable insights and guidance in 20-30 min segments. 6 Max.

- \$2000 per episode
- \$12,000: Sponsorship for the entire year (6 segments); 1 available

Add Ons

You can also include additional features such as targeted ads and reels.

- \$1000 per reel (30 sec or less)
- Ads in any amount (\$500 min recommended)

2025 FUNDRAISERS



O'BRIEN FUNDRAISER (FEB)

Mike O'Brien—a 27-year Quincy police officer, U.S. Marine veteran, and heart transplant survivor—and his family have brought their community together for back-to-back years in support of the HeartBrothers Foundation and have raised over \$150,000 for heart failure patients since the event's inauguration. Their unwavering commitment, combined with the compassion of their remarkable network, has transformed this benefit into a powerful force of hope for families facing the challenges of heart failure.



HEARTBROTHERS RUN/WALK (MAY)

The 2025 HeartBrothers Virtual Event, held over seven days raised an \$35,000, further expanding our programs and support for families. Designed for accessibility and fun, participants from across the country could complete a 5K (3.1 miles) at their own pace, whether in a single day or split over multiple days, regardless of location or athletic ability. Beyond raising crucial funds, this event brought the heart failure community together, fostering connection, support, and shared purpose. Since its inauguration the event as raised over \$55,000 for heart failure patients.



WOODRUFF GOLF CLASSIC (MAY)

Brad Woodruff is a true inspiration, confronting life with unmatched courage. Despite the daily challenges of heart failure, Brad and his remarkable wife, Shaelin, channel their strength and love into making a difference that extends far beyond their own journey through the HeartBrothers Foundation. In its second year, the 2025 Woodruff Golf Classic continued its momentum, raising over \$23,500 to support heart failure patients and their families. With growing community support, this event is quickly becoming a vital part of our mission—helping patients not just survive, but thrive with heart failure.



CONTROLOGY CLASSIC

We are proud to celebrate the success of the 2nd Annual Contrology Classic, a charity golf tournament supporting patients and families affected by advanced heart failure and heart transplantation. Thanks to the dedication of Michelle Fisette and Tommy Hardiman, and the generosity of sponsors including Rampco Construction, Drock Trucking, Professional Ambulance, Ocean State Behavioral, Field Staffing Solutions, Tasca Ford, and many more, the event raised over \$65,000, bringing the total raised in just two years to \$155,000—funds that provide hope, resources, and critical support to individuals and families navigating heart failure.

FUNDRAISERS CONT.



WAIST MANAGEMENT (SEP)

Each year, a dedicated group of friends gathers for an annual golf tournament—a tradition built on camaraderie, competition, and community. This year, that tournament took on a special meaning as it was dedicated in memory of Francesco “Skip” Lagrotteria, a beloved father and friend who recently passed after a long and courageous battle with heart issues. The 6th Annual Waist Management Open was an incredible day. In its first year partnering with the HeartBrothers Foundation, \$8,400 was raised in honor of Skip—thanks to friends, family, and 60 players all looking to make a difference.

2026 FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES:

O'BRIEN FUNDRAISER (FEB)

- Cocktail Hour Sponsor - \$3000 (1 available)
- Entertainment Sponsor - \$1500 (1 available)
- Table Sponsor - \$1000

2025 HEARTBROTHERS RUN/WALK (MAY)

- \$10,000 - Stride Level
- \$5,000 - Pace Level
- \$2,500 - Cool Down Level

WOODRUFF CLASSIC* (MAY)

- Dinner Sponsor - \$2000 (2 available)
- Swag Sponsor - \$2000 (2 available)
- Breakfast Sponsor - \$1500 (1 available)

WAIST MANAGEMENT (SEP)

- Dinner Sponsor - \$2000 (2 Available)
- Cocktail Sponsor - \$2500 (1 Available)
- Table Sponsor - \$1000

*Additional golf tournament sponsorships are available, please email us@heartbrothers.org to learn more.

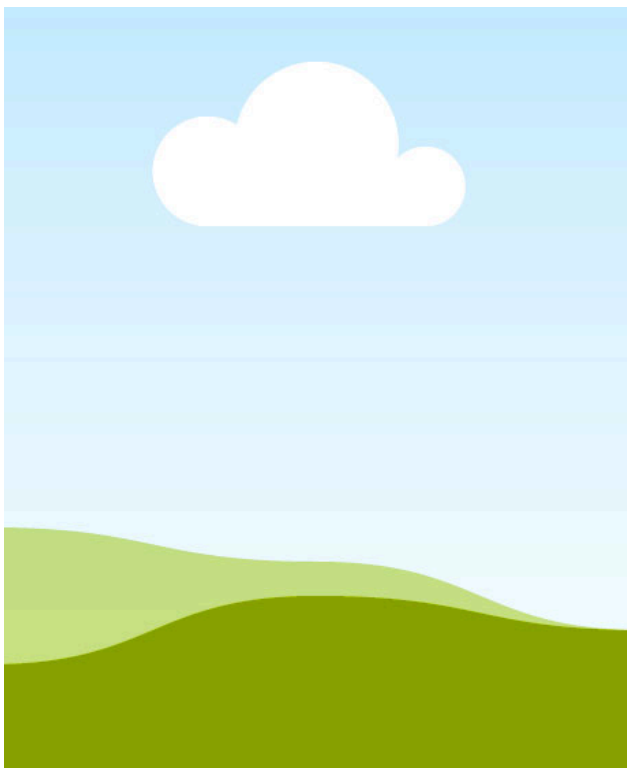
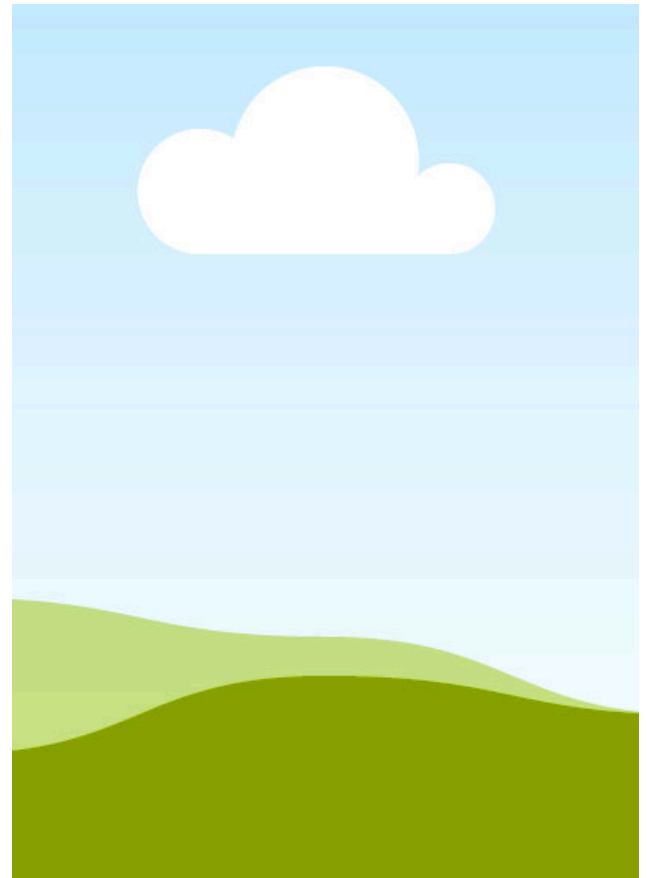
NEED IMPACT STORIES

"OLD

The HeartBrothers Foundation has been an incredible resource for my family during my dad's heart failure journey and extensive hospital stay. They have not only gone above and beyond for my dad, but they have for our family as well! They are constantly visiting my dad in the hospital, calling him, and sending him inspirational messages to keep his spirits up. Every time they come to visit my dad in the hospital, they always check in to see if they bring in anything—Plenty of times they have stocked up his fridge with all his favorites!

They also offer a wonderful Caregiver Support Group. The caregivers have a monthly Zoom meeting but are available via phone for genuine support as well. It is so incredible to have a network of Heartbrothers and their caregivers, as we navigate the highs and lows of heart failure. Since they entered our life over a year ago they have always been there going above and beyond. They are always a phone call away for whatever we need. Our family is sincerely grateful for all the support they have shown our family during this challenging time."

Gina Lagrotteria, Caregiver>



OLD

"The people who came into my life from my first day at Tufts have truly been life-changers. I find myself talking about the HeartBrothers Foundation daily—the caregivers I've met, the support I've received, and the connections I've made. Thanks to their help, this journey didn't feel as overwhelming as it could have. Whenever I had questions or needs, the HeartBrothers were there to provide answers or meet them—sometimes in the simplest yet most thoughtful ways. I once mentioned craving pickles, and the very next day, pickles appeared in my fridge.

The HeartBrothers offer so much more than financial support; the emotional encouragement they provided to me and my family is immeasurable. This journey gave me not only a new heart but also a bigger family. The HeartBrothers are there to walk with you through your journey for a new heart, and their impact is something that stays with you forever."

<Sam Hiscoe, Heart Transplant Survivor

CALL TO ACTION+ FINANCIALS

Thank you for taking the time to learn about the HeartBrothers Foundation and the programs that are changing lives for heart failure patients and their families. Now, we ask for your support to help us continue this vital work.

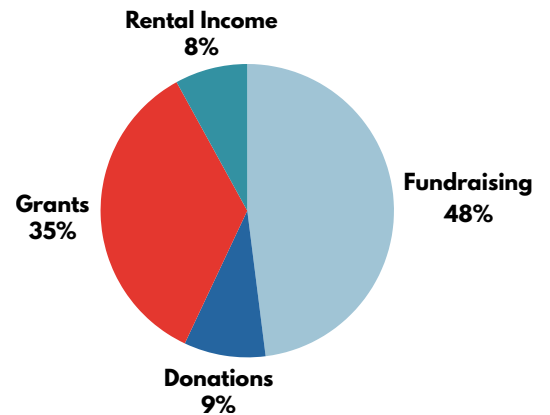
Whether it's through a financial contribution, volunteering, or becoming a partner, your involvement makes a real, tangible difference. Here's a review of the **OPPORTUNITIES** you can support today:

- Support Groups
- The HeartBrothers House
- Team HeartBrothers Volunteers
- Patient Assistance Grants
- Heart Failure Awareness Campaign
- Patient Education
- Fundraisers

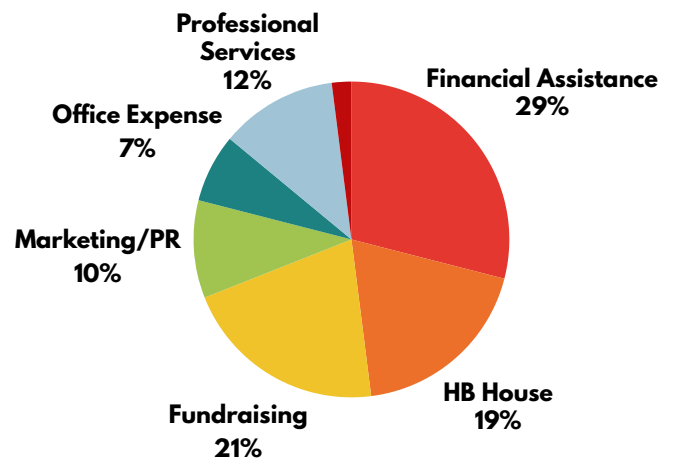
Your support means hope, relief, and community for those who need it most. Together, we can ensure that no one faces heart failure alone. Will you join us?

Email: us@heartbrothers.org to partner with us today!

INCOME



EXPENSES



CONNECT WITH US



heartbrothers.org

800.262.0931