



# *The Renaissance Shoppe*

Co-Founders

Michele Holton & Joanne Hughes



- Over twenty years ago Joanne and Jack Hughes moved to New London from New Jersey, where Joanne was involved with a high-quality resale shop that supported a nonprofit hospital there.
- As luck would have it, Michele Holton was Joanne's real estate agent. During their conversations, Joanne shared her vision to start a resale shop to benefit a local nonprofit in the New London area.
- As luck would have it again, Michele was Chair of the Board of Lake Sunapee Region VNA & Hospice (LSRVNA) at the time.
- Michele approached then President & CEO, Andi Steel, with the idea that LSRVNA be the beneficiary of the resale shop.
- Andi requested a business plan for the shop, created by Jack Hughes, which was presented to the Board.
- After reviewing the plan, Andi and the Board embraced the concept.
- The shop would be housed at and be part of LSRVNA, with profits turned directly back into the vital home care, hospice and community-based wellness services of LSRVNA.
- The shop would also be a wonderful service for people wanting to downsize or find that perfect gift or item for their home.
- The Renaissance Shoppe, named by Michele Holton, officially opened in December 2004 and raised more than \$80,000 in its first year.
- Co-founders Joanne and Michele, along with so many dedicated volunteers, worked tirelessly to make The Renaissance Shoppe the amazing success it remains today.

