



# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Texas Children's Hospital Cancer Warrior: Luis



Cancer Warrior at Texas Children's Hospital  
at one of our many Sky High Paint Parties

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# LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER

## BRITTANY HEBERT FRANKLIN

*CEO and Founder Brittany Franklin shares her honest reflection on a record-breaking year for Sky High for Kids and the more tough moments of leading in the fight against Childhood Cancer.*



*Moments after Cancer Warrior, Payton, cut Brittany Franklin's surprise hair donation at the 2023 Ladies Who Brunch fundraiser.*

“One of the hardest parts about my job is the weekly phone calls I receive from families whose children have just been diagnosed with a form of cancer. They are lost for words, scared, anxious, heartbroken and most of all, desperate and willing to do ANYTHING to save their child. For some reason, God has given me a special gift that allows me to carefully lead families, in the best direction that I know how, when they are given this devastating news.

Recently, I was connected to a father whose daughter was diagnosed with stage IV cancer and as I talked him through our resources, he began to sob and share his transparent feelings of hopelessness and honesty of not knowing what to do or how to move forward. I asked him if this was the first time he let out a good cry since the news and he admitted that it was because his role for the family is to be strong, be the protector. Crying and processing the reality of potentially losing his daughter wasn't an option until this phone call...at that moment, I honestly felt like we were hugging tightly through the phone. When I asked once more, "What can I do to help?" he said "I need to speak to another dad whose has been through this before so I can prepare myself for what's to come". And I did just that.

Very sensitively, softly and with great respect, I made that heart-sinking phone call to another father who has been exactly where he is right now and a father who has lost his daughter to this terrible disease. Without hesitation, he agreed almost immediately because he too was once in this darkness...

**“ Most of us have our health and an abundance of resources that fill our life with happiness so let's celebrate the accomplishments no matter how big or small... ”**

As I reflect on a record fundraising year, I want to encourage all our volunteers and supporters to celebrate the wins with us. Our work is emotionally charging, fast paced and we are often at capacity so naturally, I am always in *fix it* mode. At one point during our insanely busy fall event season, Kristina reminded me that we will always have gaps and a long *to do* list. We will always have things to improve and more money to raise, but that taking one minute each day to celebrate our wins is important, especially as we continue to grow our impact. To stop and count all the good we are doing because it will always outweigh the things we need to *do better*.

And she's right, most of us have our health and an abundance of resources that fill our life with happiness so let's celebrate the accomplishments no matter how big or

**“ I hope everyone knows how much *impact* they are making through Sky High - *life changing impact*. ”**

small. Lets continue to put one foot in front the other the best we know how for those who don't have a clean bill of health - for the 40,000 children in treatment for cancer in the U.S. alone each year.

Although I may be in *go mode* most of the time, I can honestly say that I stop and gaze at the clouds from time to time and in those moments, I cannot help but feel grateful for everyone who has wrapped their arms around our mission. The unwavering amount of dedication and love for the families we serve globally sometimes leaves me in disbelief. There will never be enough time to personally hug and thank everyone, but I hope everyone knows how much impact they are making through Sky High - life changing impact.”

**BRITTANY HEBERT FRANKLIN**  
CEO & Founder, Sky High for Kids



Brittany Franklin sharing the importance of Sky High's mission at Steak 48 Fundraiser

# SKY HIGH'S HISTORY

*After an impressionable fifteen-year-old from Louisiana visited St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, she decided it wasn't fair children had cancer.*

During her trip, she shared a bowl of gumbo with Dalton, a boy undergoing chemotherapy treatments who hadn't eaten in days. She didn't know it then, but that visit would change her life forever.

Eight years later, Brittany Hebert Franklin founded Sky High for Kids after being challenged to raise \$10,000 for the very hospital that made such an impact on her. She, and a handful of girlfriends, hosted Sky High for Kids' first event: a sporting clay tournament. These women went on to raise \$50,000 and the rest, as they say, is history.

Today, Sky High for Kids hosts a plethora of fundraising events including banquets, golf tournaments, a brunch, sporting clay tournaments and more events across the country. The organization is comprised of a small staff, a board of directors and an army of volunteers.



Brittany Franklin's first visit to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital



Sky High's first donation to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

# OUR MISSION

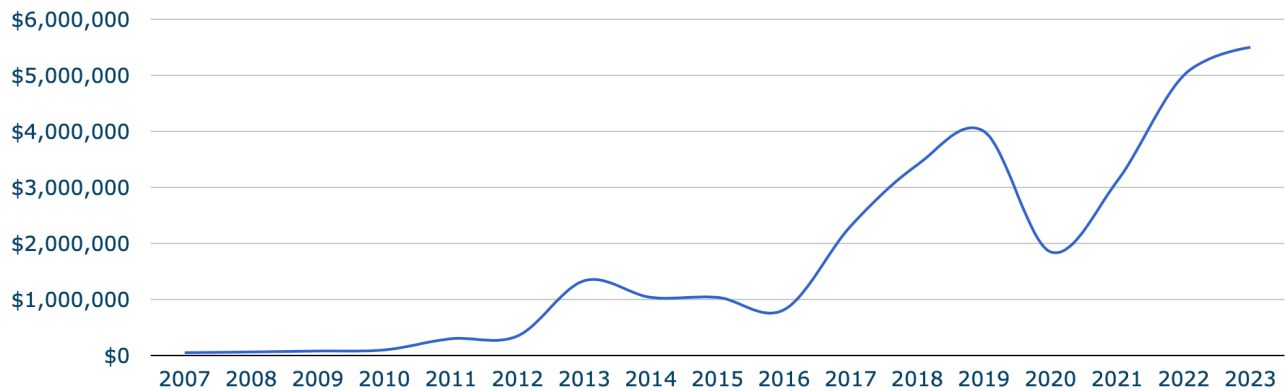
Sky High for Kids' mission is to bring communities together to provide comfort, fund research and save lives of those fighting Pediatric Cancer and other life-threatening conditions.

# OUR VISION

## End Childhood Cancer.

The vision of Sky High for Kids is to end Childhood Cancer not just in the United States but, across the globe.

## OUTGOING DONATIONS BY YEAR



See Our 2023 Financials on pg.42



Since 2007, Sky High for Kids has supported leading hospitals and research centers to help close the gap in Childhood Cancer rates. To date, the organization has donated over **\$31 Million** to benefit Pediatric Cancer patients and research. What began as a small sporting clay tournament has grown into a multi-million dollar charity that is truly making a difference and saving lives.

# 2023 TOP SPONSORS & PARTNERS

## CORPORATE PARTNERS

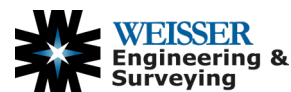


WARREN GROUP

## FAMILY MEMBER SPONSORS



WARREN GROUP





# CHARITY OF CHOICE PARTNERS



# TOP EVENT SPONSORS



Allied Resources Group  
Air Products APEX Services  
American FR & Safety  
Antina Cattle Co  
Anything Bling  
ArchRock  
Arseal Technologies  
Baker Hughes  
Bank Of Texas/USI  
BCRN Aesthetics  
Beth Lawrence  
Bulwark FR  
Cadence Bank  
CBRE  
Cenovus Energy Inc.  
Charger  
Clark Smith  
Clean Aire Partners  
Commerce Bank  
Conoco Phillips

Coosa Consulting  
Courtney Baker  
Dan Michel- UBS Private Wealth  
Donna Lemoine  
Eagle Infrastructure Services  
Edgen Murray-Sumitomo  
Eleven One Stables  
Emily Mitchell Wellness  
Energy Transfer  
EnVen Energy Corporation  
Esther Mazzarino  
Fig Tree Energy Services  
Franklin & Sons  
Furino & Sons, Incorporated  
Gallagher/Berkley  
Gray Reed  
Gulf Offshore Rentals  
Industrial Piping Specialist  
Inscription Capital

Integrated Power Services  
IREX  
ISN  
Jen Grigsby  
J. Morrison & P. Wallace  
Kestrel Field Services, Inc.  
KLX Energy  
Larrett Energy  
LJA Energy & LJA Survey  
Logan Lester  
Lori Donnell  
Lovelady  
Lynette Cone  
Maverick Well Pluggers  
Mike Appling  
MJ Sheridan of Texas  
Momentum BMW  
MPG LLC  
Natalie Wright

Newpark Resources  
Old Republic Title  
PetroPlex Properties  
Peugh Family  
Pipeliners Local 798  
Power Infrastructure Partners  
POWER THERM MAXIM  
Precision Build  
Precision Flo  
Price Gregory International, LLC  
Rice Residential Design  
Ruple Land & Ranch.  
Seven Point Solutions  
Shaftel Diamonds  
SLB  
SSAB  
Stout  
Strike  
Sydney Mafrige Kerns

Targa Resources  
Target Hospitality  
The Modern Group, Ltd.  
Tim Ping  
Topographic OM, Inc.  
Traverse Exploration  
Tricia Dillick  
U.S. Pipeline, Inc.  
U.S. Venture, Inc.  
Universal Field Services  
Vance and Associates, Inc.  
Velocigo Inc.  
Venable's Construction  
Vinson & Elkins LLP  
Vital Energy  
W2 Landworks  
Winston Energy Supply

# CANCER WARRIOR: TRISTAN

*In the words of his mother, Mirabel:*



*Tristan on the road to recovery after below the knee amputation*



“First and foremost, we would like to thank God for all the blessings he has bestowed on Tristan and our family and for the amazing oncology team at Cook Children’s Medical Center, with the help of MD Anderson team. Secondly, we would like to thank Sky High for Kids, our family, and friends for all the love, prayers, and support they have given Tristan. We would also like to thank the Mafrige Ranch, Patrick and Carrie Hodgins for an unforgettable hunting trip last year. Tristan now thinks he is a professional hunter.

Tristan is a 14-year-old boy with a heart of gold who loves God, his family and friends, and football. A typical Texas boy with old fashion mannerisms. He loves being an uncle to his nephews Anthony, Alexander, and Asher. He loves hanging out with his older brothers, cousins, and friends. He is a natural comedian who can never keep a straight face. Don’t be intimidated by his size (5’8”; 220 lb. linebacker), he is a teddy bear; cute, loving, and kind.

Before cancer Tristan was very active in sports. He played football, basketball, baseball, and whatever other physical activities Dad could

“ He does **not** let cancer **hold him back** and plans to make a comeback with a big bang. ”

find for him to do. He does not let cancer hold him back and plans to make a comeback with a big bang.

He still participates in athletics as a manager. Our Greenwood coaches and kids have gone far and above to make Tristan part of the team. He still remains active in the gym with his dad and his brothers. Running after his nephews keeps him pretty active too.

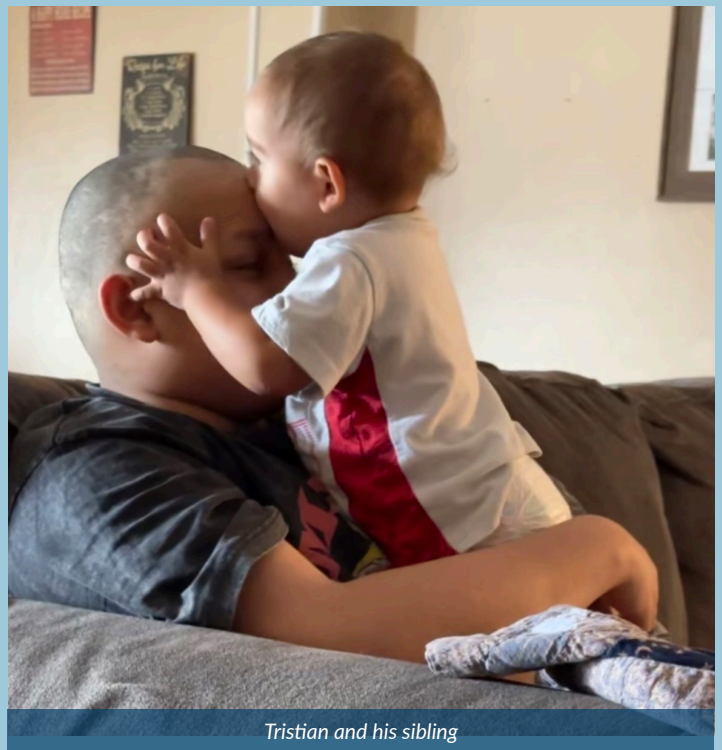
Tristan's first battle began on May 4, 2021, at 12 years old when he was diagnosed with stage 3 Osteosarcoma localized in his right leg below his knee. He had a below the knee amputation on July 27, 2021. He went through 27 cycles of aggressive chemo treatments. On January 10, 2022, he had his last chemo treatment and was in remission.

“ Mom, I got God by my side, and I will win. ”

Tristan's second battle began on April 27, 2023, with relapsed Osteosarcoma, at 14 years old on the right side of his neck area. He began another round of aggressive chemo treatments soon after. We were referred to the amazing oncology team at MD Anderson for Tristan's surgery. On August 15, 2023, Tristan underwent a successful surgery. Dr. Austin was able to remove the entire tumor in his neck. We received news of his pathology report on August 24, 2023. His tumor was 90% dead, lymph nodes tested negative for Osteosarcoma. This has been the best news we have received in months; thanks be to God and all his glory.

Tristan is always smiling no matter what the situation. His strength and faith in God has been a true inspiration to us all. He has embraced both trials without any questions. His resilience is unreal. He always tells me, “Mom, I got God by my side, and I will win”. Tristan is the true definition of a warrior.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts and soul for the continued love, prayers, and support. We could not have gotten through this without you all.”



Tristan and his sibling



Tristan & family on a Sky High hunting Adventure

# 2023 EVENT RECAPS





**SAVING KIDS. HEALING FAMILIES.**

# HOUSTON BANQUET & SPORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT

## MARCH 30-31

*Sky High for Kids celebrates a successful kickoff to their 2023 fundraising season, raising over \$1.1 million through their annual Houston Banquet and Sporting Clay Tournament, uniting the community in support of children battling cancer.*



*Moments after winning Cancer Warrior, Payton's heARTwork in the Live Auction*

Sky High for Kids launched its 2023 event fundraising season with the annual Houston Banquet and Sporting Clay Tournament at the end of March. With the steadfast support of a committed team, generous donors, and enthusiastic volunteers, the organization successfully raised over \$1.1 million to advance its mission.

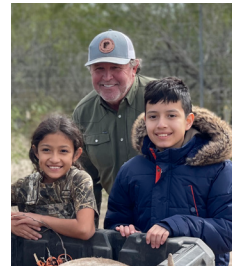
The two-day event, hosted Thursday, March 30th and Friday, March 31st, showcased the collective effort of the community. The Sporting Clay

Tournament at the Greater Houston Sports Club kicked off the festivities, where participants enjoyed friendly competition. The day culminated in an awards ceremony featuring live music, tasty crawfish, and an exciting raffle. Notably, several Cancer Warrior families, including the Angelle's, the Cloutier's, and the Martinez family, graced the event, with Cancer Warrior Jayden clinching the HOA Junior Award.



Cancer Warrior, Jayden moments after winning the HOA Junior Award

The momentum continued into Friday evening at The Revaire, where 600 guests convened for a memorable banquet. Amidst a silent auction featuring 67 packages and a sumptuous dinner by A Fare Extraordinaire, attendees were moved by Chip Probe's poignant speech, sharing his family's journey battling Pediatric Cancer.



Forever in Our Hearts: Jayden gained his angel wings 6/16/23.

The evening's highlight was the lively live auction, led by the very pregnant CEO Brittany Franklin, offering exclusive experiences and sought-after items like a trip to Costa Rica and tickets to the FedEx St. Jude Golf Championship. Guests showed remarkable generosity, with the silent auction raising \$140,050 and the live auction an impressive \$577,100, contributing to a total fundraising of \$717,150 for the night.

Looking forward, Sky High for Kids draws inspiration from esteemed guests of honor, Vicki and Steve Weyel, who share the vision of a cancer-free future for all children. Their words echo the organization's mission, emphasizing the collective effort needed to combat Childhood Cancer and bring hope to families worldwide.

Sky High extends heartfelt gratitude to everyone involved, from event co-chairmen Taylor Sass and Amanda Fenn to dedicated volunteers and sponsors. Their passion and generosity drive the mission forward, offering hope to countless children in their time of need.



Walt Sass aiming for a target at the Sporting Clay Tournament



Sky High team and volunteers celebrating one of the generous Cooking Sponsors

# TULSA GOLF TOURNAMENT & LADIES WHO LUNCH

APRIL 17

*Sky High for Kids makes a triumphant return to Tulsa, Oklahoma, hosting their second annual fundraising event at the Tulsa Country Club, where over \$260,000 was raised to combat Childhood Cancer through a Golf Tournament and Ladies Who Lunch*

On April 17, Sky High for Kids journeyed to Oklahoma for their second annual fundraising event at the Tulsa Country Club. Divided into a Golf Tournament and Ladies Who Lunch, the day raised over \$260,000 in the fight against Childhood Cancer, showcasing the steadfast dedication of their team, donors, and volunteers.



Lilac Guzman, Jennifer Pigott, Megan Gold, Kristina Yantis, & Taylor Sass

Golf tournament participants enjoyed friendly competition over 18 holes, followed by a reception featuring remarks from Jason and Jennifer Pigott, parents of Childhood Cancer survivor Halie. Their heartfelt speech emphasized the crucial mission of Sky High, drawing from personal experience as their daughter benefited from Immunotherapy at Texas Children's Hospital, a program supported by Sky High's \$10 million pledge.

Meanwhile, attendees of the Ladies Who Lunch savored a delicious meal while listening to guest speaker Sara Lhose share her family's journey with Childhood Cancer. Sara's poignant words, rooted in her daughter's leukemia survival, highlighted the profound impact of Sky High's mission. Throughout the day, guests had the opportunity to bid on various auction items, including a generous donation from Clean Athlete—a 2018 Yamaha drive EFI golf cart.

Brittany Hebert Franklin, CEO and Founder of Sky High for Kids, expressed profound gratitude for the Tulsa community's support, noting its significant impact on countless children and families. "We could not be more grateful for the support Sky High for Kids has received from the Tulsa community," Franklin said. "Their dedication to our mission of fighting Pediatric Cancer has made an incredible impact on so many lives. We look forward to continuing our work together to make a meaningful impact in the lives of those who need it most."

This year's fundraising success builds upon the \$426,000 raised at the inaugural Tulsa Golf Tournament and Ladies Who Brunch in 2022, supporting vital initiatives such as Sky High's pledge to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and providing support for pediatric patients attending Saint Francis Camp Strong—a transformative experience for children with cancer and heart conditions and their siblings. Sky High would like to thank Vital Energy and all of the event sponsors who made this event possible as well as Event Co-Chairs Lilac Guzman and Carlos Connerly for their unwavering support of Sky High's mission.



Golf Tournament participant gears up for a big swing



# LAFAYETTE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sky High for Kids returns to Lafayette, Louisiana, splitting their 16th annual fundraiser into a spring Golf Tournament and a Fall Banquet, with the golf event raising \$155,000.

APRIL 27



Dedicated member of Sky High's Lafayette Committee

Sky High for Kids returned to where the organization began in Lafayette, Louisiana. This year, they revamped their 16th Annual Lafayette Fundraiser into two distinct events: a spring golf tournament and a fall banquet. With the CEO and Founder welcoming her beautiful baby girl, the dedicated Lafayette team and volunteers held down the home fort and hosted the Golf Tournament on April 27th, achieving a fundraising total of \$155,000 to combat Childhood Cancer.

At Oakbourne Country Club, guests enjoyed a day of camaraderie and giving back. Golfers of all levels, alongside community leaders and local businesses, came together for a round of golf, followed by an awards ceremony and lively entertainment courtesy of Sky High's beloved band, The Guzzlers. Moreover, attendees had the opportunity to participate in a raffle for an exceptional Express S4 Golf Cart, generously donated by Cajun Carts—a prize set to be awarded at the Banquet on October 27th.



Chad Trahan, Deanna Saizon, Todd Trahan, & Chrissy Smith

Read about our Lafayette Banquet on pg.31

# DEWVILLE SOCIAL CLUB 20TH BAKER'S BOIL

APRIL 29

The Dewville Social Club raises \$161,000 for Sky High for Kids at 20th Annual Baker's Boil

The Dewville Social Club is committed to do more in the community by initiating purpose-driven events to effectively help those who find themselves in need and raising awareness for key charitable organizations through fundraising. Since learning about Sky High for Kids mission, The Dewville Social Club has dedicated it's Annual Baker's Boil to raising funds for Sky High and have even committed to raising \$1 million for the organization.

The 20th Annual Baker's Boil, hosted by the Dewville Social Club, proved to be a resounding success as it raised \$161,000 in support of Sky High for Kids' mission to end Childhood Cancer. Hosted on Saturday, April 29th, in La Vernia, Texas, this event was a resounding success for all of those who attended.

Attendees were treated to a thrilling day of activities, including a fierce food competition featuring dishes like bold Bloody Mary's and decadent desserts prepared by a record number of 36 cook teams. Live music performances by local musicians added to the festive atmosphere, while guests showcased their talents in the Washer Tournament.

As the sun set, the excitement continued with a live auction and raffle drawing, which included a kids raffle with over 10 items up for grabs. The evening concluded with a sense of accomplishment and unity as attendees reflected on the impact of their contributions in the fight against Pediatric Cancer.

This year's Baker's Boil surpassed expectations, building on the success of previous events and further solidifying the Dewville Social Club's commitment to supporting Sky High for Kids' vital initiatives. Sky High for Kids is grateful to the Dewville Social Club for choosing their organization to be their Charity of Choice. Funds raised from this event benefit Sky High's \$20 Million Pledge Commitment to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.



Richie Bartosh, Joe Kern, Kristina Yantis, and Cancer Warrior Family



Crawfish cook team showing off their custom shirts

# HOWARD ENERGY PARTNERS BOATS ON DA BAYOU

## JUNE 16

Howard Energy Partners hosts 'Boats on Da Bayou,' raising \$70,000 in support of Pediatric Cancer initiatives, in partnership with Sky High for Kids



One of many boats out on the Bayou



Michael Johnston and Kristina Yantis

Howard Energy Partners' "Boats on Da Bayou" event was not only a tremendous success but also a testament to their unwavering dedication as one of Sky High for Kids' most steadfast sponsors. Howard Energy's unique position as the sole company holding the titles of Family Member Sponsor, Charity of Choice Partner, and Corporate Partner in Sky High's Energy Classic fundraiser underscores their exceptional commitment to making a difference.

Hosted at the charming Belle Oaks Event Center, the day was filled with laughter, camaraderie, and a shared sense of purpose. As participants engaged in a range of activities, from the spirited corn hole tournament to the thrilling poker run, the spirit of community and philanthropy was palpable.

Under the leadership of Michael Northcutt and Michael Johnston, Howard Energy Partners continues to set the standard for corporate social responsibility. Their dedication to Sky High for Kids was evident in every aspect of the event, from its meticulous planning to its impressive fundraising efforts.

As the event came to a close, attendees departed with a sense of fulfillment, knowing that their contributions would make a meaningful difference in the lives of children and families facing Pediatric Cancer. The \$70,000 donation presented later in the year during an appreciation luncheon served as a poignant reminder of the impact of collective action and shared values.

Sky High for Kids is grateful for the strong relationship shared with Howard Energy Partners and all of the avenues in which they support Sky High's mission. Howard Energy Partners continue to lead by example, inspiring others to join them in their mission to create a better, brighter future for all.

# STEAK 48 FUNDRAISER AUGUST 9

*Sky High for Kids' Steak 48 Reception Raises \$83,000, Uniting Community in Support of Pediatric Cancer Fighters alongside event sponsors TF Warren Group and Tactical Automation.*

Sky High for Kids hosted an unforgettable fundraising Reception at popular Houston restaurant Steak 48, where generosity, heartwarming stories, and community spirit filled the air. With an impressive \$83,000 raised, the event served as a beacon of hope and support for children battling cancer.

Guests were moved by the heartfelt speech delivered by Kyle Angelle, who bravely shared the story of his daughter Payton and her courageous battle with cancer. Through his poignant words, attendees gained insight into the challenges faced by families affected by Pediatric Cancer and the importance of organizations like Sky High for Kids in providing support and resources.

The success of the Steak 48 Reception wouldn't have been possible without the generous support of sponsors Terry Warren of TF Warren Group and Garrett Gagliano of Tactical Automation. Their dedication to the cause exemplifies the power of community and collaboration in making a difference in the lives of others.

A special thank you was extended to the incredible staff at Steak 48 for their hospitality and assistance in making the event a resounding success. Their commitment to excellence ensured that guests enjoyed an unforgettable evening of camaraderie and philanthropy.

With the room filled to capacity with 100 people, the Steak 48 Reception truly sold out in every sense of the word, underscoring the



Sky High for Kids Team present at the event



Laura and Kyle Angelle

overwhelming support and solidarity of the community in the fight against Pediatric Cancer. As attendees departed, they carried with them the knowledge that their contributions would make a meaningful difference in the lives of Cancer Warriors.



Dean and Sarah Zubowski, Danny Shaftel



Moments after Cancer Warrior, Payton, rang the bell at our Ladies Who Brunch fundraiser, marking the end to her battle with cancer. Read more on pg. 24

# WEST TEXAS BANQUET & SPORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT

*Sky High for Kids launches Childhood Cancer Awareness Month with their annual West Texas Banquet and Sporting Clay Tournament, raising over \$840,000 while celebrating the bravery of Cancer Warriors like Luis, Marlee, and Tristan and their families.*

## SEPTEMBER 7-8

In September, Sky High for Kids geared up for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month with a bustling schedule. The organization kicked off the month in Midland, Texas, hosting their annual West Texas Banquet and Sporting Clay Tournament on Thursday, September 7th and Friday, September 8th, raising an impressive \$840,000 over two eventful days.

The festivities commenced at the Bush Convention Center on Thursday evening, where guests donned their western attire for an evening dedicated to the organization's mission. A lively cocktail hour fostered connections and reflections, leading into a meticulously prepared dinner. Emceed by Taylor Sass, the evening emphasized the profound impact of Sky High for Kids' mission on the lives of children and families confronting health challenges.

Sky High for Kids was humbled to have Danny and Michelle Peugh as the Guests of Honor. They go above and beyond to serve the mission of Sky High, even assisting with families fighting cancer directly.

The highlight of the evening unfolded with the live auction, skillfully led by CEO and Founder Brittany Hebert



Sky High for Kids Team with Cancer Warrior, Marlee



Schlumberger Cooking Sponsor

Franklin. Offering an array of exclusive experiences, the auction sparked excitement and generosity among attendees, advancing the noble cause championed by Sky High for Kids. Notably, in attendance were Luis, Marlee, and Tristan, all courageous Cancer Warriors, along with their families. Additionally, the organization auctioned off two Cancer Warrior Adventures for Luis and Tristan, providing them with memorable experiences, all made possible by generous donors.

The excitement carried into the following morning at Jake's Clays, where guests eagerly engaged in a day of friendly competition. Split into morning and afternoon flight times, participants showcased their accuracy and skill through rounds of sporting clays. A touching balloon release honored the brave Sky High Angels, serving as a poignant reminder of the resilience and bravery exhibited by those battling cancer.

One highlight from the Sporting Clay Tournament was having a few of our Cancer Warrior families in attendance. Trevor even participated in the Clay Shoot and walked away with the HOA Junior award!

These two days truly showcased the heart of the West Texas community and the mission of Sky High for Kids shined through every aspect of the fundraiser. "The compassion and commitment exhibited by the West Texas community have truly been instrumental in making a difference in the lives of countless children and families," said Brittany Franklin, "Together, we are bringing hope to those who need it the most."



Participants in Sporting Clay Tournament



Guests gathered before the Sporting Clay Tournament for a balloon release



Taylor Sass, Danny and Michelle Peugh



Cancer Warrior, Luis showing off his heARTwork with family

# LADIES WHO BRUNCH HOUSTON

## SEPTEMBER 29

650 women gather to raise over \$1 million at Sky High for Kids' annual Ladies Who Brunch fundraiser to fund Pediatric Cancer research projects.



Brittany Franklin, Cancer Warrior, Payton, & Dr. Dreyer of Texas Children's Hospital

Cancer Warrior, Payton, rings the bell to mark the end of her cancer treatment

Sky High for Kids reached new heights of success with its annual Ladies Who Brunch event, hosted on Sunday, September 24, 2023, at The Revaire. Drawing over 650 women, this remarkable gathering raised over \$1 million to aid children battling Pediatric Cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.

The day unfolded with a series of poignant moments, each underscoring the organization's unwavering dedication to its cause. Guests

were welcomed with a cocktail hour featuring live painting by artist Tyler Kay and a silent auction boasting more than 87 unique packages. From luxurious getaways to exquisite dining experiences, each item promised an unforgettable adventure in support of Sky High for Kids' noble mission.

As the program commenced, event co-chairs Jessica Morrison and Logan Lester Tafelski greeted attendees with remarks highlighting the profound impact of Sky High for Kids' mission.





Jessica Morrison, Guest of Honor Kathy Norris, and Logan Lester Tafelski

Set against a “garden party with a pop of gold” theme, guests savored a delectable brunch while enjoying a runway show sponsored by Alchemia and Modern Marla, showcasing the latest fashion trends and designs.

The emotional climax of the afternoon revolved around a heartfelt bell ceremony dedicated to Payton, a courageous Cancer Warrior who marked the end of her two-and-a-half-year battle with lymphoma. As Payton rang the bell, the room erupted in a cascade of golden confetti, symbolizing her extraordinary journey of resilience and triumph.

The event culminated in a spirited auction led by Brittany Hebert Franklin, featuring an array of items and packages generously donated by supporters. From heARTwork painted by Cancer Warrior Payton to luxurious getaways and exquisite jewelry, each contribution directly supported Sky High for Kids' pledges to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital and Texas Children's Hospital.



Jennifer Grigsby and Marla Hurley



Nancy Almodovar, Bianca Calderon de Lachica, Lissy de Lachica

Reflecting on the event's success, Logan Lester Tafelski expressed pride in being part of the next generation of philanthropists, highlighting the collective effort of women from all walks of life in supporting Sky High for Kids' cause. Jessica Morrison echoed this sentiment, underscoring the dedication of the event's attendees in eradicating Childhood Cancer and bringing hope to families in need. Sky High thanks Presenting Sponsor Bianca Calderon de Lachica Law Firm for supporting this event.



Ladies Who Brunch Committee celebrates raising over \$1 million to end Childhood Cancer

# ENERGY CLASSIC SPORTING CLAY TOURNAMENT

## SEPTEMBER 29

Oil and Gas industry leaders: Summit Midstream, Howard Energy Partners, Pinnacle Midstream, and Navigator CO2 unite for Sky High for Kids' Energy Classic fundraiser, raising over \$440,000 to combat Childhood Cancer.



Volunteers, Sporting Clay Tournament participants, and key Energy Classic committee members

This year our Summit Midstream Corporate Event was joined by a few other oil and gas industry power houses Howard Energy Partners, Pinnacle Midstream, and Navigator CO2 to create the Energy Classic event, hosted at the Greater Houston Sports Club on Friday, September 29, 2023. Bringing together industry leaders, community members, and passionate supporters, the event raised over \$440,000 to combat Childhood Cancer.

The day began with an extremely impactful speech from Craig Gardella, a dear friend to Sky High, who shared

his daughter Gia's journey with cancer who ultimately gaining her angel wings in 2019. Continuing our tradition, we honored all our Sky High Angels, including Gia, with a heartfelt balloon release, celebrating their enduring spirit and legacy

The sporting clay tournament followed, where teams engaged in a friendly game of competition, all rallying behind Sky High for Kids' mission. Following the tournament, attendees enjoyed a delightful lunch provided by the event's generous sponsors.

The excitement persisted with a lively program featuring tournament awards, live music by The Guzzlers, and the chance to win incredible raffle



prizes, including a decked-out golf cart donated by Southwest Pipe USA.

The event's success was made possible by the generous support of sponsors, including midstream energy leaders Summit Midstream, Howard Energy Partners, Pinnacle Midstream, and Navigator CO2.

# HEROES CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Heroes Charity Golf Tournament tees off in Grapevine, Texas, showcasing a commitment to community and charity, raising over \$83,700 in its latest installment to benefit Sky High for Kids and other local causes.

## OCTOBER 1-2



Kristina Yantis, Brittany Franklin, and the Heroes Charity Team

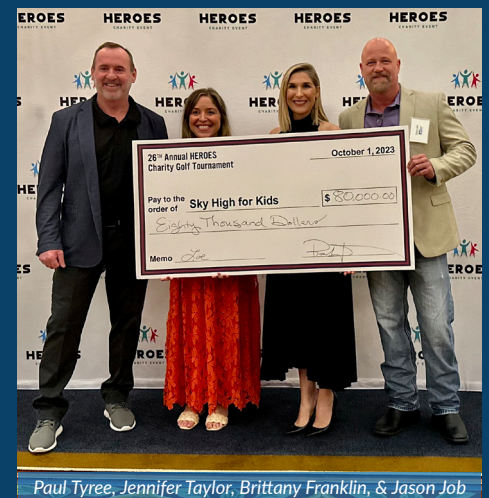
In Grapevine, Texas, the 26th annual Heroes Charity Golf Tournament and Reception united individuals and organizations in support of charitable causes. The festivities commenced with a vibrant reception October 1st, where guests gathered for an evening of celebration and fundraising. Notable among the evening's highlights was Sky High's CEO and Founder, Brittany Franklin, who lent her auctioneering skills to the event. Attendees eagerly participated in bidding wars for exciting auction packages, including the opportunity to send Cancer Warrior Lexand on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to a Cowboys Football game\*. The palpable generosity and enthusiasm demonstrated by attendees underscored their commitment to making a difference in their community.

On October 2nd, participants reconvened at the esteemed Lantana

Golf Club for the Heroes Charity Golf Tournament. With a scramble format injecting a sense of friendly competition, golfers took to the course with enthusiasm, knowing that their efforts were contributing to a greater cause. As they navigated the fairways and greens, they were fueled by the knowledge that their participation was making a meaningful impact on the lives of others.

Since its inception, the Heroes Charity Event has raised over \$1.7 million to benefit charities in the communities where participants live and work. This remarkable achievement is a testament to the unwavering support and generosity of the event's sponsors and business partners, who are deeply committed to charitable endeavors that positively impact the community. Sky High, a select charity championing initiatives that improve the lives of children, families, and veterans, has been a proud beneficiary of the

Heroes Charity Golf Tournament since 2013. Over the years, the partnership has resulted in over \$650,000 in donations to support Sky High's vital mission. In 2023 alone, the Heroes Charity Golf Tournament donated an impressive \$83,700 to Sky High. Proceeds from this event directly support Sky High and Combat Marine Outdoors.



Paul Tyree, Jennifer Taylor, Brittany Franklin, & Jason Job

\*Read about Lexand's Adventure on pg.36-37

# BUCKEYE FOR SKY HIGH

Sky High for Kids' 6th Annual Buckeye for Sky High with TF Warren Banquet and Golf Tournament: A Record-Breaking Success in the Fight Against Pediatric Cancer raising over \$1.4 Million.

## OCTOBER 19-20



Phil Bischof, Carlos Gutierrez, Dave King, Brittany Franklin, and Terry Warren



Golf Tournament participants

In October, Sky High for Kids achieved a monumental milestone at its 6th Annual Buckeye for Sky High Banquet and Golf Tournament, hosted at The Omni PGA Frisco Resort on October 19th and 20th, 2023. In partnership with Buckeye Partners and the TF Warren Group, this extraordinary event raised an unprecedented \$1.4 million to support children battling Pediatric Cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.

The event commenced with a banquet, where over 170 guests were warmly welcomed to an evening of camaraderie and philanthropy. A lively reception, elegant dinner, and inspiring program highlighted Sky High for Kids' progress and determination to find a cure for Childhood Cancer. Emotions ran high as the video detailing Cancer Warrior Payton's remarkable journey was celebrated, marking the culmination of her two-and-a-half-year battle with lymphoma. Followed by a video from Rick Shadyac, President & CEO of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital - ALSAC, made especially for this event.

The evening's pinnacle was a spirited live auction, featuring nine exclusive packages that garnered enthusiastic bids from generous supporters. Major sponsors, including Consolidated, ESDC, NGL Supply Co. Ltd., and Simpson & Brown Inc., along with over 40 other companies, contributed to the event's success.

The following day, 120 golfers teed off for a day of camaraderie and charity on the fairways. The event concluded with an awards luncheon celebration, where champions were crowned and the spirit of giving prevailed. Brittany Hebert Franklin, CEO and Founder of Sky High for Kids, expressed gratitude for the record-breaking achievement, emphasizing Buckeye Partners and TF Warren's dedication and support in making a profound impact on the lives of children battling Pediatric Cancer.

Together, this event has raised over \$6.8 million to date, reinforcing the collective commitment to fight Childhood Cancer and provide hope to families in need.



Buckeye Partners and Sky High for Kids team with \$1.4 Million check presentation



Tor Larson, Joe Sauger, Kristina Harris, Robert Harris, Derek Larson

# YOUNG PROFESSIONALS GOLF INVITATIONAL

OCTOBER 23

*Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: Sky High for Kids' Annual Young Professionals Golf Invitational Raises nearly \$200,000 for Pediatric Cancer Research and Support*



Golf Tournament participants

Sky High for Kids' annual Young Professionals Golf Invitational, hosted by Sky High for Kids, concluded with a resounding success, thanks to the unwavering support and participation of attendees. Together, nearly \$200,000 was raised to fund Pediatric Cancer research and support families impacted by this challenging illness.

The event owes its success to the dedicated committee members, volunteers, and sponsors whose invaluable contributions made it possible. Their commitment to the cause significantly impacted the lives of children fighting cancer.

With two golf flights, participants enjoyed a day filled with camaraderie, competition, and shared purpose at Westwood Golf Club. Their enthusiasm and passion for the cause

were truly inspiring, setting the stage for an unforgettable event. They also learned about the importance of Sky High's mission by hearing the story of Childhood Cancer Survivor, Dylan, as told by her father Chip Probe.

After a round of golf, participants enjoyed lunch, bought tickets for some incredible raffle baskets, as well as an award ceremony where few lucky teams got to leave with a coveted one-of-a-kind hand-carved duck that were hand-painted by Cancer Warriors.

Sky High for Kids' Young Professionals group, an extension within the organization, meets quarterly for exclusive events aimed at providing comfort for cancer warriors undergoing treatment. The group serves as a platform for giving back and networking opportunities for upcoming individuals in their careers.



Taking a big swing



1st Place Team: Garrow Wessendorff, Roland Keller, Chris Gallio, David Murphy



Chip Probe, Bobby Franklin, and Danny Zalta

# LAFAYETTE BANQUET

The Lafayette community came together in a spirited display of generosity, raising over \$380,000 to combat Childhood Cancer and provide vital support to affected families.

## OCTOBER 27



Guests of Honor: The Guidry family

In their unwavering commitment to combat Pediatric Cancer and provide crucial support to families in need, Sky High for Kids proudly celebrates the triumph of their 16th Annual Lafayette Banquet. Hosted on Friday, October 27, 2023, at the exquisite Le Pavillon at Parc Lafayette, the event united the vibrant Lafayette community in a powerful display of generosity and compassion.

With the steadfast support of dedicated staff, board members, volunteers, and the incredible Lafayette community, over \$380,000 was raised. These funds will directly impact ongoing commitments to esteemed institutions such as, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Memphis.

The evening commenced with a spirited cocktail hour, where guests mingled and engaged in bidding on a diverse array of over 32 silent auction packages. Ranging from luxurious getaways to personalized artwork,

each item contributed to the success of the fundraising efforts. As the night progressed, attendees gathered for a sumptuous sit-down dinner and an inspiring program that paid tribute to Brandi and Scotty Guidry, the owners of Cajun Carts, whose dedication and support epitomize the community spirit that propels Sky High for Kids forward.

A highlight of the evening was the electrifying live auction led by CEO and Founder Brittany Hebert Franklin. With ten exclusive packages on offer, the room buzzed with energy as guests eagerly bid to support the cause. The night concluded with joyful celebrations and dancing to the lively tunes of Chubby Carrier & The Bayou Swamp.

Sky High for Kids extends its deepest gratitude to all who contributed to the success of the 16th Annual Lafayette Banquet. Lafayette, thank you for standing shoulder to shoulder in this important fight. Sky High for



Chubby Carrier & The Bayou Swamp



Jeremy, Lene' Claire & Tricia Romero

Kids looks forward to continuing this journey together, creating a brighter future for all.

# SAN ANTONIO CONCERT & CLAYS

## NOVEMBER 10

*Sky High for Kids' San Antonio Concert & Clays Fundraiser  
Raises \$260,000 for Pediatric Cancer Research and Support,  
Joined by Inspiring Cancer Warrior Families*



*Cancer Warrior Mia and her family moments after this generous group of donors surprise gifted them with the live auction puppy!*



*Casey Shands, Weldon Nichols, Danny Peugh, & Jimmy Bridges*

In its ongoing dedication to combat Pediatric Cancer and provide vital support to children facing life-threatening illnesses, Sky High for Kids celebrates the success of its Annual San Antonio Concert & Clays event. The fundraiser was hosted on Friday, November 10, 2023, at the renowned National Shooting Complex.

Under the guidance of dedicated staff, board members, and volunteers, alongside the enthusiastic backing of the San Antonio community, over \$260,000 was raised.



The day commenced with the thrill of the Sporting Clay Tournament, where participants of all skill levels took aim for a noble cause. Whether seasoned shooters or newcomers, everyone competed for prizes and relished the spirit of competition. As the sun set, guests gathered for a delectable BBQ dinner prepared by Cotton Logistics, engaging program, and live concert by JR Herrera Band, fostering an unforgettable atmosphere of celebration and support.

Additionally, the event was graced by the presence of three Cancer Warrior families: the Perez Family, the Flores Family, and the Sanchez Family. These courageous families joined to share their inspiring stories, adding depth and poignancy to the event's purpose. Their presence served as a reminder of the resilience and strength exhibited by those battling Pediatric Cancer, further motivating attendees to support the cause wholeheartedly.

A special acknowledgment goes to Event Sponsor, Cotton Logistics, whose invaluable support in providing rentals, tents, and the delicious BBQ dinner helped make the event truly memorable. Thank you to all of the Event Sponsors including La Brasada, R&R Contracting, and so many others.

Sky High for Kids extends heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to the success of the San Antonio Concert & Clays event. From generous sponsors to dedicated committee members and volunteers, their unwavering support made this event possible, leaving a lasting impact on the lives of children and families affected by Pediatric Cancer.



Champion X Cooking Team, Ronald McDonald House Charities - San Antonio, and Sky High team



Members of The Dewville Social Club winning big in live auction



Cancer Warrior Family - the Sanchezes

# CHARITY OF CHOICE

See all of our Chariry of Choice Sponsors on pg.9

Through the Charity of Choice initiative, Sky High works closely with companies, restaurants, schools, businesses, and more to develop customized fundraising strategies and campaigns that align with their values and goals. Whether it's organizing charity events, implementing Employee Match Programs, or exploring other creative avenues, Sky High collaborates with businesses to maximize their impact and support the mission of ending Childhood Cancer. By partnering with Sky High, businesses can make a meaningful difference in their communities while fulfilling their corporate social responsibility objectives.

See just a few of Sky High's 2023 Charity of Choice campaigns below:



## COMMON BOND'S KING CAKES FOR A CAUSE

Common Bond's campaign "King Cakes for a Cause" happens every Mari Gras season. Partering with Sky High and Houston food influencer and Sky High volunteer, Danielle Dubois a.k.a. "The Hangry Houstonian" Common Bond creates seasonal King Cakes and DIY King Cake Kits. \$5 from every king cake sold goes back to Sky High's mission and participants have the chace to purchahse a DIY King Cake kti for the Cancer Warriors at Texas Children's Hopsital. In 2023, in addition to the funds raised, Common Bond delivered 200 King Cakes to Texas Children's Hospital on Fat Tuesday.

## RUN N GUN OUTDOOR ADVENTURES FISHING TOURNAMENT

Every year, Run-N-Gun holds an exciting fishing tournament. Teams come to show off their fishing skills and win prizes. But it's not just about the competition - the tournament also helps raise money for Sky High for Kids. It's a chance for participants to have fun, win prizes, and support a good cause at the same time.



## SHAFTEL DIAMONDS

Shaftel Diamonds is an ongoing Charity of Choice partner with Sky High, year-round. They have their own Sky High for Kids collection as well as contribute 40% of all of their Treasure Candle sales to Sky High's mission. Choosing Sky High as their Charity of Choice is just one of many ways that Shaftel Diamonds gives back.

## DANNY'S MARKET GAS STATION

During the month of September, Danny's Market Gas Station, one of Houston's busiest Chevron gas stations, chose Sky High as their Charity of Choice to bring awareness during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Every gas pump was wrapped with custom artwork and Childhood Cancer statistics. Five cents from every gallon during the month of September went back to Sky High's mission. In 2023, Danny's Market donated over \$12,000 to Sky High!



## ZANTI CUCINA ITALIANA

Zanti Cucina Italiana has been involved with Sky High's mission since its inception. During September, Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, Zanti Cucina Italiana delighted patrons with its exclusive Sky High Signature Cocktail. For every cocktail purchased, \$2 contributed directly to Sky High's mission.

## CREMM'S PINK PARTY CLAY SHOOT

CREMM, a nonprofit dedicated to fostering connections and advancing careers for professional women in commercial real estate, hosts an annual "Pink Party" event. This year, the Pink Party took the form of a sporting clay tournament, where participants enjoyed friendly competition while supporting a meaningful cause. Proceeds from the event were directed towards benefiting Sky High for Kids, underscoring CREMM's commitment to making a positive impact in the community.



## TIMEOUT TAVERN

Timeout Tavern is a sportsbar located in Humble, Texas. Each year, they host their own internal fundriaser to support Sky High, specially for the St.Jude Children's Research Hopsital pledge. Colleen Smith, owner of Timeout Tavern, raises funds in honor of her late husband, Dale.

# SKY HIGH ADVENTURES: LEXAND DEEP IN THE HEART OF DALLAS

An email from Kerry Baker, Cancer Warrior Lexand's mom expressing gratitude for an Adventure trip that Sky High arranged to a Dallas Cowboys game



Cancer Warrior Lexand and his family in the club section at the Cowboys Game

"Brittany and Megan,

We as a family can't thank you Brittany enough for a trip of a lifetime. We had the best time! We saw the Cowboys win in a nail biter ending and sat in a suite, plus stood on the field with players. Who gets to do that? The spending money you gave us was way more than I ever anticipated and I even got to go buy Lexand some new clothes because he needed some nice stuff to go out when we ate so I really appreciated that.

We went and saw where Kennedy got shot, we went to the coolest Raising Canses, escaped an escape room, toured cowboys stadium and boys threw a football and tried to kick field goals on turf and rode roller coasters in January with the shortest lines ever! It was great. I highly suggest going to Six Flags in January. Lex had so many surprises coming at him. I don't think he knew which way to turn he was always asking. "Where are we going? What are we gonna do today?" And, let's not forget we flew first class. It was so nice to have our seats picked and not fight for seats together.

The AirBnb and the rental car were wonderful and so was Megan - I felt like I had a personal assistant. She did not disappoint. She came through for everything, and was always there to answer my questions either via text or phone call and let's not forget Mike he was a wonderful host for the game, such a nice guy. He even got a bonus for getting to go on the

field with us. He said he's never gotten to do that. We did get the name of the guy who owns the suite from Mike and we will also send him a thank you via email. I think we may be purchasing some tickets in the near future the Cowboys may see us again, the experience of going to an NFL game was just so cool.

It's so hard for me not to pay you back for something, like I'm not used to receiving and not giving I'm usually the giver but I hope someday once we get back on our toes, I can definitely give back to Sky High because this organization is top notch, and you are all heroes.

I really hope one day we can meet, when I talked to the family that was with us at the game the mother couldn't say enough wonderful things about you and I completely agreed and I haven't even met you guys, but she loves you guys. I can definitely go on and on about you guys but I will let you go and just know that we appreciate you and your entire sky high family and you made our Christmas extra special this year."

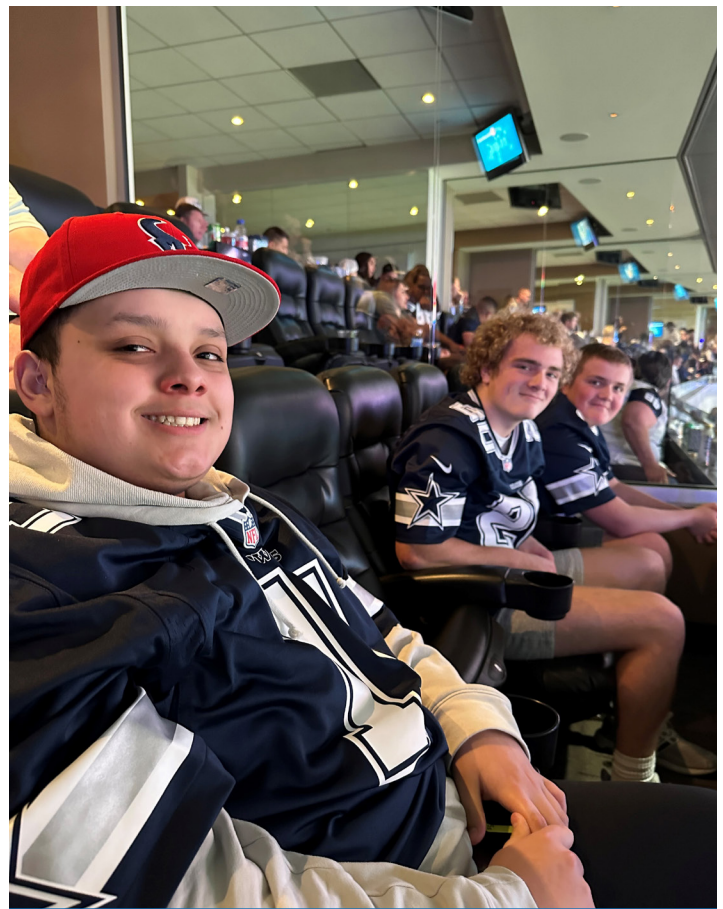


Lexand and his custom Sky High Cancer Warrior Pack

“ **This organization is top notch, and you are all heroes.** ”



Cancer Warrior Family - the Bakers on the Cowboys Field



Cancer Warrior Family - the Bakers

# IMPACT PROJECTS FUNDED TO DATE

THESE ARE PROJECTS SKY HIGH HAS ALREADY COMPLETED OR FUND EACH YEAR TO HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

## ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL The Eric Trump Foundation Surgery & ICU Center

We first donated to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in 2007. That initial contribution of \$40,000 has only inspired us to give more, and in 2018 Sky High completed a \$5 million pledge to help fund the Eric Trump Surgery and ICU Center.

Each day eight families spend the most critical time of their lives at this facility. This ICU Center was the first ICU in the U.S. devoted to pediatric hematology and oncology and has served thousands of families.



The Eric Trump Foundation Surgery & ICU Center



Sky High for Kids Tumor Biology Lab

## TEXAS CHILDREN'S CANCER & HEMATOLOGY CENTER Sky High for Kids Tumor Biology Lab

Our partnership with Texas Children's Hospital began in 2017 and has only grown since. We made an initial \$25,000 and now have pledged \$20,000,000!

Within the Sky High for Kids Tumor Biology Lab, investigators can enable customized, precision therapy designed specifically for each child. This means potentially less toxic treatment for cancer that may improve cure rates without causing lifelong side effects.

# IMPACT PROJECTS FUNDED TO DATE

## RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES, SAN ANTONIO Howard Energy Partners Cancer Care Room

In 2022, Sky High for Kids donated \$15,000 to help create a Cancer Care Room, now named after our sponsor Howard Energy Partners. The Cancer Care Rooms can accommodate up to four people and are designed with their own kitchenette and HVAC systems to provide families with additional protection against the risk of infection while their child undergoes cancer treatment.



## RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES, MEMPHIS

Sky High for Kids has invested in a variety of infrastructure and patient support projects including 24/7 security, bereavement support and kitchen renovations. Our team completed a \$1.25 million pledge to fund the Power Grid Project to offer a solution to power outages at the house. At any given time, we are assisting up to 53 families staying there.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Sky High for Kids has invested in impact projects spanning all five of our event regions! We actively contribute to the communities we engage with firsthand, while simultaneously supporting the global effort to combat Childhood Cancer.

# CURRENT PLEDGE COMMITMENTS

## ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL INSPIRATION4 ADVANCED RESEARCH CENTER

PLEDGE COMMITMENT: \$20,000,000



Sky High for Kids is funding a research floor dedicated to developmental neurobiology in the new 625,000-square-foot Inspiration4 Advanced Research Center (ARC) at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Research conducted within the Inspiration4 ARC will help raise the overall survival rate of Childhood Cancer, both in the United States and globally. They will also create better treatment protocols within this center. Sky High is funding the Developmental Neurobiology Departmental floor within the Inspiration4 ARC. St. Jude will conduct research on the deadliest forms of Childhood Cancer to include solid tumors, bone and brain cancers within this floor.

## TEXAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL: SKY HIGH FOR KIDS IMMUNOTHERAPY CENTER

PLEDGE COMMITMENT: \$10,000,000



In the U.S., over 16,000 children develop cancer each year. Immunotherapy presents an effective and potentially less toxic treatment for cancer. Sky High for Kids will help fund pre-clinical lab research, conduct clinical trials, purchase needed equipment and hire specialized laboratory and clinical research scholars. This investment will expedite the development of new immune therapies for Childhood Cancer.

## TEXAS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL: GLOBAL H.O.P.E.

PLEDGE COMMITMENT: \$10,000,000



Over 100,000 children develop cancer in sub-Saharan Africa each year and 90% do not survive. Our commitment is designated to funding Sky High for Kids Training Centers. These advanced training and treatment facilities will be used daily by hundreds of medical professionals and help treat thousands of children suffering from cancer. Global Hope builds capacity in the care and treatment of children with cancer and blood disorders in sub-Saharan Africa training African physicians, nurses, and other health care workers in the diagnosis, care and treatment of children. This is the only way that the prognosis of African children can improve dramatically. Every additional 10% increase in survival that Global HOPE achieves means that an additional 10,000 children are saved each year.



# CURRENT PLEDGE COMMITMENTS

## COVENANT CHILDREN'S HEALTH ONCOLOGY & HEMATOLOGY UNIT EXPANSION

PLEDGE COMMITMENT: \$1,000,000



Covenant Children's is embarking on a campaign to expand and upgrade oncology/hematology services by building a dedicated, state-of-the-art oncology and hematology unit for kids. This unit will include inpatient and outpatient spaces, infusion, chemotherapy, play environments, child life specialists, and a school to allow kids to continue learning while in the hospital. The partnership and donation from Sky High will support this life-saving unit and keep kids close to home to receive the care that they need most.

## RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES, MEMPHIS: ANNUAL ELECTRICITY BILL AND RISE & SHINE BREAKFAST

ANNUAL GIFT: \$250,000



Sky High for Kids helps cover the cost of the annual electricity bill, allowing 53 families fighting Pediatric Cancer housed at The Ronald McDonald House Charities, Memphis to stay safe and comfortable. The Rise and Shine Breakfast offers a hot meal for families as they head out to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital for daily treatments. Chef prepared meals have been made possible for the very first time by Sky High for Kids.

## RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES, SAN ANTONIO: CANCER CARE ROOM

ANNUAL GIFT : \$30,000



Support from Sky High for Kids will be used to sponsor two family rooms within the Sid Katz House. These two family rooms will help offer families a comfortable place to stay while undergoing treatment for Childhood Cancer and other life-threatening conditions.

## THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT SAINT FRANCIS: CAMP STRONG

ANNUAL GIFT : \$40,000



Each summer, Saint Francis Health System hosts a one-week over-night camp for children with cancer and heart conditions and their siblings. Children age six to 18 years of age are eligible to attend – whether on-treatment or off-treatment.

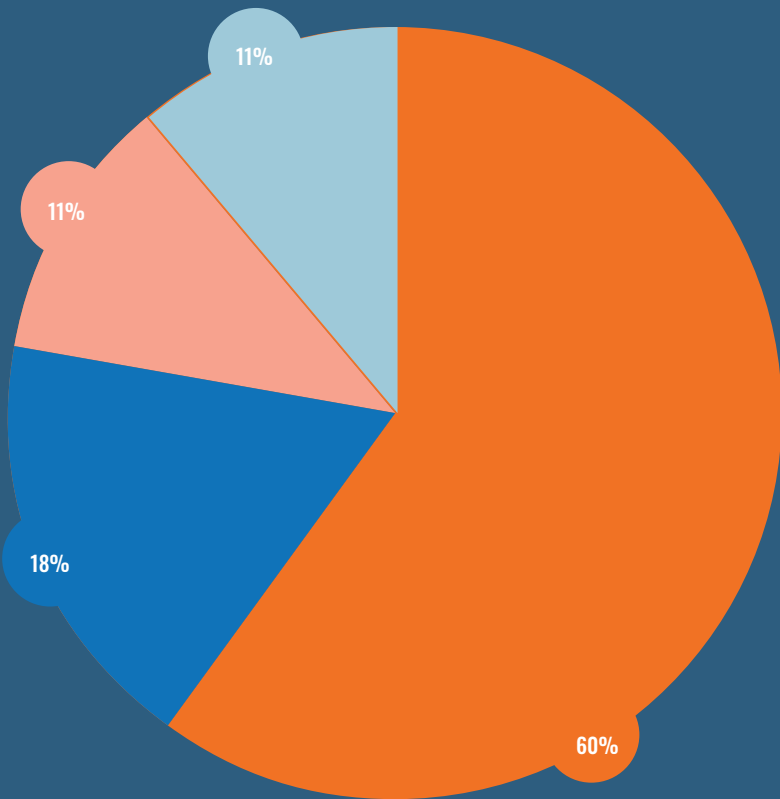
# 2023 FISCAL REVIEW

**\$8.9MM** RAISED IN 2023

**\$5.5MM** OUTGOING DONATIONS

**\$1MM** PUT INTO RESERVES

**\$31MM** DONATED SINCE INCEPTION IN 2007



## 2023 FINANCIALS

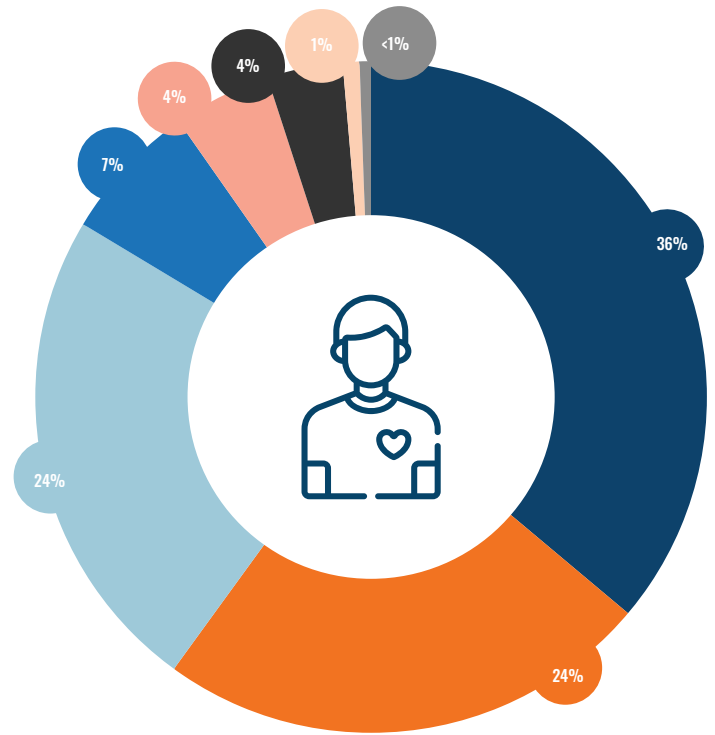
- Research Pledges & Community Impact
- Management & General
- Fundraising
- Reserves

\*UNAUDITED FINANCIALS\*

# \$5,500,000.00

## 2023 OUTGOING DONATIONS

THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN HAVE BEEN IMPACTED ACROSS THE GLOBE WITH YOUR DONATIONS



● St. Jude Children's Research Hospital	\$2,000,000
● Texas Children's Hospital - Immunotherapy Center	\$1,300,000
● Texas Children's Hospital - Global H.O.P.E.	\$1,300,000
● Various Nonprofit Donation & Sky High Internal Programs	\$380,000
● Ronald McDonald House Charities, Memphis	\$250,000
● Covenant Children's Hospital	\$200,000
● Saint Francis, Camp STRONG	\$40,000
● Ronald McDonald House Charities, San Antonio	\$30,000

### VARIOUS NONPROFITS SKY HIGH SUPPORTS

- Athletes & Causes
- B.I.G. Love Cancer Care Services
- Beanies for St.Jude
- Butterflies and Birdies Foundation
- Children with Hair Loss
- Curetivity
- HelpCureHD
- Houston Children's Charity
- Ronald McDonald House Charities, Houston
- The Jon Cade Thomas Clemons Memorial Fund
- Along with many others!

Visit the Resources page on Sky High's website to see even more incredible nonprofits making a difference in the fight against Childhood Cancer!

## FISCAL REVIEW FUN FACTS

- Management & General Expenses experienced a 1% decrease compared to the previous year.
- Total fundraising expenses saw a 3% reduction.
- Average event expense ratio for 2023 did not exceed 15%.

# OUR PROGRAMS

At Sky High for Kids, we understand the challenges that Cancer Warriors face during their treatment process. That's why we offer a variety of comfort programs designed to provide a little bit of relief and joy during their treatment. We believe our programs can help these children feel more comfortable and supported as they continue to fight cancer. Our goal is to bring comfort to these brave children and their families, even in the midst of their treatment.

“ I can't explain to you how important and valuable feeling “normal” is. Sky High understands that. ”

- Jonathan Durst  
Father of Cancer Warrior: Ander



## PROGRAMS MAKING A DIRECT DIFFERENCE:

THESE ARE THE SKY HIGH PROGRAMS HELPING FAMILIES FIGHTING CHILDHOOD CANCER TODAY:

- **Adventures:** Granting personalized experiences for children battling cancer and their families.
- **Cancer Warrior Packs:** Carefully curated packages for the entire family including siblings and parents.
- **Carnivals:** Annual festive events in Memphis, Tennessee and Houston, Texas providing families with a temporary escape and a chance for kids to be kids.
- **Paint Parties:** Creative gatherings held at the various hospitals and RMHC locations we support, giving kids undergoing treatment a chance to express themselves through art.
- **Holiday Drop:** Delivering to the hospital toys, books, and gifts to children with cancer during the holiday season
- **Tie for Sky High:** Blanket-making program where volunteers craft cozy blankets for Cancer Warriors.

# OUR IMPACT

Sky High goes above and beyond to not only raise funds for vital research projects but, to provide comfort to families fighting right now:



Noah's Toy Drive in Lafayette collected hundreds of toys and gift cards for Sky High's annual Holiday Drop

**115** CANCER WARRIOR PACKS FULFILLED

**500+** TOYS DONATED

**500** TIE FOR SKY HIGH BLANKETS DONATED

**300+** BOOKS DONATED

**5** SKY HIGH ADVENTURES FULFILLED

**300+** MEALS PROVIDED AT HOLIDAY CARNIVAL

**4** PAINT PARTIES HOSTED

**2** CANCER WARRIOR CARNIVALS HOSTED

## SKY HIGH CARNIVALS

In 2023, Sky High hosted two Carnivals for Cancer Warriors and their families undergoing treatment. The Luau Carnival in June was hosted at Ronald McDonald House Charities in Memphis for the families at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Later in December, the Christmas Carnival was hosted at the Houston Zoo where over 300 families from Texas Children's Hospital and MD Anderson joined for dinner, tons of activities, and even a special visit from Santa Claus, spreading holiday cheer and creating lasting memories.



# OUR VOLUNTEERS



**600+** Sky High for Kids volunteers

**25** Total number of Cancer Warrior families that attended Sky High fundraising events

**159** Total number of committee members across all five event regions

**\$143,668+** Saved due to volunteer work  
\*Tracked at \$28/hr

## THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

A heartfelt thank you to all who contributed their time to keep this organization thriving in 2023, whether through fundraising events or at the Sky High office. Every single effort plays a crucial role in the fight to end Childhood Cancer.



# VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

*Sky High's Dynamic Duo:*

## RICHIE BARTOSH & LARRY LAPOINTE

In the busy world of charity and fundraising, it's often the unsung heroes who make the biggest impact. Meet Richie Bartosh and Larry LaPointe, Sky High's Volunteers of the Year for 2023. These two extraordinary individuals are the backbone of Sky High's fundraising events, dedicating countless hours and boundless energy to support the organization's mission for the kids.

### LARRY LAPOINTE:

For over 15 years, Larry has been a driving force behind Sky High's initiatives. His journey with Sky High began in 2009 through the organization's partnership with Anadarko Petroleum. Since then, Larry has been on the front lines, traversing the country with Sky High's trailer, pouring his heart and soul into every mile traveled. His commitment to the cause knows no bounds, as he travels in for countless events, assists with set up and tear down, and even building materials for Sky High like the famous Champagne Tower!

### RICHIE BARTOSH:

With 11 years of dedicated service, Richie's passion for Sky High runs deep. He first connected with the organization through the San Antonio event region, rising to the role of Event Chair. Richie's enthusiasm for revitalizing Sky High's San Antonio Concert and Clay event is palpable, as he works tirelessly to breathe new life into this crucial fundraising endeavor. Alongside Larry, Richie assists with the majority of Sky High's fundraising events throughout the year, helping truly with whatever is needed. Richie has also been an integral part of Sky High's Adventures program since its



Larry LaPoine & Richie Bartosh

inception. He's personally taken Cancer Warriors on unforgettable journeys across the country, showcasing pure dedication to the mission of Sky High for Kids.

Despite both living outside of Houston, where Sky High's trailers are located, Richie and Larry go above and beyond, traveling in whenever needed to support the organization's events. In 2023 alone, they hauled trailers for 8 out of Sky High's 10 internal events, demonstrating their unwavering dedication to the cause.

Beyond their remarkable contributions to fundraising efforts, Richie and Larry have built enduring relationships with Sky High's staff, fellow volunteers, and

the families they serve. Their warmth, compassion, and genuine care have endeared them to all, making them the heart of Sky High.

Richie Bartosh and Larry LaPointe embody the spirit of volunteerism and selflessness, enriching the lives of countless children battling cancer. Their tireless efforts and boundless compassion make them true champions for Sky High and the children it serves. As we celebrate their remarkable contributions, let us be inspired by their example and strive to make a difference in the lives of others, just as Richie and Larry have done with such passion and dedication.

# CANCER WARRIOR: KENNEDY

As told by his mother, Christina



“Kennedy’s story did not start on the day he was born, his story started long before he became the warrior we all know today. Kennedy was the only embryo that made it through the first round of his IVF, his life was already planned with a purpose we did not yet understand. As a mother, when I found out Kennedy was the only embryo, I knew God had great plans for him; but I did not think His plan was childhood brain cancer.

When Kennedy was 9 month old, he was diagnosed with Atypical Teratoid Rhabdoid Tumor (ATRT), a rare, aggressive and terminal tumor of the central nervous system; typically found around the cerebellum and brain stem. On August 3, 2021 I walked alone with my son into Texas Children’s Hospital ER; that weekend he started having sudden vestibular issues and random vomiting which started a few weeks prior. As a mother, cancer doesn’t cross your mind when your child is vomiting but taking him to the emergency room to get looked at and have

access to testing, it felt like the best answer. And the answer that day changed our life as a family of 4 in its entirety, the words “your son has a mass on his brain and needs emergency surgery to alleviate the fluid and pressure on his brain stem before he suffocates” will forever be itched into my memory.

“**Your son has a mass on his brain and needs *emergency surgery* to alleviate the fluid and pressure on his brainstem before he suffocates.**”

Kennedy had a craniotomy 3 days later, a near total resection and spent 17 days in the ICU before we were transferred to the neurology floor.

Once Kennedy was discharged from neurology, he started inpatient chemotherapy on September 1, marking his cancer journey on the month of



“*I know his purpose and perseverance is here to show everyone he meets, he is beyond his terminal statistic.*”

Childhood Cancer Awareness. Kennedy went through 2 rounds of low dose chemotherapy, 2 stem cell aphaeresis harvest rounds, 3 rounds of high dose chemotherapy with the Bone Marrow Transplant team and 28 rounds of focal proton radiation. Between chemotherapy, sepsis and every bacterial/fungal infection you can imagine, radiation was the easy part on his ever growing body; Kennedy fought like he knew nothing different. Kennedy allowed us to survive and gave our family strength, the courage and bravery of a lion. The strength of God and Kennedy allowed us to get through over 200 days inpatient.



Kennedy & his mom Christina painting at the Sky High office

They say the journey of Childhood Cancer is a marathon, but I fully believe no matter where you are in the journey of cancer, it never ends. Kennedy has constant checkups with his oncologist every month, MRI scans every 3 months, as well as checkups with ophthalmology, audiology, ENT, facial therapy, plastic and general surgery all due to facial palsy of his 7th cranial nerve due to the surgery and location of his brain tumor. Kennedy is fully deaf in his left ear due to the residual tumor left in his auditory canal, so Kennedy will never fully be “cancer free”; we pray the tumor is dead/dormant from chemo and radiation.

As Kennedy approaches his ONE year off treatment on April 26, 2023 at 2 ½ years old, I can't help but celebrate all the obstacles Kennedy has overcome to feel and act like the average toddler, keeping us on our toes. Although Kennedy has been through so much in his short life, I know his purpose and perseverance is here to show everyone he meets, he is beyond his terminal statistic.”



# YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

## NETWORKING WITH A CAUSE

Sky High for Kids' Young Professionals (YP) was started in 2019 by a group of motivated individuals wanting to further the mission of Sky High and join in the fight against Pediatric Cancer and other life-threatening diseases. The YP aims to raise awareness amongst their colleagues on the mission of Sky High by providing unique social and networking events around Houston as well as giving the members the opportunity to have hands on experiences with patients and their families battling cancer and other life-threatening diseases.

Sky High's YP organization orchestrated four exceptional events in 2023, featuring two lively Happy Hours and two captivating Speaker Series events! During the Happy Hours, our members came together to craft Easter and Halloween goodie bags for Cancer Warriors bravely battling at Texas Children's Hospital. These thoughtful bags provide a touch of solace for families confronting cancer during these cherished holiday seasons. Altogether, we proudly donated over 300 goodie bags this year, spreading joy and support to those in need.

### THANK YOU TO OUR SPEAKERS SERIES PANELISTS:

- Bob McDowell
- David Lumpkins
- Jeremy Stovall
- Tony Buzbee
- Lilac Guzman
- Paul Murphy

300+

Goodie bags delivered to Texas Children's Hospital

128

Total number of Young Professionals members In 2023



# 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

Signed \$1,000,000 pledge to Covenant Children's Hospital

Cancer Warrior, Payton rang the bell to mark the end of her cancer treatment at our Ladies Who Brunch event

Hosted three fundraising events that raised over \$1,000,000 each

Implemented new CRM software to better track our donors and volunteers

Sent Cancer Warrior, Colton to Super Bowl LVII with his family

Hosted our biggest Carnival for Cancer Warriors yet, in Houston during Christmas

## SKY HIGH'S 2024 GOALS

- Attain full accuracy in the new CRM database, ensuring reliable data management and analysis.
- Secure 1-2 Major Gift Donations at \$1 million each, demonstrating robust fundraising initiatives.
- Establish a high-functioning events team to streamline event management and optimize participant engagement.
- Define and implement the Cancer Warrior Advocacy process to enhance support for cancer patients and survivors.
- Implement a comprehensive Donor Stewardship process to cultivate lasting relationships with our donors and supporters.

# OUR 2023 TEAM

## SKY HIGH FOR KIDS LEADERSHIP TEAM



**Brittany Franklin**  
Chief Executive Officer &  
Founder



**Shauntae Centers**  
Director of Operations



**Kristina Yantis**  
Director of Marketing &  
Communications



**Grace Clark**  
Director of Events

Grace Debbink - Finance Manager

Megan Nunez - Office Manager + Executive Assistant to CEO

Joseph Kern - Development Coordinator

Noel Jones - Marketing Coordinator

Morgan Kanaly - Assistant Event Coordinator

Reagan Korenek - Assistant Event Coordinator

Carly Owen - Assistant Event Coordinator

Megan Biesiada - Assistant Event Coordinator

Toni Romero - Lafayette Event Lead

Lilly Cone - Programs Liaison

## BOARD OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Greg Guidry - President

Danny Shaftel - Vice President

Schuyler Evans - Treasurer

Taylor Sass - Secretary

Brad Howell

Hollie Citron

Hugo Guerrero

Jay Old

Jessica Morrison

Jim McAllister

Joe Reuss

Joe Sauger

Kathy Norris

Lilac Guzman

Ravi Thakkar

Terry Warren

Kent Danforth

## YOUNG PROFESSIONALS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Miranda Knippers - President

Beau Grenier - Vice President

Tim Ashe - Treasurer

Emily Porter - Secretary

Brad Hortenstine

Chris Gallio

Dillon Weitl

Ellen Bennett

Erica Ferens

Errin Williams

Jose Linardi

Kevin Layne

Lindsey Mehne

Robby Walls

# AMBASSADORS

Amanda Fenn	David de Roode	Jason Heckt	Mike Appling	Brady B.	Dylan P.
Chris Davis	Darrell Palmer	Jim Franklin	Mike Howard	Brooklyn H.	Kaitlyn M.
Cornelius Dupre	Erin Cones	John Atcheson	Nicholas Tallant	Caroline P.	Madilyn H.
Cullen Spitzer	Gary Purcell	John Hernstat	Travis Marrs	Carson H.	Mikie M.
Daniel Crosby	Jamie Elrod	Marcella Burke		Clelie S.	Levi S.

# JUNIOR BOARD

## 2023 EVENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

### HOUSTON

Amanda Fenn	Kensley Phillips-Poret
Ayla Benavides	Laura Rowell
Casey Babin	Lindsey Mehne
Dillon Weitzl	Megan Hernandez
Drew Smith	Milena Valdes
Ed Sauger	Paige Schmidt
Elizabeth Cardozo	Ravi Thakkar
Emily Zarcaro	Richie Bartosh
Erica Ferens	Seana Burris
Errin Williams	Shannon Burris
Jessica Bailey	Stephanie Coulter
Joseph W. Wright Jr.	Taylor Sass
Justin Head	Tiffany Escobar

### LAFAYETTE

Bill Ham	Landin Mathison
Brandan Duhon	Larry LaPoint
Chad Trahan	Laura Courtois
Crissy Smith	Liz Guidry
Daedree Lopez	Maegan Sonnier
Deanna Saizon	Marla Ratzlaff
Devaney Diamond	Monica Broussard
Hollie Citron	Richie Bartosh
Jamie Rodriguez	Todd Trahan
John Fontana	Tressie Cox Ham
Kim Bernard	Tricia Romero
Kristen Wilson	Will Wilkinson

### TULSA

Bryan Leedy	Lilac Guzman
Burkely Brining	Matt Francis
Carlos Conerly	Rebecca Truitt
Carolyn Tillman	Steven Truitt
Chelsea Doyle	
Geoff Hager	
Jason Pigott	
Jeff Hutsell	
Jennifer Nichols	
Jennifer Pigott	
Kevin Gaspard	
Kevin Tillman	

### WEST TEXAS

Adam Perkins	Kayley Howard
Alex Soape	Keith Stelter
Alexandra Teodoro	Loren Hardy
Allison Richter	Michael Arispe
Ben Samuels	Michelle Peugh
Brad Smith	Nicholas Tallant
Buck Underwood	Richard Messa
Casey Shands	Richie Bartosh
Cosmo Underwood	Rod Campos
Derrick Clark	Susan Richeson
Erin Stelter	Tammy Stevens
Errin Williams	Will Richter
Haley Buckles	
Hall Christopher	

### LADIES WHO BRUNCH

Abbie Mueller	Kelsey Roberts	Sarah Barrera
Alex Couture	Krystal Finch	Sheridan Wilks
Alex Joven Kinsey	Lindsey Caldwell	Tanya Gunderson
Brooke Broussard	McConathy	Taylor Gonzalez
Celerina Dugat	Logan Lester Tafelski	
Chelsea Richter	Mackenzie Reese	
Courtney Baker	Maddy Moffitt	
Courtney Parrott	Madison Scheel	
Cristi Liles	Marla Hurley	
Emily Dunlap Kochar	Marti Grizzle	
Helen Winchell	Peyton Wallace	
Jayne Doyle	Reagan Green	
Jen Grigsby	Reagan Green	
Jessica Morrison	Rochelle Deiso	

### SAN ANTONIO

Augustine Lopez
Brian Gunn
Brooklyn
Cottingham
Caitlyn Micklin
Jennifer Rodgers
Jessica Jones
Lori Donnell
Lori West
Melissa Montelongo
Michael Johnston
Richie Bartosh
Rickey Rackley
Sarah Graham
Sheridan Slater
Stephanie Fox

### ENERGY CLASSIC

Allie McBride	Michael Johnston
Alton Fisher	Mike Hillerman
Hugo Guerrero	Paul Furman
Josie Luna	Steve Lee
Kendra Coulson	

### BUCKEYE FOR SKY HIGH

Bob Ingalls	Nikole Williams
Cameron Miles	Patrick Monaghan
Carl Ostach	Robert Harris
Craig Brown	
Jayne Moseley	



*Sky High Team Member, Morgan Kanaly painting with a Cancer Warrior at Texas Children's Hospital at one of our many Sky High Paint Parties*

Thank  
you

THANK YOU

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Thank you



[skyhighforkids.org](http://skyhighforkids.org)

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713.714.8587

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