



Lilly Lights the Way Childhood Cancer Foundation

Newsletter Volume 1 • Spring 2024

Lilly Lights the Way is a 501(c)3 organization founded in 2020

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Lilly Lights the Way (LLTW)

Lilly Lights the Way is dedicated to directly supporting families in the Northeast who are battling childhood cancer. We strive to

ease the financial burden and other challenges that come with such a diagnosis. Lilly Lights the Way provides emotional and financial assistance allowing families to focus on what is truly important, spending precious quality time with their children who are cancer patients.



“No family should have to fight this alone...”

Our goal is to help relieve the challenging journey and pave a path for a brighter tomorrow, one family at a time. No family should fight alone, and our hope is to help others live, laugh, and love like our angel, Lilly.

Lilly Lights the Way Childhood Cancer Foundation

Our Cherished Aspiration

In November of 2017, Lilly Toxavidis, a caring, loving, and upbeat girl, received the heartbreaking news that she was facing a battle with Lymphoblastic non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

Lilly underwent a year and a half of chemotherapy and in May of 2019, Lilly and her family met with a genetic specialist who informed them that Lilly was battling a second form of cancer, acute myeloid leukemia. With this diagnosis, Lilly desperately needed a bone marrow transplant and after finding a match, Lilly received her transplant on August 8th, 2019. Lilly was expected to be cancer free and live a normal life as a teenager, but after various complications, Lilly passed away on October 28, 2019, from a fungal infection. She fought her toughest fight, but in the end, her body was too tired to combat the infection.



Lilly's love for others was like no one else, her innate kindness, strength, and bravery inspired others who had the pleasure of knowing her. Lilly always wanted everyone around her to be happy and genuinely wanted the best and did everything in her power to make it possible. Lilly often spoke and dreamt about starting a foundation that would support families battling childhood cancer so that families could focus on quality time with their children. It was Lilly's dream and wish that this foundation was created, and we are dedicated to keeping Lilly's dream alive.

Lilly Lights the Way Childhood Cancer Foundation

A Message from Lilly's Mom

Dear Supporters of the Lilly Lights the Way Childhood Cancer Foundation,

On behalf of the entire organization, I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation for your continued support of our cause.

Your generous contributions have allowed us to make considerable progress in our mission to provide support, resources, and hope to children and families affected by childhood cancer. The impact of your donations reaches everywhere, touching the lives of those in need and making a tangible difference in their journey.

It is with immense pride that we share these stories of courage, resilience, and the incredible work being done by our dedicated team of volunteers.



None of this would have been possible without your unwavering belief in our cause. Your donations have helped us provide vital financial assistance to families facing the burdensome costs of treatment, ensuring that no child goes without the care they deserve.

Your commitment to our foundation goes beyond the financial support. Your contributions bring hope and light to the lives of those facing unimaginable challenges. Your belief in our mission encourages us to work tirelessly, each day, to create a brighter future for children and families battling cancer.

As we move forward together, we remain dedicated to transparency and accountability. We will continue to keep you informed about the impact of

your donations, the progress we have made, and the challenges we face. Your trust in our organization is invaluable to us, and we strive to honor that trust at every step.

Once again, please accept my sincere gratitude for your incredible generosity and steadfast support. Together, we are making a profound difference in the lives of children and families affected by childhood cancer. We could not do it without your partnership.

With sincere appreciation,
Lyndi Baker (Lilly's Mom)

Lilly Lights the Way Childhood Cancer Foundation

Blood Drives in Memory of Lilly Toxavidis

The Rhode Island Blood Center and Lilly's cousin Julie Marino have organized fifteen blood drives in honor of Lilly since 2018. In total, we have donated 394 pints of blood which means we have saved 1,182 lives with our blood donations. Thank you, Lilly supporters.



Tommy's Place

Lilly loved vacationing on Cape Cod and her love of spending time with family and friends inspired Lilly Lights the Way to collaborate with Tommy's Place to sponsor an Audrey Hepburn-inspired room in their Centerville location, called the Lilly Pad, in honor of Lilly.



For additional information on the great things that Tommy's Place provides families and children with cancer visit:
<https://tommysplace.org>



Centerville, MA

The Lilly Pad In Honor of Lilly

Lilly Lights the Way Childhood Cancer Foundation

Our Impact

Since 2020, we have raised over \$210K by hosting special events, fundraisers, donations, and merchandise sales. We are thankful for your continual support, partnering with us to help ease some of the financial burden and other challenges that families face while battling childhood cancer. Your donations help us assist with many financial awards including rent, mortgages, utilities, food, medical supplies, transportation, activities, and scholarships for pediatric cancer patients and their loved ones. Together we are making a difference. Our goal is to pave a path for a brighter tomorrow, and help others live, laugh, and love like our angel Lilly.



Teagan and Poppy Supporters!



Teagan and Poppy, the Therapy Dog

Teagan, 14 was diagnosed with Leukemia over a year ago and has spent many months in and out of the hospital. LLTW donated Poppy, a nine-week-old Bernadoodle to serve as Teagan's Comfort dog and is in training to become a therapy dog. LLTW partnered with some local businesses to help cover some of the expenses. Thanks to Rumford Pet Express, Stella and Chewy, Multipet, As the Fur Flies, and Silva and Sons Dog Training.

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Lilly Lights the Way First Scholarship Recipient!

The LLTW scholarship is awarded to either a current pediatric patient, a loved one, and/or a cancer survivor. In 2023, LLTW awarded its first financial scholarship to Jaden Dohr. Congratulations, Jaden. Good luck next year at Ohio State University.

For more information or to apply for the Lilly Lights the Way 2024 – 2025 scholarship, please visit www.lillylightstheWay.org/scholarship. Applications are open from March 1, 2024 to May 1, 2024.



CONGRATULATIONS
EMILY!

YOU'RE GOING TO
SEE TAYLOR SWIFT
AT GILLETE
STADIUM 5/19!



Taylor Swift Giveaway

A grieving family donated two tickets to the Taylor Swift concert at Gillette Stadium. The LLTW foundation held a drawing to donate the tickets and a Lilly basket to someone who has been affected by childhood cancer. The winner was Emily, a 17-year-old cancer survivor who was diagnosed with Stage 4 neuroblastoma when she was four years old. She underwent several treatments and surgeries and is now in remission and will be attending college. Emily is the definition of a “cancer warrior”.

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Lilly Gift Baskets

Since 2020, LLTW has donated more than 160 Lilly Gift Baskets. The baskets are given to Hasbro Children's Hospital, the Izzy Foundation in Rhode Island, and to area families with children diagnosed with cancer. The baskets include gift cards, pharmaceutical supplies, LLTW merchandise, and age-appropriate activities for the children.



Our Fundraising!



Yard Sales!

In 2020, due to COVID, fundraising was impossible, but needing funds to support families with children battling cancer, we decided to have a giant yard sale in Attleboro. Friends, family, and community supporters donated all items, with 100% of the proceeds going directly to the LLTW Foundation. Since then, we have held six extraordinarily successful yard sales, raising over \$54K in donations. Thank you, Lilly supporters and volunteers.

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Motorcycle Run:

BIKERS AGAINST CHILDHOOD CANCER!

In 2021 and 2022, LLTW collaborated with Badger Realty, Chelo's Hometown Bar and Grille, and JR's Home Improvement to sponsor two highly successful motorcycle runs featuring Lilly's Angels and Bikers against Childhood Cancer. Both events included a 70-mile ride, live music, vendors, food and raffles. Together, we raised over \$22K. Thank you to all our financial and in-kind donors, volunteers, and attendees for your support.



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Lilly Pulitzer Spreading Sunshine Event

For the past two years, Lilly Pulitzer at Mashpee Commons in Mashpee, Massachusetts, has organized a “shop for the cause” event donating 10 percent of total sales for the day to LLTW. Massachusetts stores participating in the event include Boston, Chatham, Falmouth, Martha’s Vineyard, Mashpee, Nantucket, and Osterville.



The Lilly Pulitzer event has raised over \$10K for the foundation.

*“Thank you,
Lilly Pulitzer, for
Sharing
Your Sunshine.”*



Online Fundraising Events

Thank you to all our LLTW supporters who have sponsored or participated in online fundraising. Since 2020, they have raised over \$45K. The online fundraisers include Facebook Birthdays, Physical Activity Challenges, HundredX Surveys, Giving Tuesday, and purchases of Lilly merchandise.

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Fitness and Fundraising: A Healthy Fit

4x4x48 Goggins Challenge

For the past two years, Regan Brown has completed the 4x4x48 Goggins Challenge. The challenge is to run four miles every four hours for 48 hours (the meaning of 4x4x48). While completing this challenge, the participants are encouraged to raise money for a charity or a cause. Regan has raised over \$2,500 to help Lilly Lights the Way.

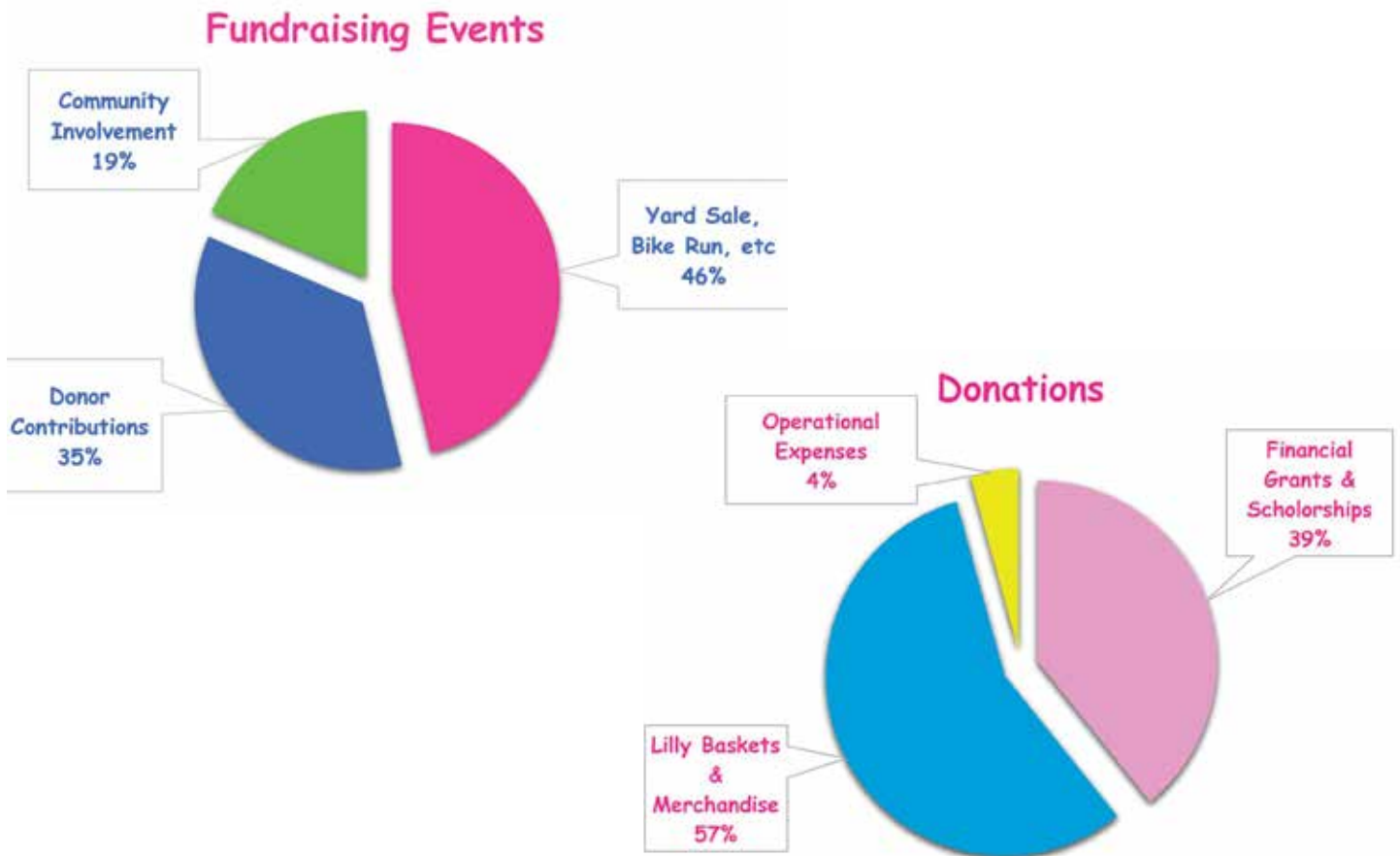


60 Miles for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

During September, Childhood Cancer month, a group of Lilly supporters solicited donors to pledge and help support a Virtual 60-Mile Run/Walk. Lilly's cousin Julie Marino organized the event to help raise funds to support Lilly Lights the Way's mission to help families battling childhood cancer.

Lilly Lights the Way Childhood Cancer Foundation

Since 2020, Our Numbers



Gratitude

Over the past three years, community support and dedication have made it possible for Lilly Lights the Way Foundation to make a positive difference for families battling childhood cancer. We would like to thank all of you who have donated and continue to contribute to making Lilly's dream come true and our mission possible.

A special thank you to our very generous supporters and partners: In Memory of Dominic Ruscetta Trust donated by James Verdoia, Glenn Chelo, Fredric Hammerle, Rod and Carol Brown, Terry and Judy Baker, Pete and Theresa Garlock, in Memory of Rocco and Rose Fiato donated by Rocky and Barbie Fiato, Badger Realty, Chelo's Hometown Bar and Grill, JR's Home Improvement, Blu on the Water, The Morse Legacy Fund, Carol Patterson, Amy Simoneau Lavoie, Patrick and Julie Folan, Robert and Elizabeth Shea, Rebecca Howarth, Phil Desjardens, and Brian and Erica Blanchard.

A complete list of donors can be seen on our website www.lillylightstheaway.org



Visit: LillylightstheWay.org
for more information on:

Upcoming Events
Fundraising
Volunteering
Scholarships
Donating



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Graphics Design & Printing

Thank You, Lilly Supporters!

Lilly's dream and legacy lives on because of you.

Lilly Lights the Way
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