



Lauren's First and Goal Foundation

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Newsletter

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Founded in 2004, LFG is a 501c3 charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

1.3 Million in Grants Awarded Since 2004

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Lauren's First and Goal Foundation announced more than \$177,000 in grant awards to pediatric cancer research, patient services and families impacted by the disease. LFG has now awarded more than \$1.3 million in grants as part of the fight against pediatric cancer since 2004.

"We are very grateful to all of the members of Lauren's Circle of Strength – our generous donors, football camp participants, volunteers, coaches and trainers, who return year after year to support our research initiatives and patient/family support programs. Over the past ten years, grants from LFG have supported research that facilitates the translation of science into new treatments for pediatric brain tumors. This targeted research has made the genetic analysis of tumors possible, which enables the development of more personalized therapies for patients and provides the best treatments possible," said LFG founder Marianne Loose.

LFG is focusing the largest amount of its grants on pediatric cancer research, with three projects receiving \$45,000 each. The research projects include:

- Dana Farber's Pediatric Low-Grade Astrocytoma (PGLA) program
- Johns Hopkins' Pilocytic/Pilomyxoid Research program
- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Brain Tumor Tissue Consortium



Dr. Peter Phillips, Director of Neuro-oncology at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, & Lauren.

Each of these projects has received a foundation grant in previous years

as well.

Along with their dedication to funding pediatric cancer research, Lauren's First and Goal continues its focus on supporting patient services that ease the burden on families.

The first award recipient is Camp Can Do, a week-long camp for children who are receiving treatment that provides a normal, active and safe camp experience. Camp Can Do attendees explore the outdoors, swim, fish, boat, work with arts and crafts, and spend a day at Hersheypark among other activities.

Additionally, the foundation is awarding \$12,000 to Camp Sunshine this year that allowed six families to attend camp for the Low Grade Pediatric Brain Tumor week. Camp Sunshine is a year-round program that provides respite, support, joy and hope to children with life-threatening illnesses and their immediate families through various stages of a child's illness.

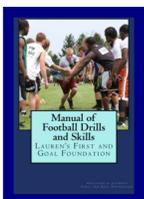
The final piece of LFG's mission is family support, recognizing the financial strain of a cancer diagnosis. The Foundation provided more than \$16,500 to 21 families in 2013.

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LFG Football Camp - Then and Now

<p><i>The Number of Campers in 2004</i> 320</p>		<p><i>The Number of Campers in 2013</i> 2559</p>
<p><i>The Number of Coaches In 2004</i> 58</p>		<p><i>The Number of Coaches In 2013</i> 427</p>
<p><i>The Number of College Programs Represented In 2004</i> 35</p>		<p><i>The Number of College Programs Represented In 2013</i> 159</p>
<p><i>The Total Camper Donations In 2004</i> \$11,552</p>		<p><i>The Total Camper Donations In 2013</i> \$112,591</p>

Lauren and coaching legend, Bobby Ross, 2004



The 11th annual Lauren's First and Goal Football Camp will be held on June, 1, 2014 at Lafayette College's Metzgar Athletic Complex in Easton, Pennsylvania. The date for the 5th annual camp at Otterbein University in Westerville Ohio is pending.

The LFG Football Camps are open to student-athletes who will be entering grades 9 through 12 this fall. During the event, athletes are divided into small groups and receive instruction in a variety of offensive and defensive skills from volunteer college coaches from around the country.

Both camps demonstrate the tremendous spirit of giving, the sharing of gifts and sense of community that has been built from the hope of a better future for children and families facing a cancer diagnosis.

Thank you all to all the campers and their families, coaches and volunteers who have joined us through the years and we look forward to seeing you again in June!

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER

**ON LINE OR BY
DOWNLOADING A FORM AT
WWW.LFGF.ORG**

COS Profile - Rachel Domozych



Lauren Loose and Rachel Domozych at LFG Football Camp PA. (above)

Lauren's Circle of Strength, the network of family, friends and strangers that has banded together to support the mission of the Foundation, has grown tremendously over the last ten years. Like the ripples on a pond caused by a stone dropped in the center, the Circle of Strength is always growing and expanding. Among the many members of the Circle of Strength who have loyally served LFG, is an exceptional young woman named Rachel Domozych, from Great River, New York.

Rachel began service at LFG PA Football camp in 2004 at age 11, assisting at what was to become the annual Kids Family and Friends Fun Tent. A natural with children and still a child herself, Rachel helped plan games, face painted, crafted and entertained the guests with the skill and grace of a professional. If it needed to be fun, one knew it could be left to Rachel to be made delightful.

With such success, Rachel was given charge of the Kids, Family and Friends Fun Tent each year at the PA Football Camp, organizing the set up and break down of tables, crafts, activities, food, snacks, drinks, and volunteers. Rachel has served as master face-painter, hand holder, and hostess for 10 years.

As a member of East Islip High School's National Honor Society, Rachel organized a Rock and Bowl event in 2012 that raised \$500 for LFG. A high school gymnast and track and field athlete, Rachel was committed to meets each spring, but always found a way to Easton on the first weekend in June to be at the football camp. Recognizing the need to reach young people on social media, Rachel manages Instagram for LFG.

Rachel currently attends Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Connecticut. She was accepted into the University's School of Nursing with an academic scholarship and is pursuing a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree. She is honored on the QU Dean's List for outstanding work ethic and GPA.

Rachel felt her career path was set six years ago, inspired by Lauren. "I always knew that I wanted to work in the field of pediatric oncology," she said, "but I never knew exactly what I wanted to do. Now, I hope to become a nurse practitioner."



A younger Rachel works her crafting magic on a happy Lauren at the Family and Friends Fun Tent at the LFG Football Camp PA. (left)

Chicago Bears Blake Costanzo in Lauren's COS



You'll find him entertaining and putting smiles on all the faces at the Kids Tent on camp day, out in the fields running drills with players, and working the garbage detail on the golf carts at the end of day with his crew, but these are just a few of the talents that NFL Chicago Bears Linebacker, Blake Costanzo, brings to LFG Foundation.

Blake is active among many charitable endeavors, and has been a long time volunteer with LFG, beginning with his involvement as a Lafayette College football team member, from 2002 to 2005. He was signed as an undrafted free agent by the New York Jets in 2006 and went on to play for the Buffalo Bills, Cleveland Browns and San Francisco 49ers. Blake signed with Chicago in 2012, and has been a core member of the special teams unit for the Bears.

Blake and Lauren share a special friendship, and he always takes time out of his busy schedule to be in Easton on LFG day to lend a hand.

Lauren says "Blake is one of the most kind and generous friends I know. He really cares about people, and always make me laugh and smile".



Blake Costanzo and kid tent participants at the 2011 LFG camp. (left) Lauren and Blake kick back at the Kids Family and Friends Fun Tent at LFG Football Camp PA 2013 with the Lafayette Leopard. (above)



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