



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.

LFG Making a Difference

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Hope Is Here To Stay
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Lauren's First and Goal Foundation donated more than \$200,000 this year toward the fight against pediatric brain tumors and support for families. Seven organizations relating to pediatric cancer and over 21 families have received grants from the foundation.

"On behalf of the board of LFG, we are very proud to be able to support the work of researchers who are dedicated to finding more effective and less toxic treatments for pediatric brain tumors," said LFG co-founder Marianne Loose. "We are excited to be able to continue our partnerships with agencies that provide essential programs for pediatric cancer survivors and families, offering the support, information and respite that they need to navigate the difficult road they face."

The foundation's primary mission is to provide funding for research. This year, the foundation continued to support the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's Children's Brain Tumor Tissue Consortium (CBTTC) with an award of \$60,000. With the funding LFG provided last year, the CBTTC collected more than 300 pediatric brain tumor specimens for testing therapies and models of treatment. Additionally, the CBTTC began a collaborative study of childhood medulloblastoma tumors with Johns Hopkins Hospital. Re-

searchers were able to identify new mutations that represent a substantial sub-population of these tumors and have major clinical significance. Research grants were also awarded to ongoing research at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Johns Hopkins. The foundation granted \$45,000 to the Pediatric Low Grade Astrocytoma Research Program at Dana Farber and \$35,000 to the Pilocytic Pilocytic Pilocytic Research Fund at Johns Hopkins. In addition to the research grants, LFG Foundation is committed to making life easier for families dealing with pediatric cancer by supporting various service programs. Earlier this year, the foundation donated (continued on p. 2)

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Brain Tumor Research **\$140,000**

CHOP Brain Tumor Tissue Consortium (CBTTC) - \$60,000

Dana Farber Cancer Institute Low Grade Astrocytoma Research Study - \$45,000

Johns Hopkins Pilocytic Pilocytic Research Fund - \$35,000

Pediatric Cancer Services and Support **\$42,000**

Camp Sunshine - \$23,000

Pediatric Cancer Foundation of the Lehigh Valley - \$12,000

Kyle's Peace - \$5,000

Leukemia Lymphoma Society Newly Diagnosed Patient and Family Book Bag Program \$2,000

Family Support **\$18,000**



Dr. Peter Phillips, Director of Pediatric Neuro-oncology at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia with his long time patient, Lauren.

LFG Making A Difference (continued)

\$3,000 to Camp Sunshine to underwrite the expense for two returning families during Brain Tumor Week. In addition, the foundation contributed \$20,000 toward permanent naming rights to a new volunteer housing suite at Camp Sunshine. This donation would allow for a continuation of the pet therapy and wellness programming at each camp session, and a permanent place for the volunteers who facilitate these services to stay during the sessions.

LFG is also making a difference for local families, giving \$12,000 to the Pediatric Cancer Foundation of the Lehigh Val-

ley for their parents' support group as well as social, recreational and educational programming for patients and their families. The donation also benefits a siblings' support group and bereavement counseling.

New this year, the foundation donated \$5,000 to Kyle's Peace, which is a program that serves the patients and their families at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia oncology clinic and proton radiation center. Kyle's Peace organizes monthly visits to the facilities that include various activities, comfort services and even yoga.



Lauren enjoys a therapy dog.

Football Camp Dates Announced

Lauren's First and Goal Foundation is pleased to announce the dates for its 2011 Lauren's First and Goal Football Camps in Pennsylvania and Ohio.

The Pennsylvania camp, which will be celebrating its eighth year, will be held on Sunday, June 5 at Lafayette College's Metzgar Athletic Complex in Easton.

The Ohio camp, which was launched in 2010, will take place on Sunday, June 26 at Otterbein University's Athletic Campus in Westerville.

The second annual N.Y. 7 on 7 Championship will be held on Long Island, N.Y. in July.

LFG Football Camp PA
Sunday, June 5
Lafayette College

LFG Football Camp OH
Sunday, June 26
Otterbein University

Forks Youth Football Raises Funds For LFG

In a creative plan to help support the mission of Lauren's First and Goal Foundation, the Forks Youth Sports Organization held the first annual Chili Cook-Off in October 2010. The group raised more than \$600 at their one-day event.

Thirteen families competed for the "Best Chili" award, as well as the "Spiciest" and "People's Choice" awards. Contestants included: the Diforte family, the Flannigan family, the Sikora family, the Koerwitz family, the Frank family, the Miers family, the Chicchi family, the Embardino family, the Ozgar family, the Stem family, the D'Aquino family and the Koose family. Everyone that participated received a Lauren's First and Goal t-shirt.

The event demonstrates the originality and ingenuity of Lauren's Circle of Strength members. "The Chili Cook-Off is a wonderful example of a true community effort to raise awareness and funds for pediatric brain tumor research and

we are so grateful for their support," said Marianne Loose, LFG Foundation co-founder.



Lauren (center), Grace (left) with their mom and event volunteers at the Chili Cookoff.

"I believe this camp brings everyone together in the football community and makes us feel part of something larger than any one of us could ever imagine." - Ryan Wytanis, Freehold Boro High School, Freehold, N.J.

Online Registration

Coming Soon!

"Awesome experience... The coaching was tremendous and the competition was what he was looking for." - The Blackiston family, Gloucester City, N.J.

Circle of Strength Expands in 2010

The number of Circle of Strength members has reached an all-time high in 2010 with over 30 members and counting. From marathoners and golfers to photographers and artists, the examples of the possibilities of those who help the mission of the Foundation seems endless.

Nearly 100 golfers helped raise more than \$2,000 during the Ed Adamko Fall Golf Tournament held on Sept. 24 at the Club at Morgan Hill. Lauren's First and Goal has been Adamko's charity of choice since 2008 and he has raised \$5,230 for the foundation. Lehigh Valley area sportswriters who participated in the Reporter's Challenge Golf Outing raised over \$400 in their annual event held in May.



John Loose, Ed Adamko and Bob Varju

In addition to the Easton Area Middle School teachers who ran the VIA Marathon, two individuals ran marathons in support of LFG this year. Just one week after his wedding, Muhlenberg assistant coach Tom Perkovich entered the Buffalo Marathon. Tom presented LFG with a check during the annual camp. Lauren's cousin Owen ran the NYC Marathon in November and raised more than \$700 for LFG. He finished under four hours for the third consecutive year.

The ripple effect of the Circle of Strength is evident in the amazing photography you can enjoy on our website. Mike Garner learned of LFG from his son Case, a member of the Lafayette football team and LFG volunteer. He generously offered to travel from Connecticut to both the PA and NY camps to take photographs and process them for use on the LFG website and promotional materials.



Mike Garner snaps some action at LFG's 7 on 7.

The Circle of Strength wouldn't be complete without the endeavors of our youngest members. Many examples of children applying their talents to help others are cited on our website including the efforts of Summer and Capri Troxell. In addition to helping with copying and assembling of the PA camp registration booklets, the girls, ages 6 and 5, created beautiful works of art and sold their pieces to family and friends, donating all the money they raised to LFG.



Summer and Capri

Among the young Circle members are the more than 400 Suffolk County PAL youth football players who participated in the LFG PAL Passing Tournament in New York. Twenty four teams supported LFG and raised more than \$12,000. Special thanks go to Lou Bonnanzio, the high school referees, the Carere family and the Suffolk PAL board for their generous support.



Lou Bonnanzio and Lauren



Front row: David Baum, Lauren Loose, Jillian Brodhead; back row: Christopher Ruhf, Carrie Sanal and Renee Schuck.

Easton Area Teachers Lead By Example

Easton Area schools have shown their commitment to the mission of Lauren's First and Goal Foundation led by the creative and inspiring teachers who serve its students. "The school district community has been very supportive of LFG throughout the years, and the efforts by the teachers is another wonderful demonstration of generosity and dedication - a tremendous way to lead by example for their students," said LFG co-founder Marianne Loose.

In 2010, Shawnee Elementary and Easton Area Middle school 5/6 and 7/8 hosted author visits and purchased copies of the LFG Foundation story *Hope Is Here To Stay*. At the Shawnee Elementary visit, students and teachers who are past Circle of Strength members were honored and given *Hope Is Here To Stay* t-shirts. Shawnee students also collected donations for LFG during a school book fair.

At Tracy Elementary, the staff club hosted Dress Down Fridays. Teachers and staff members at Lauren and Gracie's former elementary school contributed \$250 from funds collected during dress down Fridays at the school.

Similarly, the generous staff members at the Easton Area Middle school 7/8 building participated in Jean Fridays during the first marking period of the 2010 school year. By contributing one dollar to the Jean Fund each Friday during the month of September and October, staff members raised over \$200 for LFG.

Led by Ms. Jillian Brodhead, a group of teachers including Mr. Ruhf, Mrs. Sanal, Mrs. Schuck and Mr. Baum from Lauren's School, Easton Area Middle school 7/8, ran the VIA Marathon in September in support of LFG. "Lauren and her family inspire us every day and we wanted to do something for them," said Brodhead. "We felt that a race would be a great event for us to participate in, and donate money to LFG. Our team had a great time and hopes to continue the tradition next year." The group raised more than \$1,000 in pledges.

Finally Ms. Jillian Brodhead continued to support LFG by hosting an online Pampered Chef party during the 2010 holiday season. Proceeds from the sales were donated to LFG Foundation.



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LFG PA June 5

LFG OH June 26



Thank you to our major sponsors:



**Football Camp Registration
ONLINE
Coming Soon**



Otterbein University

The official registration and financial information of LFG Foundation, Inc., may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll free, within PA, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the division of consumer services by calling toll-free (800-435-7352) within the state of FL. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.