# Creations for Cures

Bringing the Joy and Healing Power of Art to Children Battling Cancer and Other Serious Illnesses.

**2023 Annual Review** 

## WE ENVISION A WORLD FREE OF SUFFERING FROM CANCER AND ITS EFFECTS.

WE STAND AT THE INTERSECTION OF ART, SCIENCE, AND COMPASSION TO HELP CHILDREN DEFEAT ILLNESS.

#### 2023 was a fun and exciting year!

Our impact grew by 82% and we brought the healing power of art to 4,000 children and their families.

We learned a lot about engaging with our community and working together to deliver our mission. It's humbling to see volunteers, sponsors, and organizations come together to support the children and families we serve.

Our strategy was to strengthen our operations, develop how organizations can get involved, and ultimately bring the healing power of art to more children than the prior year.

## CHILDHOOD CANCER AN ALL TOO COMMON DISEASE

Every year an estimated 15,780 children between birth and 19 years of age are diagnosed with cancer.

Approximately 1 in 285 children in the U.S. will be diagnosed with cancer before their 20th birthday.

Cancer isn't the only threat to a child's health.

That is one of the reasons our program includes all children battling for their health due to a serious illness.



## THE INSPIRATION BEHIND CREATIONS FOR CURES

"I DIDN'T EXPECT ART TO HELP ME LIKE IT DID DURING MY FIGHT WITH CANCER. IT BROUGHT ME JOY AND HELPED ME BUILD CONFIDENCE, AT A TIME I NEEDED IT THE MOST."

Renée Dieffenderfer - Creations for Cures Founder



## I spent a lot of time thinking about what I wanted to do, and in one moment it clicked. Make it big, so big it scares me.

One day I received a watercolor kit my mom and sister sent me in the mail. I was going through chemo and burning out on watching TV. It was those moments of painting, I felt something. I felt empowered, productive, and happy.

During chemo I thought a lot about how I wanted to give back. I wanted to create something that would outlive me. I wanted to help people come back from tragedy with confidence. I wanted people to know that creativity, self-expression, and experiencing joy, heals. I wanted to inspire and empower with kindness. I knew I wanted to bring what I saw in art, to others.

I was 28 years old when I was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma, which is a cancer commonly diagnosed in children. I imagined kids going through what I went through. I felt the fear, the loneliness, the curiosity, and the uncontrollable emotions before, during, and after every treatment. I thought about their parents, their siblings and friends, I envisioned what we are doing today, bringing the healing power of art to children so they can be kids, while they are in the hospital.

Renée Dieffenderfer - Creations for Cures Founder









## CREATING ART LOWERS YOUR CORTISOL, RELIEVING STRESS





TO HELP IN THIS FIGHT, OUR GOAL THIS YEAR WAS TO

## DELIVER MORE ART KITS THAN YEARS PRIOR

SUPPORT OUR HOSPITALS AND HOMES





#### "EVERY CHILD DESERVES TO EXPERIENCE CREATIVITY AND FUN. ESPECIALLY THOSE FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIVES."

Renée Dieffenderfer - Creations for Cures Founder

## BRINGING ART TO KIDS

## THROUGH OUR ART PROGRAM



## ART PROGRAM

The Creations for Cures Art Program gives kids time to get creative and have a moment of escape during the challenges they face while receiving treatments in the hospital, stuck in a hospital bed, or away from the comforts of home.

Volunteers host fun and engaging art projects for the kids and their families.

Our goal is to reach as many kids and their families as possible with the Art Program. We continue to expand to hospitals across the country, aiding children in the fight to defeat childhood cancer and serious illness.



### STEP ONE!

CFC Volunteers create custom art projects, each month. They film videos for the Virtual Art Hour and they work with children's hospitals to stream Art Hour to the patient's rooms.





## STEP TWO!

Next, the CFC Team builds a custom quantity of art kits for every hospital and Ronald McDonald House we serve!

## STEP THREE!

The CFC Art Team visits the hospital and Ronald McDonald Home and does art with children and their families, in person...



STEP FOUR!

Or we deliver Art Hour Virtually!





## PAINTING HELPS DEVELOP MUSCLE CONTROL

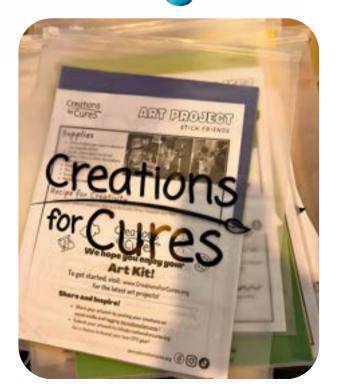


Our art kits inspire creativity and empower children to express themselves. They are filled with a variety of supplies, including different projects every month. In 2022 we implemented new packaging and we are happy to share we have received positive feedback from our hospital partners.









## CREATIVITY AND JOY SHARED ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Since the launch of the Art Kit program in 2016, Creations for Cures has sent over 7,692 art kits to children all over the country.



"Volunteers are selfless, caring, empathetic, and giving people who commit and follow through on actions that directly impact the well being of others."

RENÉE DIEFFENDERFFER



## WARNER PACIFIC VOLUNTEERS

Warner Pacific is passionate about making a difference in the community. We are honored to have been offered the opportunity to work together, providing volunteer hours for our mission!



## TEAM CFC



"WE COME TOGETHER FROM ALL DIFFERENT WALKS OF LIFE TO ACHIEVE ONE COMMON GOAL - AND THAT'S PUTTING SMILES ON THE FACES OF FAMILIES WHEN THEY CREATE ART!"

-CFC VOLUNTEER, BRIE FORD

## TEAM CFC

"FROM SWEET MIA. A GIFTED 11
YEAR OLD WHO TOLD ME SHE
HAS BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL
SINCE NEW YEARS EVE... WE
GAVE HER AN ADDITIONAL ART
KIT WHICH MADE HER HAPPY".

-CFC VOLUNTEER, MARION



#### Cheers to our 2023 Volunteers - We thank you!

**Danielle Watne Alyson Howe** Eileen Kuffner Kirsten Sheahan Liv Carlson **Audrey McLain Matthew Butler** Jenna Haagen Lauren Luchterhand **Jason Luchterhand** Meagan LaPlant Michelle Deutschman **Nolan Girad** 

**Caroline Bates Jack Kuffner Wendy Chan Dorian Thitmote Andre Moe Renfro Erika Cantin** Michelle Johnson Mae Camaddo **Dina Lewis Elyse Neves Celeste Palacios** Jenna Schmidt Noemi Katan

Jessmary Echevarria Susan Snyder **Lenzy Reyes Marion Canan** Alisa Goodrich William Fundora Adriana Jaramillo Heidi Coulton **Kelly Pointer** Romina Alcantara Mya Arong Renée Dieffenderfer



A few 2023 Highlights... The gaming community came together to raise funds for our mission by playing Sea of Thieves. Thank you to @Kittykatcalypso for leading this fundraiser!

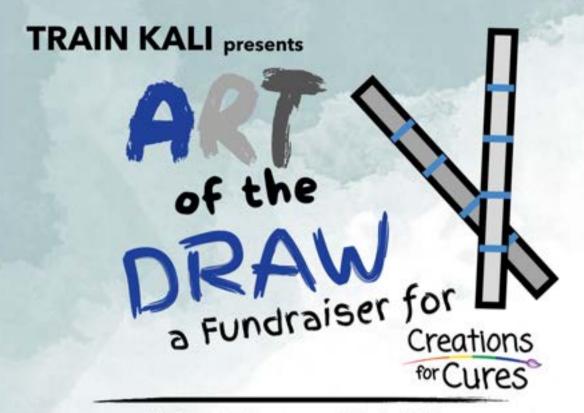




#### TRAIN KALI

(Pekiti Tirsia Kali)

IT WAS INSPIRING TO HAVE THE PTK COMMUNITY SUPPORT OUR MISSION. WE LEARNED A LOT FROM THESE UNIQUE MARTIAL ARTISTS!



#### Make a difference while training Filipino Martial Arts!

In-Person & Virtual Training

Location: West Nyack, NY Date: Sat, 9/09/23 Time: 9:00am - 5:00pm EST

#### Learn from the best filipino marital artists:

- Agalon Njoli B.
- · Mandala Jason J.
- · Guro Court B.
- Mataas Na Guro Angola T.
- Manunudlo Royce R.
- Agalon Francis E.

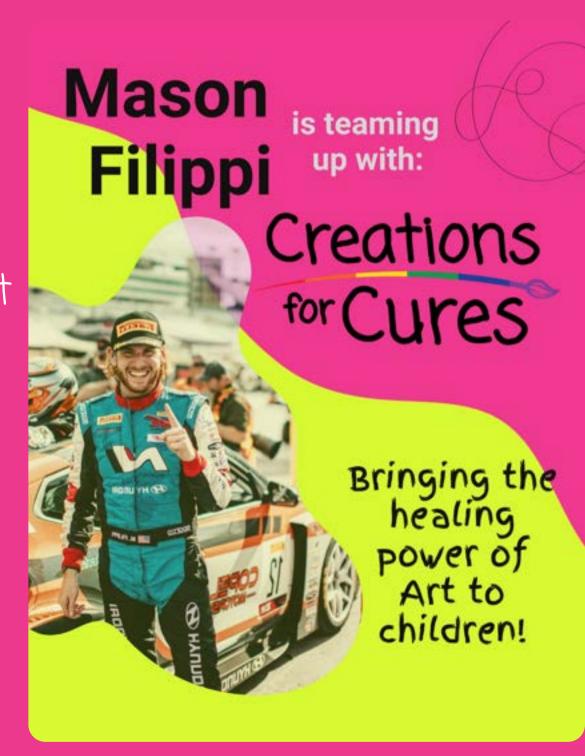
To join the mission, visit: www.trainkali.com

or scan QR code



Creations for Cures is a 501c3

Mason Filippi raised \$500 to support our art program! When you see Mason on the track, make sure to cheer him on!







### 2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Hosted our 7th annual Art
From The Heart Event
bringing Valentines to
children at the Ronald
McDonald House and 260
art kits nationwide.



Expanded to 3 hospitals & 2 Ronald McDonald Homes

Brought the healing power of art to over **4,000 kids** and their families, and **20** hospitals and homes across the country.

worked with over 40
volunteers to help us
expand our art
program to hospitals
all over the country

We had 9 Corporate Sponsors!



Designed, Created, and Donated 4,000
Art Kits to children across the United States.

Raised over \$60,000 to support our mission!

### FAMILIES AND HOSPITALS SERVED

#### 2023 Hospitals & Ronald McDonald Houses

#### Oregon

- Ronald McDonald House 4 locations
- Doernbecher Children's Hospital
- Randall Children's Hospital

#### Washington

- Seattle Children's Hospital
- Mary Bridge Children's Hospital
- Ronald McDonald House Spokane

#### California

Children's Hospital of Los Angeles

#### New York

- Mt. Sinai Children's Hospital
- Washington D.C. Children's Hospital

#### Florida

- Arnold Palmer Children's Hospital
- Advent Children's Hospital
- Nicklaus Children's Hospital
- Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital

#### Illinois

Loyola Children's Hospital

#### Texas

University Children's Health San Antonio

#### New Jersey

St. Peters Children's Hospital

#### Pennsylvania

UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh

## THANK YOU TO OUR PROGRAM SPONSORS



Qorvo



**American Fiduciary Services** 



**Level5 Hospitality** 



**Wolcott Heating and Plumbing** 

### THANK YOU TO OUR PROGRAM SPONSORS



Willamette Dental



**Insperity** 



**Front of House** 



**Sherwin Williams** 



Becton Dickinson and Company

## THANK YOU TO formada



A heartfelt **Thank You** to the Formada Social Team, a digital marketing agency with a mission to help us achieve our goals. Their support in capturing our passion and commitment to helping children shows up in everything they do. Thank you for being such a critical part of our mission.



**6th Annual Golf Tournament** 



2nd Annual Gresham Arts Festival



2nd Annual Winter Wonderland



2nd Annual Run CFC

We raised \$63,086 to support our Art Program!

## WHERE ARE WE HEADED?



#### **Our Vision**

Over 25,000 kids and families in 40 facilities, to experience the healing power of art!

Raise \$500,000

## HELLO 2024!



Expand within our existing hospitals and facilities to include in person Art Hour



Help 5,000 children and their families with the healing power of art.



Share our mission with 20 sponsors (corporate and individual)



Raise \$200,000 to fund our Art Hour Program and infrastructure.



- Make a donation of any amount, <u>HERE!</u>
- Make a monthly donation, <u>HERE!</u>
- Donate stocks by clicking <u>HERE!</u>
- Donate via Venmo! @creationsforcures
- Sign up to CFC Fundraisers. Click <u>HERE</u> to see our upcoming events!





## ART IS MADE THROUGH THE USE OF IMAGINATION.



## "CREATIVITY IS CONTAGIOUS, PASSIT ON."

-Albert Einstein

We are grateful to be a part of giving amazing kids the opportunity to be creative, express their feelings, and have a moment of escape during some incredibly challenging times.

Our CFC team knows art helps and we are committed to helping more children every year.

