

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



*Because  
of  
You*

# WHAT

# WE DO

1

## RECRUIT & PROVIDE

- Two unique program offerings:
  - family weekend retreats
  - summer camp
- Camper recruitment built with strong pediatric healthcare partnerships.
- Volunteer recruitment focused on enriching mutually beneficial relationships by engaging universities, colleges, clubs, and the local community.

2

## FAMILY ENRICHMENT

- Families participate together during retreats, bringing opportunities to disconnect from every-day-life in order to reconnect with each other.
- Diagnosed children attend summer camp independently, receiving 24/7 medical supervision, offering time for guardian and sibling respite.

3

## CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

- Camp staff are trained to offer educational programming that provides children moments to try new things and build their skills.
- All activities are designed with the intent to provide fun-filled days while fostering relationship building in a medically safe environment.

4

## INDEPENDENCE TRAINING

- Specialized doctors and nurses spend time at camp to supervise illness specific groups.
- Medical staff ensure campers gain experience with illness management, independence, and self-advocacy.

5

## SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Initiatives for our mission are built by our participants and community supporters:

- CCK's Advocacy Committee
- R.O.A.R. Camper Ambassadors
- Cubby's Coats for Kids

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shawn Perry, Chairman

Joanie O'Bryan, Executive Director

Elizabeth McKinney, Treasurer

Brian Clemmons, Secretary

Audria Denker, DNP, R.N., Director

Mike Sherrod, Director

Dr. Richard Goldstein, Director

Jordan Clarke, Director

Dr. Mark McDonald, Director

Zak Boca, Director

## Involvement Continues to Grow: Welcome to a New Board Member

The addition of members to the board assists in steering our mission forward and advancing our future. This year, The Center for Courageous Kids expanded our board of directors by welcoming its newest member. **Zak Boca**, CEO of AltExchange, is a Bowling Green, KY native. After celebrating the arrival of his second child, Zak knew it was time to connect his expertise to a mission focused on children. "I love that kids can attend camp, and experience so many new things, regardless of the illness they have. Once you hear the stories, and the impact CCK has had on campers and parents—it's very easy to be motivated by CCK's mission," says Boca. We are fortunate to have his talent and dedication on our board. CCK looks forward to working with Zak to deepen his support of our message and mission.

*"I love that kids can attend camp, and experience so many new things, regardless of the illness they have. Once you hear the stories, and the impact CCK has had on campers and parents—it's very easy to be motivated by CCK's mission,"*

-Zak Boca





# MEET OUR STAFF

## Administrative Staff

(left to right)

*Joanie O'Bryan, President & CEO (seated)*

*Clint Cobb, Chief Operations Officer (seated)*

*Dana Spencer, Director of Human Resources/Grants/  
Executive Assistant*

*Emily Cosby, Communications & Community Outreach  
Officer*

*Joanie Ford, Camp Admissions Officer*

*Allysa Gooden, Director of Development*

*Robin Frazier, Administrative Assistant-Operations*

*Donna Criswell, Finance Officer*

*Angie James, Administrative Assistant*



## Facilities Staff

(left to right)

*Makayla Traughber, Housekeeper (seated)*

*Amy Weaver, Lead Housekeeper (seated)*

*Mark O'Neal, Maintenance*

*Wendell Keith, Lead Maintenance*

*Regina Isenberg, Housekeeper*

*Rob Pruitt, Director of Facilities*



## Medical Staff

(left to right)

*Krista Reece, Volunteer Recruiter*

*Maria Duff, Administrative Assistant-Medical*

*Hannah Reckart, Camp Nurse*

*Jenna Rinicker, Camper Recruiter &*

*Healthcare Partner Officer*



## Program Staff

(left to right)

*Marissa Jett, Program Area Coordinator (seated)*

*Brittany Ransom-Doss, Camp Director (seated)*

*Shae Dalton, Barn Manager*

*Jill Matthews, Program Area Coordinator*

*Kelsey Myers, Assistant Barn Manager*



## Kitchen Staff

(left to right)

*Mandy Meador, Cook*

*Rick Sendra, Cook*

*Yvonne Starlin, Director of Dining Facilities*



# THANK YOU

## KOHL'S Cares♥



**Kohl's Cares** is a corporate social responsibility program focused on family health and wellness. Its purpose is "to inspire and empower families to lead fulfilled lives". Our missions could not be more aligned! Since 2009, Kohl's Cares has partnered with CCK and supported our community by inspiring their customers and employees to give time and resources generously. CCK is extremely thankful for the faithfulness of Kohl's Cares and we look forward to a future of making a difference together for years to come.

**WHAS Crusade for Children** has changed millions of children's lives over the years. As an agency that has returned 100% of their donations back into organizations that serve children with disabilities in all 120 Kentucky counties, CCK is lucky to be one of them. The Crusade has been changing lives for the courageous kids we serve since 2008! Thanks to the gracious funding contributions that the WHAS Crusade for Children has given over the years, CCK is able to remain steadfast in our ability to provide the joy of camp at no cost to the families and children we serve.







# You Make a Difference in a Brand New Summer

On July 9th, the fun-filled days of summer began again at The Center for Courageous Kids. After 488 days of developing an inclusive and safe re-opening plan with up-to-date cleanliness and social-distancing standards, five different illness groups were served with the promise of being transported into the Wild, Wild West with thematic programs and activities for the whole family! We welcomed so many friendly faces and extended our open arms to new participants too! Specifically, families from Norton Healthcare's Institute for Health Equity.

This summer, we were able to offer our families the chance to be some of the first to play putt-putt on our new miniature golf course, play with their food at our weekly Messy Games, and show off their many talents in our very first outdoor Stage Day. It felt so good to get back to regularly scheduled programming and we don't plan to stop again any time soon.

*“While the year 2021 came with so many new adventures, it was great being able to experience summer camp with our families and offer them some insight to the magic that our campers usually experience independently during the typical summer camp weeks.”*

*-Brittany Ransom-Doss, CCK's Camp Director*



# Because Your Partnership is Powerful

Campers, families, and volunteer staff alike were anxiously awaiting their return to CCK. The attending families were recruited with the help and support of our dedicated Healthcare Partners.

These partners include:



New in 2021, CCK developed a way to give the joy of camp to children at home and in the hospital with an outreach program called **Cubby Crates**. With the help of our sponsors, we filled this camp-in-a-box full of fun and interactive activities for children. Drop off locations in our community included: Norton Children's Hospital, Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, Kentucky Children's Hospital, Spina Bifida Association of Kentucky, and the Kidz Club in Bowling Green. Nationwide deliveries were made possible with the help of the Healthcare Partner, **The Coalition Against Pediatric Pain (TCAPP)**.

Left: TCAPP family receives a Cubby Crate at home

Inset: Cubby Crates ready to be delivered to local children's hospitals.





# Because Your Generosity is on Target

**READY, AIM, PULL!** The Second Annual **Shooting for a Cause** sponsored by **M&L Electrical, Inc.** was another huge success! Shooting for a Cause has become one of CCK's biggest events and a CCK staff favorite! The event, hosted at the Nashville Gun Club, welcomed 150 shooters and raised \$73,000 for our courageous kids – simply amazing! Whether you were a competitive shooter, or someone who was just excited to be a part of the fun, any and all had a blast. This event is made possible through our partnership with M&L Electrical, Inc. and all of their faithful vendors who have come to know and love CCK. We can't wait to see what the 2022's event has in store!

Top: Camper Ambassador, Marieka, pictured with M&L Electrical Inc. teams.  
Bottom: Chris Mosely & team present CCK with the proceeds of the clay shoot.

**“We love teaming up with CCK because the quality of care that seriously ill children receive while at camp is unmatched.”**

– Justin Mosley, M & L Electrical







# Because of Your Chart-Topping Support

The Third Annual **Moonshine & Music** presented by **The Perry Richey Group** of Baird Private Wealth Management has been CCK's biggest event yet! We are excited to share that we raised over \$245,000! It is because of the generous individuals in the room, the joy of camp is made possible for so many brave and courageous kids in the years to come.

Closing out the night for the second year in a row was the award-winning band, A Thousand Horses, and soloist Eric Paslay. This talented group of singer/songwriters continue to find ways to take their passion for music to benefit CCK and every camper who comes through the gates each year. This event was a perfect ending to 2021!



The highlight of the night was Levi Logsdon, CCK's National Camper Ambassador. Levi shared what his favorite things are about CCK, all while lighting up the room with his contagious smile. Through his inspirational words, every single person in the room that night saw firsthand the impact CCK has on thousands of courageous kids – just like Levi.



40  
CORPORATE  
SPONSORS

245K  
RAISED

350+  
ATTENDEES

*“Every single person in that room was inspired by what CCK does for so many children who live with serious illnesses and various medical conditions. The Perry Richey Group is honored to be the Presenting Sponsor for this event.”*

Shawn Perry, Managing Director of The Perry Richey Group





For many of the children who attend CCK, our state-of-the-art facility is their sole recreational and interactive opportunity. CCK knows the important role we play in the lives of our inspirational campers, and sought to broaden the scope of what is offered at camp by developing the first new program area onsite in over ten years.

**The CCK Cubby Club: Jim & Doris Ford Miniature Golf Course** boasts a fully inclusive layout, fully stocked clubhouse, overhead structure equipped with fans to keep campers cool, uniquely designed thematic elements, and adaptive equipment so that every golfer gets their perfect swing!

A special thanks to our course sponsors:

Mr. Steve & Mrs. Kathy Ford  
 The Elizabeth Turner Campbell Foundation  
 Mr. Curt & Mrs. Karyn Rafferty  
 Koon Family Charitable Foundation  
 Kirkpatrick Price  
 The Perry Richey Group Wealth Advisors  
 Kappa Kappa Gamma, Center College  
 Better Life Foundation  
 Mr. Ron & Mrs. Barbara Spaulding  
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## Because Your Contribution is a Hole-In-One



Left: Camper Ambassadors among the first courageous kids to play on the course. Pictured (right to left) Marieka, Levi, Riley, Blake; Center: Sponsors Mr. & Mrs. Rafferty pose at their hole with Camper Marieka; Right: CCK camper playing golf with fully inclusive equipment.





# Speaker Spotlight

Leaders from the world's greatest organizations call **Derek "DY" Young** when they want to create a legendary culture. As a management consultant, keynote speaker, executive coach, corporate leader, and community advocate, he has conducted more than 10,000 engagements for organizations such as, AT&T, Bass Pro-Cabela's, Girl Scouts, Goodyear, Habitat for Humanity, March of Dimes, Nissan, and more. Young is also an author, husband to Allyson, father to Kristianna, and now a CCK parent.

## Because Your Collaboration Matters

In 2021, we served our local communities through our new **Mission Minded Leadership Series**. This luncheon served those business professionals who give so much to our courageous kids.

The luncheon welcomed nearly 100 young professionals from the local area. Each guest was personally invited by a member of the CCK Advocacy Committee.

Attendees heard a motivational and heartfelt talk from Derek Young, a dynamic public speaker and father of a CCK Camper. Mr. Young shared about his daughter's experience as a camper, as well as the importance of "clarifying your why" for serving the community.



Top: Derek Young at luncheon with CCK team.

Bottom: Derek Young, his wife Allyson, and daughter Kristianna at CCK.



***"This has been one of the greatest experiences of our time as parents and Kristianna's life. Every single aspect of the camp experience was excellent!"***

- Derek Young



## Because you Dressed Up



This summer, women from across South Central Kentucky joined the **Big Hearts Little Black Dresses** awareness initiative by wearing their favorite little black dress and doing a special toast in honor of CCK. Ally Kerr, a CCK Camp Ambassador led the charge in her favorite black dress. By sharing her inspiring story – a story of strength and courage, she ignited a movement that women wanted to stand behind. Our community joined together by posting their Little Black Dress pictures on social media in honor of Ally and campers just like her! To add to the fun, **Pappagallo** and **Back Down South**, two local specialty women's boutiques joined in by donating proceeds to benefit CCK. This awareness initiative was fun and unique – but most importantly it made a lasting impact.



## Because You Dined Out

“ORDER UP” brought restaurants together to not only create a special dining experience, but to create a special CCK experience for seriously ill children and families. The “Order Up” Campaign is a community engagement opportunity where CCK partnered with local restaurant “hot spots” to raise funds for the courageous kids we serve by hosting CCK months. In 2021, **Corner Bakery Café**, **Donatos Pizza**, and **Texas Roadhouse** were the first three to come on board to be a part of this campaign. Customers who came in to enjoy a delicious meal, made their change count by rounding up their total to the nearest dollar! This is such a simple and yummy way to give back to CCK.



**\$21K+**  
RAISED by



**300**  
ORDER UP



**MEALS**



# Because You Continue to Give of Yourself



TRUIST 

Our friends at Truist Financial believe in doing their part as corporate citizens to help build a better quality of life for the communities in which they live and work. The Truist Lighthouse Project is a community service effort, providing the opportunity for employees to partner with local nonprofits to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others. Associates from the Bowling Green office came to CCK to prepare 100 Cubby Crates to be delivered to hospitals in our region. Thanks to the generosity of Truist Financial and the Lighthouse Project, a camp-in-a-box experience will be distributed to 100 children in the coming year.

**The Stormi Murtie Service Above Self Award** is presented to an individual that shows initiative and dedication above all else while generously giving their time and effort. This year's award is twice as nice because the recipients have doubled! **Imogene Vick**, a Scottsville, KY native has been volunteering since 2009 as a bedmaker. Giving back to such a deserving mission in her hometown supplies her with the motivation to continue serving year after year.

Additionally, **Craig O'Bryan**, a Bowling Green, KY resident donates his time by assisting campers and families at the fishing dock during family retreats. He also supports CCK by contributing his professional expertise as owner and operator of Craig O'Bryan Graphics. Our thanks go out to these two outstanding volunteers for making what we do possible!



**dcs**  
DESIGNED CONVEYOR SYSTEMS

**Designed Conveyor Systems** in Franklin, TN made a generous \$5,000 first-time gift to support our courageous kids. Designed Conveyors Systems' outreach committee, coordinates the company's charitable giving and facilitates community events focused on giving back through the ConveyHope Program. The ConveyHope team visited camp this summer for a tour and check presentation. As we return to a full camp schedule in 2022, the members of ConveyHope are excited to get to work as volunteers.

# IN HONOR GIFTS

**In Honor of Siegel Rare  
Neuroimmune Association**

Mr. Sanford J. Siegel

**In Honor of 2019 Summer Camp  
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## **\$100,000.00 and above**

ETC Foundation  
Kohl's Cares

## **\$50,000.00 - \$99,999.99**

Norton Children's Hospital Foundation

## **\$25,000.00 - \$49,000.00**

CC Metals and Alloys  
IPA Foundation  
New Venture Fund  
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## **\$10,000.00 - \$24,999.99**

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King's Daughters and Sons Foundation of Kentucky  
M & L Electrical, Inc.  
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Tony Stewart Foundation  
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## **\$5,000.00 - \$9,999.99**

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Epilepsy Foundation of Indiana  
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## **\$1,000.00 - \$4,999.99**

Amneal Pharmaceuticals, LLC  
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Atalla Essential Skin Restoration  
Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's Outdoor Fund  
BKD Foundation  
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Carr, Riggs & Ingram, CPAs and Advisors  
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Gifters Anonymous  
Graybar Electric  
Green River Rentals, Inc.  
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## **Up to \$999.99**

Allen County Extension Homemakers  
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# CORPORATIONS, FOUNDATION, & ORGANIZATION GIFTS

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West Point Thoroughbreds  
You The Fan





# Because You Give We Can Give Back

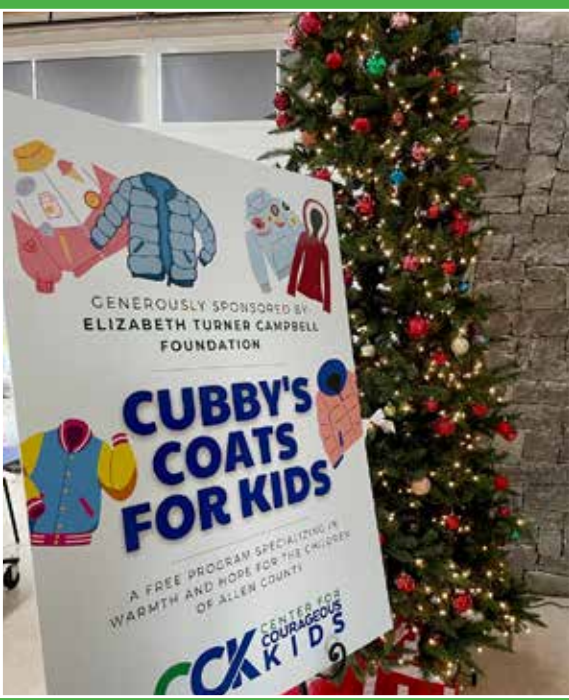
For the 5th year in a row the CCK staff organized a camp-wide food drive for the **True Gospel Fellowship Church** to assist in their efforts to feed low income families in the Allen County area. There are hundreds of families that are serviced through the True Gospel Fellowship Church Food Pantry and food donation drives are what allow them to keep feeding those in need here in the rural areas of our community.



When a tornado struck in our nearby community of Warren County, it was clear that we needed to help in any way that we could. Several of our year-round staff live in Warren County and knew of neighborhoods that needed help. We quickly planned a way to provide a hot meal, power tools, and skilled hands to workers spearheading clean up and families left without power in the area. Our kitchen staff brought the grill and food to cook for anyone who needed it. Our facilities staff brought their equipment and energy. All other available staff contributed by showing up to help deliver and offer support in abundance. We did our best to be #BGstrong!

***CCK is my people helping my people. It warms my heart to see CCK do this."***

*- a resident of the affected area and also a camper mom*



Holiday season of 2021, CCK was honored to offer a free program for the local families of Allen County who were in need of warmth and hope.

**Cubby's Coats for Kids**, sponsored by the **Elizabeth Turner Campbell Foundation**, organized a festive family fun night including a coat pickup, yummy snacks by the warm campfire, a gift-wrapping station, and a table full of arts and crafts! The best part, we were able to supply 268 coats to deserving families in our community! It is so important to us that we take these opportunities to give back to those who have supported us from the very beginning. It is our hope to continue this program for years to come.



# GET INVOLVED

1

## DONATE FINANCIALLY

When you give to The Center for Courageous Kids, you provide children with disabilities and medical conditions and change the life of a child with the joy of camp.

- Become an **Ember Member** and give monthly  
<https://www.courageouskids.org/donate/>
- Leave a legacy and make an estate gift
- Give cryptocurrency  
<https://www.courageouskids.org/donate/crypto/>

2

## ORGANIZE YOUR EMPLOYEES TO SERVE

Engage your employees and co-workers by finding out ways to give back as a group. The impact your company can have when you serve together at CCK is the most meaningful community service opportunity in the area!

3

## FUNDRAISE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

You are welcome to join forces with your school, club, church, neighborhood, etc. to organize an event in your area to benefit CCK. Email [info@courageouskids.org](mailto:info@courageouskids.org) with your ideas!

4

## VOLUNTEER

Volunteering at CCK positively affects the lives of the courageous kids we serve and your life too! Make camp happen and find out the latest volunteer opportunities by emailing [volunteer@courageouskids.org](mailto:volunteer@courageouskids.org).

5

## DONATE GOODS

We often need specific items to keep our program running at full speed. Every donation matters! Your contribution of goods or supplies can take the campers' experiences to the next level. Let us know what you can offer by emailing [info@courageouskids.org](mailto:info@courageouskids.org)



# A CCK TRADITION

*A CCK Tradition: To end the day before rest or to bring the week to a close, campers gather around the campfire and sing campfire songs. This one is a favorite!*

## Stars In The Sky

Chorus:

Stars in the sky, stars in the sky  
Bring the summer right back to me  
Tell me you'll try, tell me you'll try  
To think about me whenever you see those  
Stars in the sky

It's just a letter from a friend of mine  
A little picture from another time  
A little picture of a place that we used to go  
A word or two about a friend we miss  
A fond reminder of a promised kiss  
A fond reminder of a vow we made long ago

(chorus)

We went away when we were very young  
To find the person who we would become  
To find the person who was hidden somewhere inside  
What we discovered these it still holds true  
The friends you make become a part of you  
The friends you make will each return to you like the tide

(chorus)

And if by chance you should be going there  
Please take this message that I hope you'll share  
Please take this message to the ones too young to have learned  
The time is short and there's so much to do  
Don't waste a moment of what's given to you  
Don't waste a moment 'cause you'll never see it return

(chorus)

Coming In 2022



Take the 360 Tour

