



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kristen Gillette

Founder and President of the Kortney Rose Foundation

(732) 859-3629 (Do not publish this phone number but may be used for press contact)

[kortneyroseorg@aol.com](mailto:kortneyroseorg@aol.com)

### **The Kortney Rose Foundation Makes its Seventh Annual Donation to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia**

Oceanport, NJ - January 2, 2014 - The Kortney Rose Foundation announced it presented a check for \$120,000 to The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia for the 2013 fundraising year. This is the seventh annual donation from the foundation, which has donated a total of over \$748,000 since its inception in support of pediatric brain tumor research, and in memory of their daughter Kortney who died from a brain tumor in 2006.

"We are encouraged that the foundation's growth has helped increase research funding for, and awareness about the severity and prevalence of pediatric brain cancer, the leading tumor cause of cancer death among children," said Kristen Gillette, mother of Kortney and founder of the Kortney Rose Foundation. "We thank all of our donors for their generosity, but especially the family and friends who donated in memory of Hannah, Matthew, and Cara and in honor of Alex, Dominic, and Ryan. These children and their families know first-hand that research is crucial in the battle against brain tumors."

"The Kortney Rose Foundation (KRF) is a critical partner in pediatric brain tumor research at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia," said Tom Curran, PhD, FRS, deputy scientific director of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Research. "Due to the dedication and support of The KRF, we are able to apply the very latest technologies to the understanding of pediatric brain tumors. Over the next five years, major leaps in knowledge will take place in our understanding of the genetic landscape of these childhood cancers with the hopes for great improvements in the lives of these children and their families. The Kortney Rose Foundation has made these efforts possible."

Notable corporate sponsors in 2013 included Les Friedland & Associates (Tinton Falls), Wealth Builders Funds (Little Silver), Monmouth Park (Oceanport), The Horizon Foundation of NJ (Princeton), Vonage (Holmdel), Wells Fargo Bank (West Long Branch), and Pauline Poyner, Heritage House Sotheby's International Realty (Rumson).

Another important sponsor is the Turning Point Restaurant organization, which annually teams up with The Kortney Rose Foundation and hosts "The Great Food for a Great Cause Fundraiser" at all Turning Point Restaurant locations. Save the dates for 2014 for this "Great" event, April 26 and 27.

**Kortney Rose Gillette** was a vivacious nine-year old girl with a winning smile and unparalleled zest for life. She loved playing with friends and animals (stuffed or real) and enjoyed school at Wolf Hill Elementary School in Oceanport, NJ. This didn't change even after her diagnosis of a terminal brainstem glioma. On April 27, 2006, four months after her diagnosis, Kortney lost her brave battle with this pediatric brain cancer.

The Kortney Rose Foundation (KRF) was founded by Kortney's mother, Kristen Gillette to honor Kortney's memory and celebrate her life. Brain tumors are the #1 solid tumor cause of death in children 20 and under with more than 3,500 children diagnosed annually. KRF was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) in 2007 to raise money for pediatric brain cancer research. More than 94% of every dollar donated to KRF goes directly to the life-saving research at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, specifically their Large-Scale Genome Project and the new world-class Pediatric Brain Tumor Tissue Consortium.

###

**Pictured:**

**Photo 1-**(left to right Sue Levy Funck, (Hannah's Mom, Kristen Gillette, (Kortney's Mom and Founder of The Kortney Rose Foundation), Laura Munoz, (Alex's Mom) and Amy Vigorito (Dominic's mom.)

**Photo 2-**(left to right)

**Matt DiBattista-Assistant Director, Event Fundraising and Community Partnerships at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), Rich Gillette, Vice President of The Kortney Rose Foundation, Kristen Gillette, Founder/President of The Kortney Rose Foundation, and Lynn Salvo, Director of Development, the Cancer Center at CHOP. The photos reflect a check sign of \$110,000 but on the day of the donation, another \$10,000 was donated making the actual total donated \$120,000.**

For more information about our events please follow us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and at our website [thekortneyrosefoundation.org](http://thekortneyrosefoundation.org).

