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THE KORTNEY ROSE FOUNDATION EXPANDS ITS ANNUAL DONATION TO FUND MULTIPLE PEDIATRIC BRAIN TUMOR RESEARCH PROJECTS

Founder Appointed to Executive Director

Oceanport, NJ - January 8, 2018 – The Kortney Rose Foundation (KRF) today announced that its annual donation to fund research on pediatric brain tumors for 2017 totaled $135,000. This is KRF’s eleventh annual donation, made in memory of nine-year old Kortney Rose Gillette, who died from a brain tumor in 2006. The funds raised will build upon the nearly $2 million contributed by the foundation to date.

In 2017, KRF diversified its funding to include the Children’s Brain Tumor Tissue Consortium (CBTTC), Hackensack Meridian’s Joseph M. Sanzari Children’s Hospital, Optic Pathway Glioma Research at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia and Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital of Stanford. All of these researchers and the institutions are collaborative partners of the CBTTC and are sharing data on CAVATICA, the world’s first and largest pediatric cancer data cloud pioneered by CHOP and CBTTC.

“We’re greatly encouraged that research is moving toward a more collaborative model in which institutions globally can share data and communicate in real time,” said Founder and Executive Director, Kristen Gillette. “This new reality guided our decision to fund four separate research projects that are being conducted by pediatric brain tumor researchers who are at the top of their field.”

Also in 2017, KRF’s Board of Directors approved the transition of Founder and President, Kristen Gillette to the role of Executive Director. In this role, Gillette will work full time for the foundation. “KRF is making an important investment in Kristen who has devoted over a decade of her life to building awareness that brain tumors are the leading cancer cause of death among children, said Board of Director Jennifer Egan. “Through her due diligence, KRF played a pivotal role in the founding of CBTTC, now the largest source of brain tumor specimens in the world.”
The foundation also expanded its advocacy efforts in 2017 by supporting the “Go Gold in September” campaign for Childhood Cancer Awareness month and running a “Go Gray in May” initiative for Brain Tumor Awareness month. Gillette also co-chaired a panel in October at the International Brain Tumor Alliance’s World Summit of Brain Tumor Patient Advocates in London.


Mark your calendars for this year’s "Great Food for a Great Cause" fundraiser taking place at all Turning Point Restaurant locations on February 24-25 and the 13th annual Kortney’s Challenge 2 Mile Fun Run/Walk at Monmouth Park on Sunday, August 5.

The Kortney Rose Foundation is a 501(c) (3) charity created by Kortney's parents, after her death in 2006 from a rare brain tumor, to create her legacy of helping other children through the promise of research. Since inception the foundation has built a playground in Kortney’s name, donated well over $1.5 million to pediatric brain tumor research at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) helping to establish its world-class Children’s Brain Tumor Tissue Consortium (CBTTC.org), additionally funding research at other CBTTC collaborating institutions, Hackensack Meridian’s Joseph M. Sanzari’s Children’s Hospital and Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital Stanford. The foundation was also instrumental in passing legislation naming May as Brain Tumor Awareness Month in the State of New Jersey.

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