



# KORTNEY ROSE FOUNDATION

## ***Area Schools Raise over \$20,000 in 2019 for Brain Tumor Research Through Kortney's Cash for a Cure***

Oceanport, N.J. (December 18, 2019) -- The Kortney Rose Foundation (KRF) announced that, with the participation of Monmouth County schools, it raised over \$20,000 through the Kortney's Cash for a Cure fundraiser. KRF is grateful for the generosity of the students, parents, teachers, staff and administrations that helped to make this fundraiser so successful.

"We are grateful to see this popular fundraiser expand annually to new schools and retail locations which helps to spread awareness to the fact that brain tumors are the #1 cause of death by disease in children and the need for private funding to accelerate research," said Kristen Gillette, Founder/Executive Director of KRF.

It's small foundations like KRF that are helping to bridge the gap in funding left by the National Institute of Health's (NIH) minimal allotment of less than 4% of their annual research budget to all kid's cancer research. That means 96% of the annual NIH research budget goes to adult cancer research. This fundraiser really helps raise awareness to these facts and the much-needed support. The 13 children daily diagnosed with a brain tumor and the 28,000 living with the diagnosis are counting on us to help.

The premise of the Kortney's Cash for a Cure fundraiser is to have "Kids Helping Kids." Students participate by collecting their donation in a KRF custom envelope. Totals are accumulated by homeroom, inspiring some friendly competition, and the homeroom that raises the largest amount receives an award. At a glance, the 2019 fundraiser saw over \$12,000 in donations from the Middletown Township schools, nearly \$4,000 from Rumson schools, over \$2000 from the Oceanport Schools and \$1,600 from Creative Learning Center in Shrewsbury. The money raised directly benefits research being done through the 17 collaborative institutions that make up the Children's Brain Tumor Tissue Consortium (CBTTC). They share specimens and data to accelerate discovery of effective treatments and cures for children with brain/central nervous system tumors. The CBTTC is operated out of the Center for Data Driven Discovery in Biomedicine at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. To date, KRF is responsible for over \$2 million for pediatric brain tumor research in memory of their daughter Kortney, who died from brain cancer in 2006.

*"My daughter is so excited about supporting the Kortney Rose Foundation through this fundraiser at school. She asks me for money every day and she cleaned out her piggy bank last week. It appears she tried to crack open her brother's coin box this morning. I love this project. It's giving her a real sense that she can make a difference."* – A quote from a mother whose children are raising money for the fundraiser at their school



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