#### HOPE FOR MIRACLES, INC.

# Annual Report

Children's Neuroblastoma Cancer Research





Hope for Miracles 2019 Gala @ Hotel Saranac



#### CEO & Executive Board of Directors

Holly LaBombard-Hull Founder/CEO, Director of Advertising/Communications/Social Media, Director of Grants

> <u>Cole Hull</u> Founder/1<sup>st</sup> Vice President & Co-Director of Fundraising

> > Stacy LaChapelle Secretary

<u>Roger Roumpf</u> Treasurer/Director

<u>Farrah Whitney</u> Director of Fundraising

<u>Nina Roumpf</u> Director of Events

Donna LaFountain Director of Junior Hope for Miracles Co-Director of Events

> Justin DeCoste Co-Director of Grants

Kelly LaBombard-Blanchard Director

## A Message from Karson

"Thank you all for everything you do for Hope for Miracles and thank you for helping children just like me."





## What a Whirl Wind of a 1<sup>st</sup> Year

We want to thank you all for making our first year of HFM a success! All of your love and support have been integral in getting us to where we are today. Through our events you have helped us raise:

~Experience the Woods Family Fun Day - \$2,700 ~End of Summer Fling/Woodstock Revival at 20 Main – \$3,400 ~Gala of Miracles - \$25,000

- Facebook Fundraisers \$3,000
- Giving Tuesday Campaign \$5,100
  Craft Fairs & Donations \$4,800

#### Total Funds Raised in 2019 - \$44,000

Total Operating Costs - \$600

#### \*99% of funds raised through HFM will go straight to Neuroblastoma research ~ not many (if any) nonprofits can say the same! \*

While we did not reach our goal of \$60,000, we still believe that this year has been a GREAT success! Why? We have been able to spread our mission not just in NY, but in Vermont, New Hampshire and Florida as well! We have also been featured on TV and in the News – Mountain Lake PBS, My NBS 5 & Adirondack Daily Enterprise. We look forward to continuing and building upon relationships and connections as well as forging new paths in new locations.

## We Want to Thank All of Our Sponsors

Without their generosity 2019's success would not have been possible:



#### HOPE FOR MIRACLES, INC.



**Director of Events** 



Kaitlyn Hull Jr. HFM President

Lexi Roberts Jr. HFM Vice-President



Farrah Whitney Director of Fundraising

## What our Board Members Have to Say about HFM

Who knew that being involved in the Keene Central mentoring program in 2015 would lead to being on the board for Hope For Miracles? After moving from Nebraska to Keene Valley I was looking for some purpose and things to get involved in. My husband suggested that I get involved in the mentoring program at Keene School, as he was and loved it.

How would it be that I was paired with the Hull's eldest daughter Katie? We had an instant bond from the moment we met each other, and still do 5 years later. Through mentoring Katie, I got to know her family and hear about her youngest brother Karson's fight with Neuroblastoma Cancer.

Holly & Cole wanted to give back to The Vermont Children's Hospital, and were planning a Gala to do so. Of course this is my skill set, so I offered to help them. After the Gala Holly and Cole decided that they would like to start their own nonprofit to raise funds for Neuroblastoma research. That being said, they asked me if I would be interested in being on the board as their Events Coordinator. Of course I said yes without hesitation. I felt God had a purpose for me when my husband and I moved to Keene Valley, and I just kept praying for me to see his vision for me. I got involved cleaning camps out of pure boredom, but sensed something more was to come from this. The Lord had his plan, and I listened. He put me in the path of some wonderful clients who I love cleaning for, but who have also become a very big part of Hope For Miracles. They have written checks, donated for our oral auctions, and have supported Hope For Miracles 100%.

I am so blessed to not only call Holly and Cole my friends, but to be on a board where I have witnessed such determination, drive, love for what they do, and excellent leadership. I look forward to seeing just how big Hope For Miracles will get in our quest to find a cure for Neuroblastoma Cancer.

NO kid should ever have to face cancer!

Nina Roumpf Event Coordinator Hope For Miracles

Seeing families making doctor's appointments, being strong for their loved ones facing cancer and struggling with how they are going to pay for everything is heartbreaking. Realizing that only 4% of the funds raised for cancer goes to childhood cancer is beyond belief. Holly and Cole have lived this and have decided that no other family should have to be in this situation. They decided they were not going to wait for things to change... they were going to be the change. Watching their dedication, love, and commitment to Hope for Miracles has been amazing. I am so grateful for the opportunity to help them see their vision become reality. I look forward, not to just this year, but a future when our children receive more than 4%. Thank you to everyone who has shared their story, donated and sponsored events, and have spread the word and vision of Hope for Miracles.

Farrah Whitney ~ Director of Fundraising, Hope for Miracles

## What our Jr. Board Members Have to Say

We have big plans for this year! Care packages are being assembled and are expected to be delivered by the end of February. We are looking forward to attending craft fairs, holding car washes, and possibly a Kid's Day. There will be more brainstorming and ideas to come. Thank you all, and we hope your 2020 is off to a great start!

~Kaitlyn Hull, Junior HFM President

This is my first time being able to truly contribute something back to my community and help others first hand. The Junior board accomplished many goals this year and not only helped at the Fall Gala but also held our own bake sale. It was such a great experience baking and frosting all night with other members of the board and learning more about them. This organization has made me reach outside my comfort zone many times and I am truly thankful for how much it has helped me grow.

~ Lexi Roberts, Junior HFM Vice-President

#### What's Coming Up in 2020? Save the Date

 $\sim$  Chicks, Checks and Cocktails – March 2020

- ~Brookside Barn Bash at the Rainbow (Rainbow Banquet Hall Cowboy boots admired, but not required) – April 25, 2020
- $\sim 2^{nd}$  Annual Experience the Woods Family Fun Day June 2020
- ~2<sup>nd</sup> Annual End of Summer Fling @ 20 Main August 8, 2020 (Neil Young Tribute)
  - ${\sim}3^{rd}$  Annual Gala of Miracles TBD

More to come ...



Experience the Woods Family Fun Day



### How Can You Help This Year?

It's as easy as sharing our posts, events and messages. Invite your Facebook friends to like HFM and remember us for your Facebook Birthday Fundraisers.

If you are interested in sponsorships, donating an item or service, making a cash donation, or in purchasing tickets for any of this year's events, please reach out to us. If you know of someone else who might be, please share!

End of Summer Fling @ 20 Main

#### Want Your Own HFM Swag?

We have many HFM items for purchase: short-sleeved shirts, long-sleeved shirts, tie-dyed shirts, sweatshirts, Carhartt shirts (with HFM Logo), baseball caps and beanies. Reach out for pricing; we are happy to meet to deliver or to ship.



**Our** Vision

Hope for Miracles envisions a world where no family ever has to witness a child suffer from Neuroblastoma.

#### **Our Mission**

Hope for Miracles is a nonprofit organization bringing hope to families of children with Neuroblastoma by funding research for life saving trials and cures.

## What our Sponsors and Donors Have to Say:

"I am a big, huge, giant SAP according to my husband; I wear my heart on my sleeve. I cry at hallmark cards, laugh at stupid jokes and think that motherhood has made me a better person. I also have a rare disease and know firsthand the fear of the unknown. So when I met the CEO of Hope for Miracles, Holly LaBombard-Hull, a connection was made.

This particular charity raises money for Neuroblastoma research. Holly's son, Karson, has had neuroblastoma, a rare childhood cancer. Nothing pulls at my heartstrings more. I spent 7 years working in Oncology back in my early 20's and those experiences left an indelible mark.

I know Karson and his family and it pulls at my heartstrings when I talk with his mother about Karson, his story and the lack of research money that goes to children's cancer (it's 4% or less). I can't imagine being in her shoes.

Solitude Soapworks participated in two fundraisers in 2019 benefiting Hope for Miracles and there really is something to be said for the knowledge and satisfaction that you've done something good for another human.

I chose Hope for Miracles, not only because of the personal connection, but because every child should have a fighting chance. "

~ Jenn Marshall of Solitude Soapworks



"I love Karson and I want to help him and other children beat Neuroblastoma."

~ Chris Thomas of Thomas Construction



Adirondack Health is proud to support Hope for Miracles, Inc. because it's our job to coordinate, connect, and guide patients along the path to better health. For some, that's a pretty mellow path. For others, it can be extremely challenging. Karson's inspirational story reminds us that no matter how dark the path might seem, hope, bravery, determination, and care coordination are the stepping stones to miracles.

~ Matthew Scollin of Adirondack Health



We started supporting Hope For Miracles, Inc. in 2018 as a sponsor for their first Annual Gala of Miracles. We knew Cole and Holly as part of our local community, and we wanted to support their organization in their mission to fight neuroblastoma cancer and support families and children who encounter this illness.

After our attendance at the most recent Gala of Miracles and with a closer knowledge of the board and origins of HFM, we believe even more firmly in their mission. Their family's tireless efforts in this just cause astounds us. HFM seems to be determined to move forward to benefit others. The fact that they have so little overhead and that their board is made up of volunteers is a reassurance that our donations are going where they should.

I've personally heard from Holly and Cole about how sharing struggles with others, even at the smallest events, energizes them to do even more. This is what gives me the most hope in their organization. Their determination and those shared connections are the lifeblood of HFM.

~ Justin DeCoste of DeCoste Insurance Agency



#### HOPE FOR MIRACLES, INC.

## Together, We CAN Make Miracles Happen!

From our family to yours, we wish you all the best of health and happiness in 2020.

With Love and Gratitude,

Karson Hull Neuroblastoma Warrior, Hope for Miracles Poster Child & Hero Extraordinaire

**Holly LaBombard-Hull** Founder, CEO & Proud Mother of a Neuroblastoma Warrior



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Hope for Miracles, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) public charity. Your donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

Hope for Miracles, Inc. is a notfor-profit corporation duly incorporated under the laws of the State of New York and can be found on the NYS Charities Bureau.

"Small things done with great love will change the world." ~ Mother Teresa