

THE
DRAGONFLY
DIGEST

HOLIDAY ISSUE 2016



HELPING YOUNG CANCER PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES FIND STRENGTH



HOLIDAY ISSUE 2016

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LETTER FROM THE founders

Greetings!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the second issue of the Dragonfly Digest. We are very excited about our newsletter, and hope you find it of great interest.

The Dragonfly Digest is delivered quarterly to you via email. Each issue includes stories about our Dragonflies, donors, volunteers, staff and programs. Additionally, the Digest includes ways to help and get involved with our organization.

The purpose of the Dragonfly Digest is to inform you about Dragonfly, and to educate you on the impact you make by supporting us. Our intent is to keep the Digest upbeat, and enjoyable.

We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Enjoy!

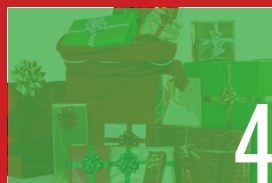
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what's
inside



IN THE NEWS



HOLIDAY UPDATES



ELSEWHERE



SPOTLIGHTS

IN THE NEWS

10 Year Old Mason girl auctions the season's hottest Christmas gift to benefit Dragonfly



Kelly Barto, 10, holds a Dragonfly magnet and the famed Hatchimal that she auctioned off to help Dragonfly

A Mason girl gave up 2016's hottest holiday toy to raise money for kids with cancer.

Young Kelly Barto was looking for a way to raise money for The Dragonfly Foundation, when her mother had an inspired idea.

Her mother, Lisa Barto, had bought Kelly a Hatchimal for Christmas — back before it became a holiday craze. The demand for the \$60 toy exceeded supply, and soon it began selling on eBay and other websites for \$200 or more. Instead of taking a profit, Barto thought any amount raised would be a nice donation for the foundation! When she brought the idea to her daughter, Kelly decided that's what she would do!

Barto posted photos of the Hatchimal on Facebook asking for bids that morning, and 36 hours later, bidding had reached \$500.

“We're very fortunate, and my kids know it,” said Barto. “I know it was a hard decision for her, and I'm proud of her. It's nice to see her step out of her privilege and think about others.”

When the bidding ended Kelly had raised \$600 for The Dragonfly Foundation! More than that, Kelly's story was picked up by WLWT TV5, WXIX TV19, and WLW, and was shared thousands of times on social media. The awareness she helped raise for Dragonfly is priceless! (Thank you, Kelly & Lisa!)

RECENT CAMPAIGNS AND HOLIDAY PROGRAMS



Frankie 2016 Year-End Campaign

Dragonfly's 2016 year-end direct mail, email and social media campaign featured the Baker family. You may have seen Frankie, the Baker's youngest, featured on our thank you cards. Frankie's mom Dawn was nice enough to sit down with Dragonfly and share Frankie's story. That story and more can be found on our blog at Dragonfly.org/Blog.

HOLIDAY HELP PROGRAM
UPDATE
MORE THAN **\$5,000** IN GIFT CARDS SENT
TO CINCY CHILDREN'S

MADE POSSIBLE BY



Kentucky Chapter

ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM
UPDATE
MORE THAN **\$25,000** SPENT ON PRESENTS FOR DRAGONFLY
PATIENTS, SIBLINGS AND CAREGIVERS

60 FAMILIES ADOPTED BY
DRAGONFLY DONORS

MORE THAN **200** DONORS
PARTICIPATED



HOLIDAY WONDER-LANDING

THE LANDING GETS A HOLIDAY MAKEOVER

Take one step into The Landing during the month of December and you will see that there are toys...everyyyywhere! We have incredibly generous donors who constantly go above and beyond, and so many patients, siblings, offspring and caregivers who need and are grateful for the support, especially during the holidays. Thank you to everyone who helped Dragonfly provide comfort and joy this holiday season!



BICYCLE DREAMS COME TRUE

Fidelity Investments' employees spent a recent weekend assembling bicycles that were brought to The Landing and then given to patients for the holidays. The building of bicycles was a way for Fidelity Investments' employees to bond with each other while giving back to their community in a fun and meaningful way!

Thank you to Fidelity Investments for choosing Dragonfly to be the beneficiary of this generous donation!



DRAGONFLY AND CBTS INTRODUCE YOUNG CANCER PATIENTS TO BIG LEAGUERS AT REDS FEST.

Thanks to the generosity of CBTS, Dragonfly had a private room at Reds Fest where patients and their families could come hang out for a meet and greet with Cincinnati Reds players, coaches, and front office personnel. Pictured here is a young boy meeting Red's manager Bryan Price.



WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE?

DAYTON UPDATES

DRAGONFLY TO BEGIN OFFICIALLY ACCEPTING PATIENTS FROM DAYTON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN 2017

After the first of the year, The Dragonfly Foundation will be accepting Dayton patients. To this point, Dragonfly has provided Dayton Children's with needed items, such as

Newly Diagnosed Care Packages and more. Now, Dayton patients will have access to events, such as Reds games, concerts and other things. They'll also be able to participate in activities like Dragonfly's patient picnic and holiday party.

CHICAGO UPDATES

SAM ACHO, OTHER BEARS PLAYERS, TEAM UP WITH DRAGONFLY TO SURPRISE PATIENTS AT THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Bears linebacker Sam Acho is no stranger to good deeds. Nominated for the Walter Payton Man of The Year Award in 2016, Acho is a force to be reckoned with in the world of doing good for others. On Tuesday, December 13th, he and two other players from the Chicago Bears spent the afternoon meeting young cancer patients and their families at The Children's Hospital of Loyola University Medical Center. After answering questions and signing autographs, the players showed off their vocal skills with joyful renditions of Feliz Navidad and other holiday favorites.



PULSE FINANCIAL SERVICES DONATES \$2,000 THROUGH THEIR PULSE GIVES BACK PROGRAM TO DRAGONFLY CHICAGO

Based out of Lisle, IL, Pulse Financial Services provides financial planning services to clients all over the mid west. Their Pulse Gives Back program is a quarterly giving campaign that has raised over \$25,000 in three years. The Dragonfly Foundation Chicago received this quarter's \$2,000 donation. Thank you Pulse Financial Services!



volunteer SPOTLIGHT

BRUCE LINDEMUTH

dragonfly courier



What Dragonfly Has To Say About Bruce

Bruce has been one of The Dragonfly Foundation's most committed and long-time volunteers. Bruce comes to the Landing each week (and then some) to load up his car with gifts to deliver to Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Without Bruce, we wouldn't be able to respond so quickly to hospital requests, and we'd face the burden of trying to find alternative means to deliver gifts. It's nice to be able to rely on Bruce's dependability.

What Bruce Has To Say About Dragonfly

After I retired, I decided to spend some time volunteering for a local charity. I had lost my wife to cancer and knew how difficult that was for me and my family. When I saw Dragonfly's mission of 'joy and comfort' for children and their families I knew that's where I wanted to help.

I've staffed the Landing and helped at events but primarily deliver gifts and care bags to Children's Hospital each week. I've seen some of the thank you notes from the kids and parents after receiving them so I know how much they help. It feels a bit like being Santa each week!

staff member SPOTLIGHT

HANNAH SLIGER

grant writer, program assistant



Favorite memory or experience with Dragonfly?

It is not easy to pick just one, but one of my favorite memories with Dragonfly so far is Reds Day. Dragonfly kids get to play a game of baseball on the field at Great American Ballpark. It is such a unique opportunity for our kids to have and it is so fun to see the joy and pride they all experience on this day. Everyone has so much fun with it and it is awesome to be a part of.

What is the best part about working for Dragonfly?

The best part about working for Dragonfly is the people I get to work and interact with every day. Whether it's the staff, volunteers, or our amazing Dragonfly families, each day is unique and provides so many opportunities to meet and work with some of the very best people.

What is the last song you listened to?

"Hallelujah" by Pentatonix

Would you rather be a giant rodent or a tiny elephant? Explain.

A tiny elephant, for sure. A giant rodent kind of freaks me out, and I think being a tiny elephant would be a lot more fun and less terrifying..

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WISHING YOU COMFORT AND JOY



Happy Holidays From The Dragonfly Foundation

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