



Sports Games for Kids Newsletter

A THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE!

MODEST BEGINNINGS, GREAT ASPIRATIONS

We're Still Growing!

by Tom Grabo

What a fun year we had in 2016! We attended many Reds games, a Bearcat game, an FCCincinnati match, a Dayton Dragons game and a Cyclones game! Please learn more about the progress we've made and the difference we made in kids' lives!

Our Mission:

Sports Games for Kids is a 501(c)3 charity focused on bringing the joy of professional and collegiate level sports to children facing hardships in their young lives. We aim to give a lasting special memory to children from foster care programs, children's hospitals and homeless shelters. By providing an all expenses paid trip to games in our service area, the kids are able to experience a sense of normalcy and fun, without the financial burden of such an event. The kids and their chaperones are provided with a free in-game meal, snacks, drinks and a souvenir t-shirt to remember the day by. They are led in cheers and are taught about the game by the Cincy Super Fan. Additional fun is planned according to the individual events (including: posters, costumes, pre-game fan parades and even player autographs). According to Teammarketing.com, it costs upwards of \$250 for a family of 4 to attend a Baseball game in Cincinnati (including tickets, parking, food and drinks and a souvenir hat). Many families, especially those paying heavy

medical bills, those living in impoverished conditions, or foster parents who care for multiple children, could not afford such an event. By providing our services to these families, the kids are able to have that special memory of the first time they entered the stadium to see their home team play.

Our board consists entirely of volunteers, so that there are no administration costs associated with our charity. We work tirelessly to find ways of saving money on events so that every dollar raised goes further to helping bring this joy to as many children as possible. Fundraisers are held at little to no cost by finding local businesses, sponsors and outside groups which share our values who hold these fundraisers on our behalf, or that host the events free of charge to us. It is our firm belief that every effort should be made to keep donations focused on the programs we provide. We recommend checking our Guidestar profile for a more in-depth look at how we operate (we can be found on Guidestar.com by searching for us either by name or our EIN 47-3616507).



Still Growing!

Take a peek into our development as shown by our financial records.

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Stories of Events Past

Read some of the heartwarming stories from past events as told by the Cincy Super Fan himself!

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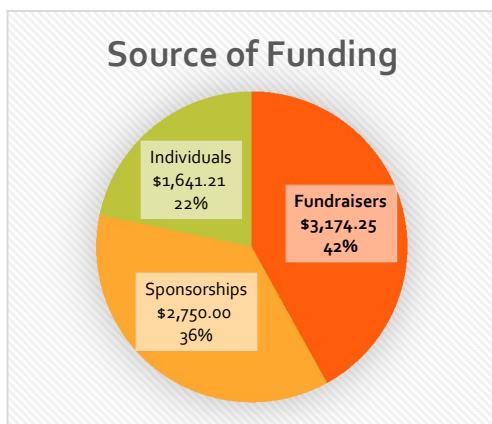
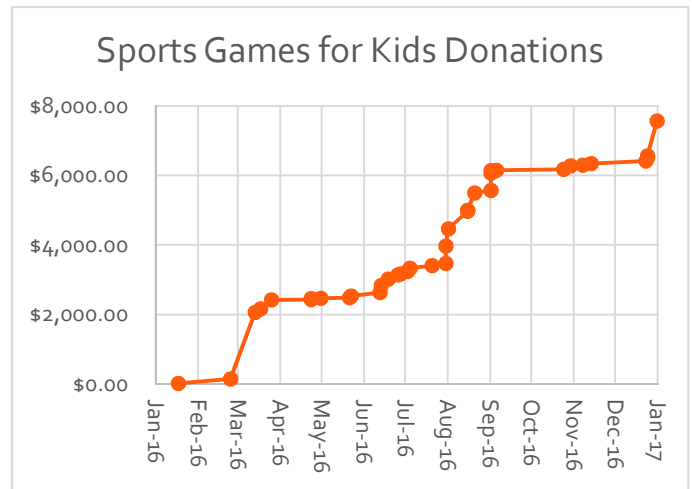
Our Growth By Numbers!

by Tom Grabo



Made possible by... You!

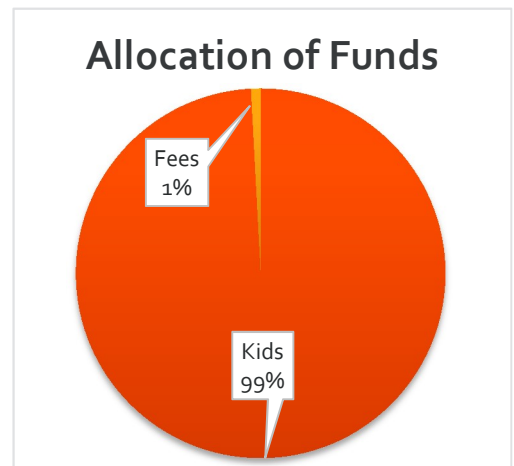
Sports Games for Kids would not be able to do what it does, without our generous supporters! A majority of these funds were raised at our multiple fundraising events, which means our supporters care so much about our cause, they come out to join us for our fundraising events! Our main fundraising event saw over 100 people join us for a dinner at Mason Pub and Grill and many of them participated in our many basket and split the pot raffles. We also had a Golf event hosted by Mason Pub and Grill and the Jung Insurance agency which was a lot of fun and had over 60 people join us for a day of Golf! Our friends at Cincy Soccer Talk also hosted a fundraiser in our honor, at which competitors played a round of Footgolf, then participated in a raffle at the after dinner! Congratulations to Queen City Firm's team on winning the first annual CST Footgolf Tournament! Our fundraisers weren't our only source of Revenue. Multiple generous local businesses chose to sponsor us in 2016. Please review our sponsorship page and consider giving your business to companies who so generously support our community! Outside of fundraisers, many very kind donors chose to make donations to our cause on their own time! We truly appreciate your support!



So where are these funds going? Over 99% of Sports Games for Kid's expenses have been spent directly on the children. These funds purchase snacks, water, hotdogs, shirts, tickets and other fun game-day items. On average, we spent approximately \$15.00 on every child that we take to a game. This is a drastic reduction in "Cost per Person" from our work in 2015, which was closer to \$23.00. We were able to accomplish this by constantly searching for the best deals we could. For instance, our partnership with 513 Shirts has reduced the price per shirt by \$2 and our

	Tickets Purchased	Donations Raised	Expenses On Kids
2014	85	\$765.00	\$765.00
2015	215	\$6,880.11	\$4,903.74
2016	412	\$7,565.46	\$5,655.19

partnership with Signature furniture provided us with 100 free tickets to reds games! Since every member of Sports Games for Kids works strictly as a volunteer, no one has ever been paid for their work for Sports Games for Kids, and our current Payroll is \$0.00. Regrettably, we can't raise these funds out of thin air! In order to accept online payments and credit card donations, we utilize PayPal's services, which incur a 2.9% fee on all donations made through this channel. We are also proud to announce that in 2016 not a single dollar was spent on fundraising! By partnering with local businesses and groups who share our passion, fundraisers were held without cost or funded entirely by outside organizations on our behalf. We have grown dramatically in 2016, not only in our partnerships and impact, but also in our knowledge and experience and we plan to continue this growth for many years to come!





Magnificent Memories Made



Short Stories to Warm Your Heart...
by Tom Grabo

FC Cincinnati: Marches, Tifos, Chants & Smoke!

On August 24th, 2016 we officially began our FCCincinnati Games for Kids division! This event benefitted children from both Children's Hospital as well as orphans in Lighthouse Youth Services foster care program! The event began at Tangeman University Center where the children received their awesome new shirts (design created by Joseph Hollon and shirts produced by 513

Shirts). The kids enjoyed a pizza dinner before the game. At 6, some of the children entered the stadium to take part in the Supporters Group's pregame march around the stadium. The kids loved joining the march, and talked about it for the rest of the game! Meanwhile, some children preferred to stay behind to create their own beautiful posters for the match! Everyone rejoined at their seats, were they discovered their next big surprise, a homemade tifo (designed by Joseph Hollon, painted by Die Innenstadt members at Schultz Studios)! They were

excited to display their tifo after the National Anthem, and it was seen far across the stadium! Later during the game, all of the children signed their tifo, leaving their mark for future games. Of course, what match is complete without halftime snacks!? So the children all got popcorn or nachos and sprite or coke for the second half of the game! Any children who were able to stay after the match had a chance to get autographs from Kenny Walker! This event was so exciting, and we plan to have many more in the future!



Cyclones Can Pyramid!



On December 3rd 2016, we attended our first ever Cincinnati Cyclones game! This was also the Cyclone's Teddy Bear Toss and the kids loved seeing everyone throw teddy bears onto the ice! They also loved seeing the players "get smashed into the walls!" But while the game was fun to watch, the kids quickly picked up on a hockey-game tradition, and were in awe of the beer-amid being built rink-side below our section. So, we began our own pyramid, made

out of the Hawaiian Punch and Sunkist cans that were generously provided to us at a great price by Aramark! The kids were proud of their pyramid that grew 10 cans tall! Needless to say this delicate structure didn't last very long when the Cyclones scored their next goal, but the kids enjoyed it while it lasted! The kids were also excited to meet Batman at the match! It was fun watching and cheering for the Cyclones as they won the game. We hope to go again soon!

Scoreboard Assured

On June 12th we provided over 80 tickets to Children's Hospital patients and their families! Children undergoing treatments were able to join us down at the ballpark for a day of fun to create special memories. The girls were crowned princesses by Miss Ohio Tourism 2016, Autumn Parker, while the boys were caped by our very own Cincy Super Fan! The kids loved their souvenirs and had a lot of fun cheering on the Reds! Finally, late in the game, bright green shirts appeared on the jumbo-tron, the kids went crazy! It was like all their little dreams came true. For the rest of the game we all talked about how many people saw them! Of course, the fireworks for the homeruns added to



their enjoyment, and they loved the game-winning fireworks. All in all, we couldn't have designed a better game if we tried.



Bearcats

On Saturday, February 13, we took 32 children and chaperons from Cincinnati Children's Hospital to watch the UC Bearcats basketball team take on the East Carolina Pirates. The kids and met us before the game on UC's campus to make posters, get the Bearcat "C-paw" painted their faces, and enjoy a delicious meal from Patty Burger. The kids were also able to meet Lucy, the Bearcat. Everyone enjoyed the game, using their personally made posters to cheer the Bearcats to a victory! We are constantly meeting very special people throughout our experiences. At this particular event, we met a family who has a heart of gold, even when their times are tough. After our event we received the following message: "We just wanted to take a second to tell you Thank You for our experience today. To most, it

might just be a game, but to our family it was so much more. We drive 8 hours just to come and get treated at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. So a program like yours, becomes the highlight of our kids trip to the hospital. It allows them to forget about the doctor appointments, needles and endless hours at the hospital. But, even more inspiring is your story. Our kids have developed their own charity and to meet someone else that had a dream of making a difference and put it into action was great and inspiring for our kids!" We encourage you to please checkout their cause, Cheer 4 Savannah. We are incredibly grateful and fortunate to have partnered with Patty Burger for this event and are very thankful for the generous donation of hot dogs, hamburgers, homemade chips and salad. We are also very grateful for UC Athletics for their donation tickets for this event. We truly can't thank you enough.

Sports Games For Kids

Quarterly Newsletter

Thank you to all of our sponsors!



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Our Next FUNdraiser:

Our next fundraisers will be held in late Summer 2017. Please keep an eye out for the 11th Annual Golf Scramble presented by the Jung Insurance Agency! It was so much fun last time and we have many great ideas for making it even more fun next year! Also happening in August this year will be the Second Annual FootGolf Classic! In their first year, they only had 18 spots available for teams of 4, but in their second year, they plan to double the number of teams! Be sure to check back in on our web page or social media accounts so that you don't miss out on these fundraisers!



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