

Becoming an organ donor is easy!

JUST VISIT

richiesspirit.org/organ-donor

FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO SIGN UP AS AN ORGAN DONOR IN YOUR STATE







Richie's Spirit Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. All contributions are fully tax deductible as allowed by law.

Checks made payable to Richie's Spirit Foundation can be mailed to the address above. Donations are also accepted online at **www.richiesspirit.org** 





# My younger brother, Richie, was a people person.

Everyone knew him in his high school (and he knew everyone's name!), he was friendly with the nurses and doctors in the many hospitals he frequented, and he ran what I'm certain was the largest Fantasy Football League in the early 2000s. People of all ages were drawn to Richie's kind, giving spirit. Nine years since his untimely death, it makes me proud to know the Foundation's namesake is still positively impacting the lives of so many people.

Richie's Spirit Foundation has seen phenomenal growth in the last year: we brought on three new board members: Dr. Scott Pinner of San Francisco and Maggie Williamson of Chicago, both of whom are double lung transplant recipients, and Lindsay Cobb of New York City; our grant-giving reached record numbers of applicants this year; and our presence around the country has increased to over a half dozen cities.

With over 120,000 people waiting for a lifesaving organ transplant, there is still much work for us to do. Looking ahead, RSF will be expanding our educational awareness programs to teach more young adults the importance of signing up to become an organ donor. We are also committed to increasing the financial support we give to families with a child undergoing a transplant. Through our Transplant Assistance Grant Program, we can give back to those affected by the miracle of organ donation.

Richie had a larger-than-life spirit, and years after his death, he is still sharing his spirit with so many people. Thank you for supporting our cause and helping us continue to reach higher. Together, we will keep Richie's memory alive for years to come.

assing the spirit,

Jordan Herskowitz Executive Director





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Thanks to the generosity of our donors, supporters and contributors, RSF was a proud sponsor of the **2016 Donate Life Transplant Games of America** in Cleveland, OH. Jordan and Meghan represented RSF and promoted the mission during the five-day, Olympics-style competition that brings together over 5,000 donor recipients and families.

Competition events are open to living donors, organ transplant recipients, and bone marrow, cornea, and tissue transplant recipients. More than an athletic event, the Transplant Games highlight the critical importance of organ, eye, and tissue donation, while celebrating the lives of organ donors and recipients.

Along with meeting hundreds of people from throughout the country and hearing their incredible stories, Jordan had the opportunity to share his own journey and to pass Richie's spirit by performing his one man show, Growing Up Jordy Pordy, and conducting an educational session about starting a nonprofit organization. Both sessions were a part of the Transplant Games' Educational Workshop Series, providing education, resources, and inspiration to attendees.

On behalf of Richie's Spirit Foundation, we acknowledge all who were involved with the event. We are inspired by your efforts and will continue our great work so that we can impact more lives.

To learn more about the Transplant Games of America, please visit transplantgamesofamerica.com

#### 2016 Board of Directors

Lindsay Cobb Phillip Jacobs Dr. Scott Pinner Molly Richardson Stacie Shidler Maggie Williamson

#### **Sta** Ian Herskow

Jordan Herskowitz Executive Director

Meghan Wood Foundation Coordinator

## **Honorary Chairmen**Barbie and Mark Herskowitz

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The mission of Richie's Spirit Foundation is to promote organ donation to people of all ages through education awareness programs, grants to honor Richie's memory, and inspiring others to live with a positive spirit.

# Transplant Assistance Grants

Richie's Spirit Foundation recognizes the financial burden an organ transplant has on a family. To help alleviate some of these pressures, RSF provides non-medical financial support through our Transplant Assistance Grant Program. Since inception, RSF has awarded more than \$10,000 grants to families across the country.

## Patient Profile

### Kendell, 15 years old, Texas City, TX

Kendall is a vibrant, intelligent and fun-loving teenager who is an avid fisherman, amusement park enthusiast and cheerleader. Complications from Cystic Fibrosis have led to a liver transplant and two double lung transplants over the past three years. Kendall has kept a positive spirit, but the road to recovery has not been easy, especially on her loving and hard-working parents.



# College Scholarships

Richie's Spirit Foundation received a record 2,500 applications for this year's Significant Challenge College Scholarship. We were thrilled to award a total of \$3,500 to three worthy recipients.



#### Nicole Sancilo

First Place Hometown: Smithtown, NY College: Boston University Born with a rare syndrome, Nicole overcame physical, emotional and mental challenges to rise to the top of her class. She spearheaded two mental health campaigns in her local community, raising thousands of dollars and spreading awareness to live life with a positive spirit.



## **Taylor Finley-Ponds**

Runner Up Hometown: Denver, CO College: University of Southern California

Though homelessness has plagued Taylor and her family for many years, her mother's unconditional love has helped her through times of struggle. Taylor committed herself to academics, has excelled in extracurricular activities and has emerged as a leader in her local community.



## Remington Lee

Honorable Mention Hometown: Fresno, CA College: UCLA

Remington lives with a serious spine deformity and channels her positive energy through community service activities. In addition to being an honors student, Remington is the President of her school's Club 321,

a social club for people with Down Syndrome, volunteers with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, and maintains her own website focused on sharing positive news stories and headlines.

Introducing the Plano Independent School District (PISD) College Scholarship Program



Avery Kralovetaz Hometown: Plano, TX

A \$1,000 memorial scholarship is awarded each year to a rising high school senior in the district where Richie would have graduated just

# More Ways to Pass the Spirit

As Richie's Spirit Foundation continues to grow, contributors from across the country are finding creative ways to support our cause. Check out these ideas and visit us online to get involved.



Lauren McGlothlin, from New York, NY, chose to run in the AirBnB Brooklyn Half Marathon in May 2016 for

Richie's Spirit Foundation. While injury kept her from the race, she still raised more than \$2,500 to support our mission.

In lieu of gifts, Jessica Hervey and Matt Akridge asked guests at their April wedding to donate to RSF. This selfless gesture helped to fund our



Transplant Assistance Grant Program.

# What People Are Saying

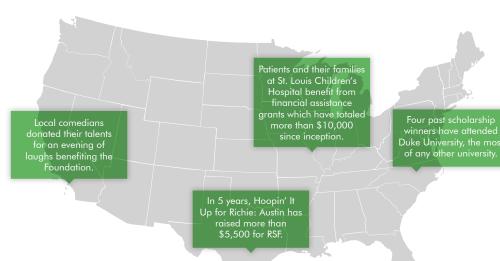
"My college experience at Stanford University has made me the happiest I've ever been, and I could not have gone there without RSF's support! I hope to continue living Richie's legacy in my career and for the rest of my life."

 Kinsey Morrison Past Scholarship Recipient, 2014

"Thank you RSF for coming to visit our classroom! It was truly inspirational to see the way you turned something so tragic into something so impactful. We cannot thank you enough for teaching us about organ donation and to always live with a positive spirit."

– Jamie Mittleman Educator, New Jersey

# Our Reach



#### **Event Locations**

Austin, TX (Hoopin' It Up for Richie)\* Brooklyn, NY (Rock n' Roll Half Marathon) Los Angeles, CA (Comedy Night)\* New York, NY (Rockin' out for Richie)

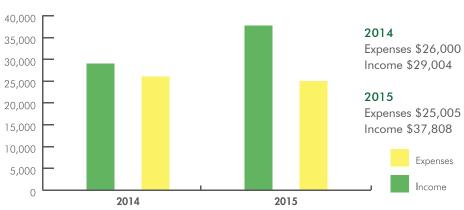
### TAG Hospitals

Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh Cincinnati Children's Hospital Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital at New York Presbyterian St. Louis Children's Hospital\* Texas Children's Hospital

## Scholarship Recipient Universities

Azusa Pacific University (CA) Boston University Carleton College (MN) Christopher Newport University (VA) Duke University (NC)\* Miami University (OH) Montclair State University (NJ) Pomona College (CA) Rhodes College (TN) Rockhurst University (MO) Stanford University University of Missouri University of South Carolina University of Wisconsin Vanderbilt University (TN) Villanova University (PA)

## Financials



Richie's Spirit Foundation's revenue grew by 23% from 2014 to 2015.

thank you for your support!





