



age 15



age 17



age 7

“You only live once. Why miss the opportunity?”

Richie's favorite saying has stuck me with me since his death ten years ago.

Ten years is significant, not just because it marks the passing of a decade, but because my family and I had ten additional years with Richie thanks to an anonymous organ donor.

Ten years later, Richie's life is still impacting mine and so many others who never even met him. As we celebrate the grassroots success and incredible growth of Richie's Spirit Foundation over the years, we look towards 2018 and beyond as we think strategically and thoughtfully to further share our mission and expand our reach. With your support, we'll keep Richie's positive spirit living on for another ten, twenty, even one hundred years!

Passing the spirit,

Jordan Herskowitz
Executive Director



RICHIESSPIRIT.ORG

10 years

of Promoting Organ Donation

2007 - An idea is born! The inaugural Board of Directors creates RSF's mission and vision in honor of Richie.

2008 - *Growing Up Jordy Pordy*, RSF's Executive Director's one-man show, tours internationally to promote RSF's mission.

2009 - RSF awards its first college scholarship to a student who embodies characteristics of Richie.

2010 - RSF receives its official 501(c)3 tax exemption status.

2011 - Hoopin' It Up For Richie Basketball Tournament takes place in St. Louis, MO. The event expands to Austin, TX, the next year.

2012 - RSF awards its first Transplant Assistance Grant to a family with a child undergoing an organ transplant.

2013 - RSF receives its first major grant funding, a \$10,000 gift from Joyful Blessings Foundation.

2014 - RSF hires its first employee and grows its national reach through sponsorship of the Transplant Games of America.

2015 - RSF expands its college scholarship program to offer a \$1,000 award to a student at Plano Independent School District in Plano, Texas, where Richie attended high school.

2016 - Team Richie members engage in race events across the country raising more than \$5,000.

2017 - To date, RSF has raised over **\$150,000** to promote organ donation and support transplant recipient families across the country.

2018 - With your support, we will continue this important work!

2017 Board of Directors

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Molly Richardson
Stacie Shidler
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Meghan Wood
Foundation Coordinator

Estella Pate
Grants Consultant

Ruby Murry
Graphic Designer

Rose Shapiro
Intern

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

RSF 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. This year, RSF awarded \$5,000 to eight families across the country.

"My son has undergone two major organ transplants: heart and double-lung. Our time in and out of the hospital has put a significant financial strain on our family. In a time of crisis, I contacted Richie's Spirit Foundation in desperation as our electric bill was overdue and just days away from being turned off. The team at RSF was so responsive, compassionate, and paid the bill in full. RSF's support has lifted a weight from my shoulders, and I now can focus my full attention on my son's recovery."

—The Family of Bryson Petty



College Scholarships



RSF awarded \$6,000 in college scholarships to four students pursuing a college degree. This is the largest single year award amount since the inception of the program nine years ago. More than 2,500 applications were received, where high school seniors are asked to write about a significant challenge they have faced and how they have overcome it. A national review committee scored all essays and selected this year's winners.

Kevin Contreras of Carson, California, was awarded the first place prize of \$3,000. Diagnosed with a debilitating eye disease, Contreras will eventually go blind. His involvement in STEM and engineering clubs has helped him in pursuing a career in the medical field. Contreras is attending Pitzer College in Claremont, California.

"My diagnosis doesn't control my life, but it has become a force in shaping my future. It has inspired me to pursue my own worthwhile career in support of STEM. Even if I'm not a surgeon, I can still contribute to the next generation of medical knowledge through research and by encouraging younger generations to find success in the medical field. I may not know what my future holds, but I'm more determined than ever to make a difference."

—an excerpt from Kevin Contreras's award-winning essay

How Others Are Passing the Spirit

RSF Board Member Welcomes Baby Girl Named after Richie



Phillip Jacobs, who has served on RSF's Board of Directors since the Foundation's start, and his wife, Joanna, welcomed a baby girl, Maya Rae. A cousin of Richie's, Mr. Jacobs followed the Jewish

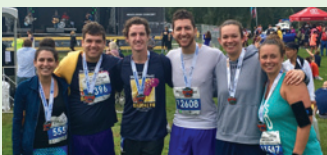
tradition of naming his child with the same first letter of a deceased family member. RSF and the Herskowitz family is beyond honored by this touching tribute to Richie!

Midwest High School Turns Tragedy into Action with Help from RSF



After applying for RSF's College Scholarship, Courtney Wiese found a unique way to promote organ donation. When a classmate tragically died in a car accident in the spring, Wiese was inspired by RSF's mission and organized a Donor Drive at Henning High School in Minnesota. Her classmate donated his heart, eyes, and skin.

Team Richie Runs Half-Marathon for Third Year in a Row



In October, seven RSF supporters living in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Staten Island, and New Jersey, ran with Team Richie in the Rock 'N Roll Half Marathon

in Brooklyn. Team Richie raised a record \$6,000 to benefit RSF's mission and vision.

What People Are Saying

"This scholarship is absolutely making a dream come true. Without RSF's help, deciding to attend Corban University would have been a more difficult decision."

— Parker Hollingshead, 2017 Scholarship Recipient

"My internship at RSF has allowed me not only to peek into the operations of this thriving foundation, but also to contribute to the growth and expansion of the programming and services that RSF provides to students, families, and communities. I feel lucky to be gaining valuable experience in nonprofit management, while also working alongside a cohesive and inspiring team."

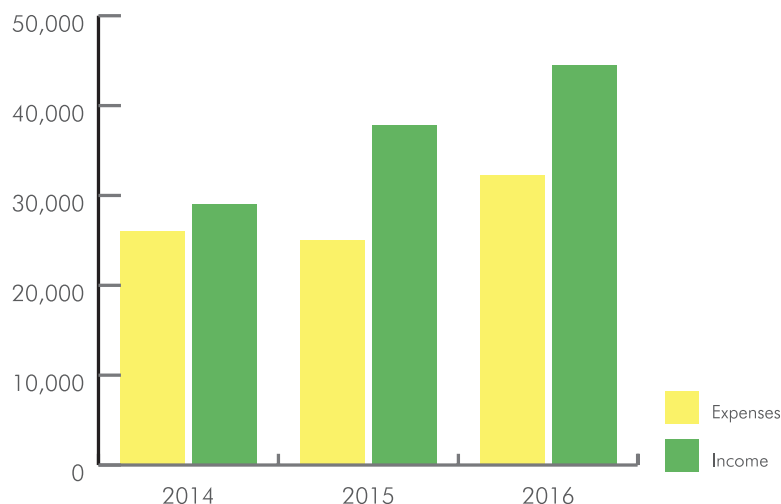
— Rose Shapiro, RSF Intern

RSF Launches NYC-based Young Professionals Network

RSF welcomed its first cohort of early to mid-career young professionals living and working in the NYC area. The goal of this group is to promote the mission of RSF while offering networking opportunities and mentorship to leading young professionals in the medial and non-medical fields. Through professional development opportunities and fun experiences in some of NYC's trendiest spaces, these future leaders are helping to strengthen RSF's mission and to grow its reach. The YPN organizes RSF's annual New Year's Eve Bash and Rockin' Out for Richie, along with several other social events.



Financials



2014

Expenses \$26,000
Income \$29,004

2015

Expenses \$25,005
Income \$37,808

2016

Expenses \$32,277
Income \$44,462

thank you for your support!



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foundation

*Becoming an
organ donor is
easy!*

JUST VISIT

richiesspirit.org/organ-donor

FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON
HOW TO REGISTER IN
YOUR STATE



anyone
can sign up to be
an organ donor

Know the Facts:



You can be a donor
at any age.



Donation is possible with
many medical conditions.



All major religions
approve of organ and
tissue donation.



A national computer system
and standards ensure ethical
and fair distribution of organs.

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foundation

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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