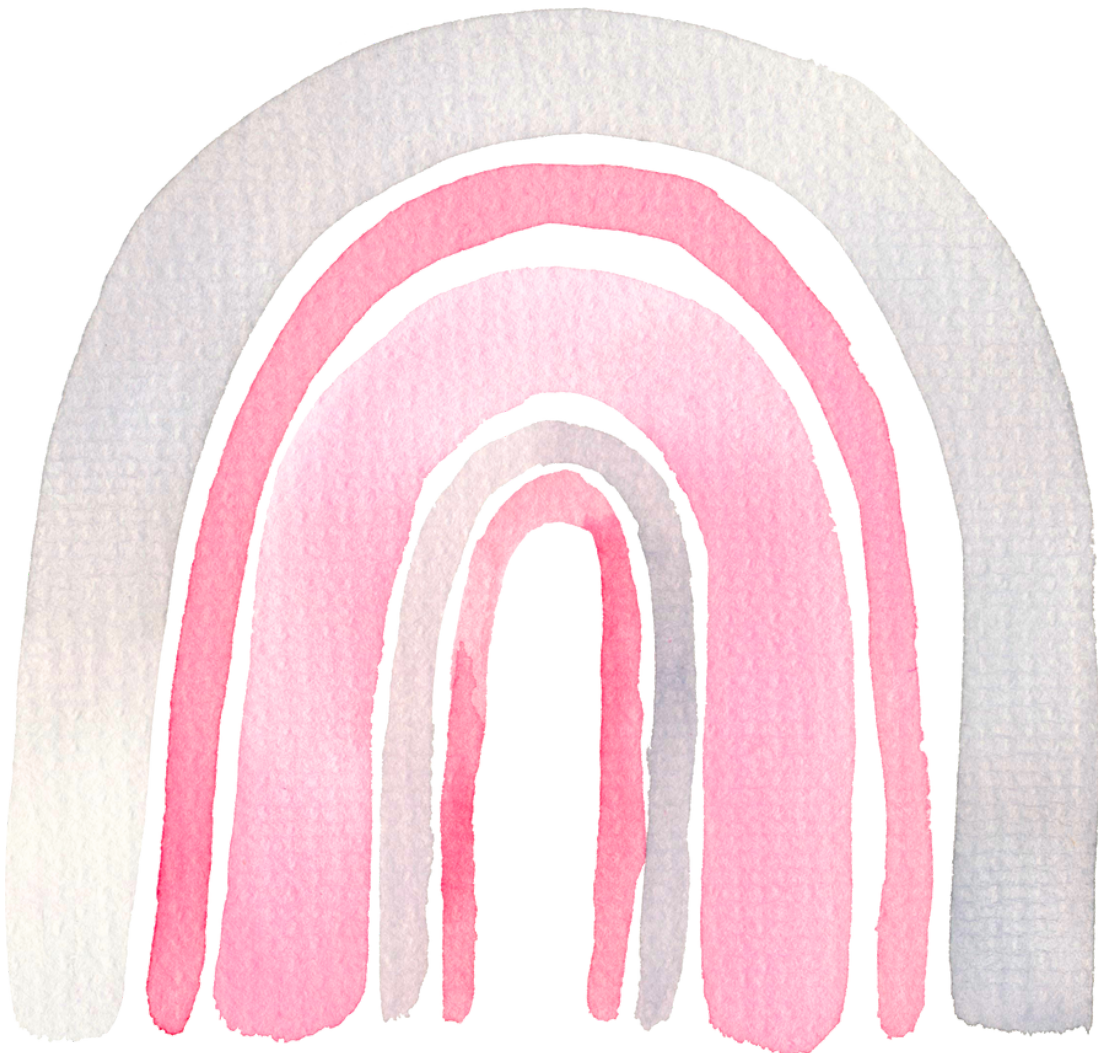


SAM'S FANS ANNUAL REPORT



2022

Supporting and enhancing Music and Art
Therapy programs that serve seriously ill
children and their families



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Mission Vision & Values

MISSION

Supporting and enhancing Music and Art Therapy programs that serve seriously ill children and their families

VISION

To ensure access to the healing forces of Music and Art Therapies for all patients and families

VALUES

Authenticity

We are genuine. We are honest and kind. We are dependable. We recognize other's strengths. We do the right thing, just like Sam did.

Community

We collaborate. We are knowledgeable and understanding of our community's issues and opportunities. We celebrate other's accomplishments. We look for ways to share the work of Sam's Fans and promise to keep Sam's memory alive.

Dedication

We embrace Sam's Fans' mission, vision, policies, and work objectives. We value thoroughly completing the projects at hand. We are diligent in solving everyday problems. We work hard both in group settings and with individual tasks. We share Sam's enthusiasm.

Generosity

We give our time, talent and treasure to others. We give our time to meaningful projects. We lend our talent to our partners. We provide funding to programs that make a difference. We are good stewards of Sam's Fans' dollars. We model Sam's generous spirit.

Integrity

We are honest, accountable, and dependable. We establish strong relationships with team members, partners and donors that are built on trust and kindness. We are truthful and we will follow through with promises. We work in a way that would make Sam proud.

Welcome to the 2022 Sam's Fans Annual Report.

2022 was an outstanding year for Sam's Fans as an organization. It was a year of being BOLD and doing things we had not done previously, and that led to unprecedented growth. We made commitments to ourselves, our partners, and our supporters and we are delivering on those promises. When you read what we accomplished in 2022 on these pages, we hope you feel as confident and proud to support this work as we feel doing this work every day.

We learned a lot in 2022. We have expanded on what is working well and we are analyzing where improvements are needed. Our hearts are deeply rooted in this work, and it is showing. We are committed to making a significant impact to Music and Art Therapy programs that serve seriously ill children and their families all through Ohio and in SW Florida.

Thank you for trusting us with this important and impactful work. We look forward to another year of continued success.

With Gratitude,

Nikki and Mandy



Impact Stories

A patient, who the art therapist had worked with for well over a year recently took a bad turn and was in her last stages of life. The therapist went to meet with her, checked in with the mother, who shared what was going on with her daughter. Upon entering the room, the patient immediately had a warm smile on her face and asked the art therapist to sit with her. The therapist showed her a piece of art, featuring a celestial image, created based on things they had been working on. The therapist asked if it needed anything else, to which the patient responded YES! The patient had her write “When you see the stars in the sky, know that it is me looking down on you.” And then a few minutes later, (in her sassy voice) “and if you see a butterfly and it lands on you, that’s me saying what ARE you doing?”

The art therapist shared “This was probably the hardest session that I have ever had the privilege to witness but believe that my work with her was brought full circle in this moment. I helped her express her thoughts and feelings regarding all these very difficult things that she was going through, and helped her get to a place where she could experience peace, and yet keep her sassy self through the art.” –Art Therapist, Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Medical Center

"I had the humbling opportunity to work with a family in the midst of bereavement. Earlier that day the patient's family had made the difficult decision to withdraw life support. As I offered my services alongside the Child Life staff, they welcomed me into the room during preparations and family visitation. The family shared their favorite songs to sing with the patient and we sang them together as they each took turns holding the patient, and for the next several hours I provided nonstop music for the family as they experienced the passing of their child.

Music can provide space for their grief to flow freely and in the way that the family feels most comfortable with. In these terrible moments, music can provide families comfort, catharsis, and control over a situation that is completely out of their control. During the actual moments of withdrawing support, music can also be skillfully used to cover up unwanted noises of medical equipment. This, in turn, leaves the family with the memory of the music playing rather than the traumatic sounds of airway extubation or other procedures.

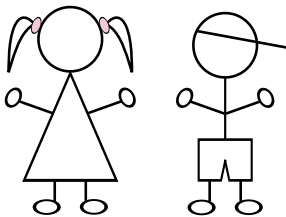
I was very honored to be part of this family's PICU experience. They thanked me when I left the room, and I hope that I left them with a sense of comfort and peace during their difficult time." –Music Therapist, Russell J. Ebeid Children's Hospital Toledo

2022 at a Glance



\$479,603.59 RAISED BY 455 DONORS

In 2022, the generosity of our constituency achieved a whole new level. Raising nearly half a million dollars, Sam's Fans is in a position to grow our programming and extend our outreach.



4,800+ INDIVIDUAL VISITS

Sam's Fans impact varies each year depending on the needs of our partner programs. We are proud of our continued impact and the service of our Music and Art Therapists.



2,400+ UNIQUE FAMILIES SERVED

Depending on the circumstances, our Therapists may work with a family just once or for an extended period of time. The opportunity to build relationships with families is so incredibly special.



FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

Our 2022 events were spectacular: The Amazing Birthday Adventure, Sam's Fans 5K (and Sam's Fans .5K in FL), The ReEquity Golf Outing, The Charity Happy Hour at Hills Market and A THREAD of Hope!

2022 Highlights

2022 was a BOLD year for Sam's Fans. Our team, our Therapists, and our Donors (all of you) knocked it out of the park, swept us off of our feet, and left us awestruck and ready to grow. Here are a few highlights:

1

DAYTON CHILDREN'S EXCEED 10K PATIENTS

In 2022 our partner program at Dayton Children's Hospital hit a very special landmark. Sam's Fans supported over 10,000 unique patients in Dayton! We are so proud of this team and their hearts for service.

A THREAD OF HOPE HITS A QUARTER MILLION

Our largest fundraising event of the year also achieved a new landmark in 2022. It was our most successful A THREAD of Hope to date, raising over \$250,000 and blowing our fundraising goal out of the water. It was truly BOLD! Thank you to all who attended, we look forward to this year's event, and another big goal exceeded.

2

3

NEW PROGRAM ADDED!!

Last, but certainly not least: Sam's Fans added another program to our roster – Sing Me A Story. Our partnership with this organization serves families through the power of imaginative songwriting.

Thank you for your continued support year after year. None of our successes are possible without our unwavering Sam's Fans.

A Closer Look

In this year's annual report, we wanted to offer you a closer look into the Music and Art Therapy interventions used by our Therapists. Additionally, we've included insight into the most common goals addressed in Music and Art Therapy sessions.

MOST POPULAR MUSIC THERAPY INTERVENTIONS:

- Instrumental and melodic improvisation
- Singing
- Instrument playing
- Listening to live or recorded music
- Using music as a coping skill

MOST POPULAR ART THERAPY INTERVENTIONS:

- Painting/Watercolor
- Drawing
- Model Magic/Clay
- Sculpture
- Collage

MOST POPULAR MUSIC THERAPY GOALS ADDRESSED:

- Decreasing pain perception
- Managing stress and anxiety
- Providing opportunities for choice and control
- Promoting self-expression
- Improving quality of life

MOST POPULAR ART THERAPY GOALS ADDRESSED:

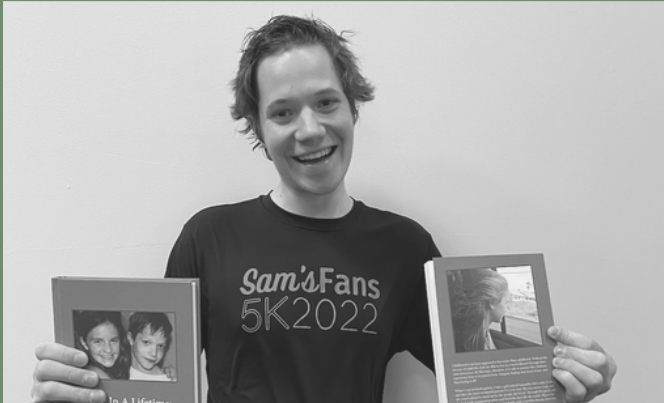
- Managing stress and anxiety
- Creating opportunities for choice and control
- Legacy building/memory making
- Coping with hospitalization
- Improving quality of life

MOST COMMON HOSPITAL UNITS WORKED IN:

- Intensive Care Unit
- Oncology Unit
- General Pediatrics Unit
- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- Bone Marrow transplant Unit



Young Philanthropists



John "Mitchell" Ulibarri is a long time friend of Sam's Fans. In fact, Mitchell was probably one of Sam's first friends when they met in 2003 in Kindergarten. Sam and Mitchell had a very special friendship over the years and while their paths diverged in third grade, he never forgot what a great friend she was to him. Mitchell came back into our lives in about 2015 and raised money at his school doing bake sales for Sam's Fans. Mitchell is a regular at every event. Whether it is taking photos, selling tickets or setting up, he is always willing to help out and volunteer. Recently, Mitchell has become a published author. His first book is about his life and experiences living with autism and the second is actually a book about his friendship with Sam. He regularly donates a portion of the proceeds of books sales to Sam's Fans! Mitchell, we are proud of you and we appreciate you!



Lauren Bliss is the daughter of a long time friend of our Founder. Nikki and Lauren were introduced by Lauren's mom, Emily, when Lauren wanted to do a coloring book drive around the holidays. A friend of Lauren's had spent time in the hospital and when she asked that friend what helped her during that time she said it was Art Therapy. Lauren's huge heart led her to reach out to friends and family to collect coloring books and crayons for kids in the hospital. In turn, Lauren donated those items to Sam's Fans so we could share with patients. The next year she involved her entire National Junior Honor Society at her middle school. They collected over 300 coloring books, crayons and other supplies as well as donations totaling over \$1500! Lauren, thank you and keep being awesome!



Mason Frazer is a good friend of Sam's Fans. Mason was introduced to Sam's Fans when his elementary school (Worthington Hills Elementary School) donated funds to Sam's fans throughout the school year for crazy dress up days. Out of nowhere we received a handwritten envelope with some cash inside and a note from Mason. The note is still hanging proudly in our office as a reminder of how awesome Mason is. Throughout the year we stay in touch and each year Mason's donations grow a little more. We love hearing from our young friend and receiving his adorable notes in the mail! Mason, you are amazing and we thank you!

Acknowledgements

Thank you to everyone who donated in 2022. We are grateful for your continued support. We've made every effort to accurately report our donors. To report any discrepancies, email us at info@samsfans.org

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