



DREAM FACTORY

of Greater Kansas City

Hero Highlights Newsletter

Letter from Lisa



Community expands beyond where we live. A Community is formed when a group of people share common attitudes, interests, and goals. The Dream Factory Community is comprised of volunteers located throughout the Nation who share a passion for creating and delivering magical experiences for children battling chronic and critical illnesses.

Recently, volunteers representing many of our 35 chapters convened and celebrated the 131 dreams that were brought to life for children across the

Nation during 2020-21, even in lieu of the challenges of the Pandemic. As many life-changing stories were shared, I was inspired, proud and encouraged to experience the commonalities of zeal, excitement, passion and dedication that exists amongst our team both, locally and nationally, as we work together in support of serving the children and families throughout our communities.

I am equally as proud to report the support of our Kansas City Community as we held the Fifth Annual Driving for Dreams Golf Tournament, graciously presented by Baron BMW! The event was hosted by over 100 volunteers, sponsors and partners working together to raise over \$65K toward funding dreams for our local children!

I want to express my gratitude to the following and give A BIG SHOUT OUT to our golf planning committee for their dedication, time and energy invested into making this event a success; A VERY special thank you to our generous sponsors, partners, donors and participants whose contributions positioned Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City to fund 8 dreams; My sincere appreciation to the numerous volunteers who dedicated their day to delivering an extraordinary and memorable event for our attendees; And thank you to the dream children and their families who provided our dream sponsors a unique opportunity to present their dream reveals one on one!

It was quite an amazing day and a direct result of OUR generous community joining together to support the efforts and mission of Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City to serve the children and families in the Kansas City area.

With sincere gratitude,

Lisa McIntire

President, Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City

Driving for Dreams Event





The Fifth Annual Driving for Dreams Golf Tournament was an incredible success! Guests enjoyed breakfast burritos provided by T-Shotz, lunch served by Old Chicago and a dinner specially prepared by the Five Star Caterer, Local Seasons. A trumpet sounded as The National Anthem was played followed by KC Flight Formation Team who delivered a Flyover experience for our dream child, Ethan, who led the pack as they soared overhead to begin the tournament.

Participants experienced entertainment throughout the course from Fly Bry Guy who delivered show stopping jams to photos with Chiefs Cheerleaders and Guinness World Record Holder, Can Head, to axe throwing, rugby playing and drives shot from the Big Shot Cannon. Three dreams were revealed for our amazing dream children, Rosalind, Charli and Angelo! To finish the memorable day of events, Johnny Rowlands arrived in Newschopper 9 delivering the 50/50 ball drop!

A BIG thanks to our incredible volunteers, sponsors, donors, participants and committee members whose efforts and generosity resulted in \$65,000 raised, which provides funding for 8 more dreams!

The date of the 2022 Sixth Annual Driving for Dreams Golf Tournament will be announced soon and we invite you to join us for our highly anticipated annual event supporting the Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City!

We want to thank our event sponsors for their generosity and support:

Baron BMW, Reardon Pallet, Heartland Foundation, Cummins Tools, West

Fraser Lumber, Agema Insurance, KMBC 9, Odyssey Foundation, GEHA, BMA Foundation, Urban Outfitters, Merck Animal Health, Wells Fargo Advisors, Comfort Systems, First Citizens Bank, Geoff Slayden Family, Molycop, Dimensional Innovations, Global Altruism Foundation, NCRI, JR & Co Roofing, Conveyor Solutions, Mid America Contractors, Terrace Park, Manning Roofing, KC Party Rentals, Health Redefined, Modern Physical Therapy, Jenny Burkhead, Vertiv, Fuji, Smithereen, T-Shotz, Pro Circuit Inc, Crown Lift Trucks

In-Kind Donations: Boulevard Brewing, Tito's Vodka, Bubbles, Belfonte, Old Chicago, NKC Beverage, Jackson Gibson Chance, Sanden North America, Pepsi, Ice Masters, iWerx, Local Seasonings Catering, Precision Printing, DPloyd

Featured Dream Story





Rosalind Riddell

Story provided by Rosalind's (Rose) Mother: I sit back in the reality of the real world after a magical week of wishes and dreams and still can't fully wrap my head around it all. I have a thousand pictures and even more memories that we will treasure for a lifetime as a family.

When I tell people we were granted a dream trip from the Dream Factory, almost all that know our story would guess it was for my oldest daughter, who has pretty intense special needs, but they wouldn't be correct. This wish was for my other daughter, Rose, who shares a rare bleeding disorder with her older sister.

Rose doesn't have "special needs", but sometimes I think in our daily lives that can make her feel invisible. Rose's bleeding disorder affects her entire life with so many questions surrounding the future. Rose is brave and will shake off most thoughts and fears she may have, but as her mom, I know they are still there.

The Dream Factory gave Rose the chance to be seen as the "Special One" for the week and also gave us the chance as a family of six to afford to say all the "yes's", enjoy all the Disney Parks and spoil the kids at Give Kids the World while making memories only afforded to a handful of families.

Rose celebrated her tenth birthday on our trip (how cool is that present?!) and because of the Dream Factory, she has decided that she wants to become a dolphin trainer when she grows up. From the bottom of our hearts, we will be forever grateful for this opportunity. Thank you for making Rose's dreams a reality.

More Dream Reveals

Dream stories coming soon for our recently granted dream kids including, Charli, Angelo and Owen.





Supporter Spotlight

Our featured Dreamcatcher is Baron BMW

Baron BMW promotes a philanthropic culture and is comprised of a team passionate about supporting the needs of our community! Baron has beneficently supported the Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City by sponsoring our Driving for Dreams events and adopting dreams of our children to create magical experiences, in an effort to improve the medical outcomes as they battle critical illnesses. The team is led by Clay Shafer who exemplifies a benevolent spirit for helping our organization.

We want to express our sincere appreciation to the Team of Baron BMW for sharing your hearts and resources in support of our efforts to make dreams a reality!

We asked the Baron BMW team:

Q. What does Dream Factory mean to you?

A. Dream Factory grants dreams to children that may not get the opportunity any other way. Watching a kid who has gone through so much, light up with happiness, is a priceless feeling.

Q. Why do you support the Dream Factory?

A. Baron supports the Dream Factory because they are 100% about the children. 100% of funds go to the charity and it is comprised of all volunteers. We can directly see the impact our funds have on the children.

Q. What is a highlight the Baron BMW team has experienced as a result of Baron's support of Dream Factory?

A. Presenting dreams. Being a part of something bigger than selling/fixing cars. Helping make a difference in such a special community.

Q. Would you encourage other organizations to support the Dream Factory?

A. I would encourage anyone to support the Dream Factory. Amazing people, amazing charity and amazing goals. We couldn't ask for a better charitable partner.

Learn more about Baron BMW at: <https://www.baronbmw.com/>

Board Member Spotlight

Our featured Board Member is Brett McCracken



Brett is one of our many valued volunteers who donates countless hours supporting the technology needs of Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City. Brett generously offers his time and unique skill set to manage payment and registration platforms for our events, while also assisting with website management and providing consultative support as needed. As you read Brett's story below, his passion and heartfelt spirit is quite apparent.

Brett, we thank you for investing your heart and talent into positively impacting the lives of our dream kiddos and for your selfless dedication to support the ongoing needs of the Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City!

Q: How long have you volunteered with the Dream Factory?

A: After watching Larry Moore growing up as a kid, I joined the Dream Factory about 11 years ago.

Q: Why did you join as a volunteer?

A: I knew I wanted to work with kids in some capacity that gave them an

incredible life experience and special memory. The Dream Factory solved that puzzle. If you are a child that is critically or chronically ill, you need the opportunity to get away from the hospital visits and just relish in the moment of being a kiddo. Also, I love that we include the entire family because being sick impacts the support system too. Often, we see the brothers and sisters have to grow up quickly to help around the house, and I see the heavy burden the parents carry as well. It is an honor to play a small role in an organization whose mission is to give others genuine happiness at a time in their lives when they need it the most.

Q: What does the Dream Factory mean to you?

A: To me, the Dream Factory is this little oasis showcasing the best of humanity. From the kindness of strangers across the country who help us pull together these dreams, to the generosity of our supporters and volunteers with their money and time, the effort that Sarah Smith, Len Jennings, and the entire team at KMBC 9 pours into highlighting the great work of the Dream Factory, and the families that share their stories with such grace, they all make this a unique experience. My absolute favorite is hearing the Dream Managers give their reports at the monthly meetings. If anyone reading this needs a reminder about how inherently good people are, come listen to our incredible volunteers talk about the dreams they are working to put together. You hear about the lives of our Dream Factory kids which are sometimes truly heartbreaking, then you listen to obstacles our volunteers are overcoming at full speed to make the dream come true. It's inspiring. Just bring some tissues.

Q. What is the highlight of your time as a volunteer?

A: Our relationship with the Chiefs and Royals is really special. It has been an absolute privilege to host Dream Factory families during home games. Both organizations roll out the red carpet for our kids whether it's in the dugout or on the sideline before the games. The players are engaging, the cheerleaders make the boys blush, at Arrowhead specifically, the Hunt family comes down to give a warm welcome, and the whole day is a VIP experience. When I travel and people ask me about the Chiefs and the Royals, I always take time to explain what they do in our community since most outsiders never see what I think is the best part about each organization.

Q. What is your occupation and your interests?

A: I started a consulting firm 15 years ago. I work with FinTechs and banks. Over the years, I've come across talented people like Jasen Roberts and promptly bamboozled them to generously donate their time with the Dream

Factory as well. I am forever indebted to people like Jasen. I cannot even count the hours he's given to help us out.

One of the reasons I wanted to volunteer at the Dream Factory is because we do so many travel dreams. To me, the richness of life happens when you get on a plane to a place you've never been, meet new people, and share an experience. Whether it's a passing moment of conversation or the start of a lifelong friendship, travel opens new doors and experiences.

Upcoming Dream Factory Events

- **11/24/21:** Christmas in the Sky & First Gift of Christmas presentation to our dream child Charli, @ Longview Lake
- **11/30/21: Giving Tuesday!**
- **12/10/21:** Family Movie Night with Santa @ The Gatsby on Oak
- **4/1/22:** Boulevard of Dreams 'Neon Nights' @ Starlight Theatre
- **6/11/22:** BMA Dance & Dine with the Stars @ Downtown Convention Center

**GIVING
TUESDAY**

Giving Tuesday is November 30th!

Please consider supporting Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City through monthly giving

Our Mission at the Dream Factory is to make dreams come true for children with life-altering illnesses. Monthly gifts to support this mission may be made to Dream Factory through the following methods:

1. One time donations

2. Recurring Giving; which is an easy way to participate in funding the dreams of children battling chronic and critical illnesses to bring them hope and courage as they fight to combat their disease.

Donate Now

KCMO



2022

JOIN US FOR NEON NIGHTS!

THE 13TH ANNUAL
BOULEVARD OF DREAMS GALA
BENEFITING THE DREAM FACTORY OF GREATER KC

FRIDAY

04

01

22

STARLIGHT THEATRE

FOR EVENT INFORMATION & TICKETS:
WWW.KCDREAM.ORG/BOULEVARDOFDREAMS



Find Out More & Get Involved



DREAM FACTORY

of Greater Kansas City



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