



DREAM FACTORY

of Greater Kansas City

May 2021 Newsletter

Letter from Lisa



I write this letter with heart felt gratitude and praise for the outpouring of support, passion and kindness from those eager to devote their talents and resources to help The Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City. My pastor, Johnnie Fields, says “HELP is the best word in the dictionary and when we ask for HELP, love comes”. We have been showered with love expressed by so many and are forever grateful for the help in carrying out our mission and raising awareness for The Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City as we continue serving the needs of children throughout the community.

A very special thank you to everyone who supported our two recent fundraising events, Dreamin’ at the Drive-In and Rockin’ for Dreams V! I sincerely appreciate all the dedication of time and resources invested by volunteers, photographers, musicians, videographers, dream children, attendees, donors and sponsors and realize that by working together, we are building a stronger organization.

“Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much.” – Helen Keller

Rockin’ for Dreams V delivered a very special moment created by participants teaming together to create a lifetime experience for our dream child, Dominique. Attendees observed first-hand the powerful impact of a child having their dream

granted and the fulfillment of playing a role in making it happen! An inspiration to all, Dominique, who battles Cerebral Palsy, showed courage and determination as he approached the microphone to accomplish his dream of singing on stage in front of an auditorium of welcoming fans. The audience filled with emotion as they cheered and encouraged Dominique through an amazing and inspirational once-in-a-lifetime performance!

Thank you for your support in creating life changing experiences for children like Dominique, who need a moment created specially for them to have an opportunity to escape the ongoing battle of fighting a serious illness.

Many Blessings,
Lisa McIntire
President, Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City

Boulevard of Dreams Event





The Dream Factory family had an incredible Boulevard of Dreams event at the Boulevard Drive-in this month! Several vendors and food trucks like Crave, provided amazing food and drinks, while everyone enjoyed playing games and watching the movie Jumanji. Two special dreams were revealed at the event for two very special boys, Landon Beard and Wayden Sparks. A silent auction event, raffle and bingo game helped raise additional funds for dreams. Overall, this event raised over \$30,000 which significantly impacts our ability to grant dreams and will cover at least 6 new dreams!

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

Baron BMW, GEHA, East Forty Brewing, Hart Associates, KMBC Channel 9, BMA Foundation, Boulevard Drive-in, John A. Marshall, Mark's Nelson, Midland Marble, Hart, Pinstripers, Ferguson & Kohler, Creative Planning, Precision Printing and State Farm Agent Steve Basinger

We also want to thank our team of dedicated committee members for making this event incredible:

Abbey Helland, Alex Forsythe, Ali Skilling, Brett McCracken, Brittany Kelly, Emily Sullivan, Jessica Stockman, Josh Tyson, Kelsey Mahoney, Megan Lovelace, Megan Penland, Molly Barthol, Ryan Farmer, Sarah Alfaro, Taylore Keller

Featured Dream Story



Landon Beard

Landon is a typical 13-year-old boy who just happens to be a Type 1 Diabetic. Landon is very active and when he is not playing with his little brother, Conner, we'll typically find him playing soccer on his competitive team. Landon's love for the game of soccer has led to his goal of someday, becoming a professional soccer player. He has become a major fan of Ilie Sanchez, Landon's favorite player on the Sporting KC team.

Landon's original dream was unable to occur due to travel restrictions as a result of the pandemic. With the support of the Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City, his dream manager, Craig Doty, was able to provide Landon with a once-in-a-lifetime shopping spree. Landon's dream was granted live at the Dreamin' at the Drive-in event where Landon's family was able to attend and enjoy the evening. The following Sunday, Craig met Landon, his parents and little brother at Best Buy in Overland Park where they started the shopping spree. Landon purchased a gaming laptop, wireless headphones and some tools that would help boost the network capabilities at his house. They then headed to Academy Sports where he picked up some new soccer training gear. Next, they went to Oak Park Mall where he purchased new shoes, a new hat and a gift card to H&M. Their last stop was Rally House where Landon picked out lots of Sporting KC apparel.

The shopping trip was going to be great on its own, but Landon's Mom, Nikki, wanted Sporting KC to be involved somehow, knowing his love for the team. The Sporting KC team agreed to have a virtual meet and greet between Landon and Ilie Sanchez. Simultaneous to the shopping excursion, Landon experienced this virtual meet and greet, using his new laptop. Landon's dream didn't end there, Ilie asked Landon for his soccer schedule in hopes to attend one of his games. Additionally, Ilie asked Sporting KC to reach out to Landon's Mom and offer 4 tickets to a home game! Landon is over the moon excited and so grateful!

When Landon first learned about the shopping trip, he was in shock at the amount he would have to spend. He didn't know how he could possibly spend it all and saved some funds to donate a portion of it back for another dream and he was very pleased to have the opportunity to do so. This was Craig's first experience as a Dream Manager and he was honored to meet Landon and his family and give him this special experience. Craig was also impressed by the character and genuine kindness exemplified by Landon.



Dream Catcher



Supporter Spotlight

Our Supporter Spotlight and Dreamcatcher of the month is East Forty Brewing

We are excited to announce the partnership of East Forty Brewing who collaborated with The Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City to launch their Dream Catcher Ale. This new release is a hand-crafted Belgian-Style Golden Strong Ale, filled with unique flavors such as grapefruit, orange peel, elderflower, cardamon, and honey to create delicious notes of citrus, tropical pear, and herbal pepper-spice. With the donation of proceeds from the sale of Dream Catcher going directly to The Dream Factory of Greater Kansas City, an estimated \$5500 will be generated to fulfill the dreams of local children throughout the Kansas City area!

Dream Catcher is available on tap at East Forty brewing located at 1201 W. Main St. in Blue Springs and may be purchased at select retailers throughout Kansas City. Click here for a list of retailers: [Dream Catcher — Dream Factory of Kansas City \(kcdream.org\)](https://www.kcdream.org)

Board Member Spotlight

Our Board Member of the month is Megan Lovelace



Megan serves on the Board of Directors for Dream Factory's Kansas City Chapter as the Director of Boulevard of Dreams. With her dedication and passion for serving the needs of our organization, her love and desire for bringing smiles to children is apparent. In addition to leading the planning efforts for the annual Boulevard of Dreams event, Megan readily offers support in a

variety of ways throughout the year. Megan, thank you for sharing your beautiful spirit to serve the needs of the Dream Factory family!

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

A: I have been volunteering on the board for 2 years, but have been a committee member for the Boulevard of Dreams Event for the past 6 years.

Q: Why did you join as a volunteer?

A: I joined as a volunteer to step up and take over Ali Skilling's role as the Boulevard of Dreams Director so she could pursue another position on the board.

Q: What does the Dream Factory mean to you?

A: The Dream Factory has brought me fulfillment in more ways than I could ever imagine. Being on the planning committee for the Boulevard of Dreams has challenged me but has also given me a sense of community that I didn't know existed.

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

A: This past year at our Dreamin' at the Drive-In event was the highlight of my time volunteering. The highlight was getting to speak with the dream child Moms. I've never had the opportunity to be in the front row of hearing, seeing and speaking with the families that we grant dreams to. The excitement of the child and the gratitude of the parents is a feeling I can't explain.

Q. What is your occupation and your interests?

A: I've been in the interior design industry for my entire professional career as I graduated with an interior design degree but have been in a sales role for the past 17 years. Today, I am a manufacturer sales rep, I sell commercial textiles and wallcovering for Momentum Textiles & Wallcovering. In my free time I love to spend time with my boyfriend, friends and family. My boyfriend and I have opposite schedules, but on event days he's a huge help and doesn't mind me making sure everything is perfect. I also love to entertain, eat pizza and sip on wine. I have rescued 3 fur babies – Abby (14), Isla (4) and Frankie (8 months). They keep me on my toes, with all of them having very different personalities and needs.

Upcoming Dream Factory Events

- **6/12/21:** BMA Dance & Dine with the Stars event @ Sheraton Downtown
- **7/24/21:** Dreamville USA event @ Downtown Lexington, MO
- **9/10/21:** Rockin' for Kids event @ Knuckleheads
- **9/16/21:** 5th Annual Driving for Dreams Golf Tournament @ Shoal Creek Golf Course

Find Out More & Get Involved

Supporting Dream Factory 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.



**DREAM
FACTORY**
of Greater Kansas City

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