

Winter 2016



About Colin's Crew



Colin's Crew is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that brings moments of comfort and joy to families affected by childhood cancer.

Colin's Crew was inspired by friends and family of a brave 7 year old boy, Colin Westbrook. Colin was your typically two-year-old when he was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia, ("ALL") in October 2009, just days after his second birthday.

Colin's Crew was originally formed to provide financial and emotional support to the Westbrook family. As Colin continues to do well, Colin's crew has been able to create programs and plan fundraisers that assist other families affected by childhood cancer.

Bringing moments of comfort and joy to families affected by childhood cancer

Snacks4Kids



Our snack bag program has taken a huge leap this year as we delivered over 1,100 bags to CCMC and Yale. We had an extra special delivery as Colin's doctor, Dr. Joe, helped us deliver bag #1,000 to Yale in December! We want to thank everyone who contributed to our snack bag program and look forward to delivering even more bags in 2016! Interested in running a snack drive with your school or community group? Let us know and we will get you everything you need.

Snack bags
1,131
delivered in 2015

Program News/Updates

Samantha & Caroline Photography:

In 2015, we teamed up with Samantha and Caroline Photography and launched a new program that offers Hero families free photography sessions. Samantha & Caroline Photography captured priceless moments for nine Hero families since its inception last fall.

Wells Fargo:

Our partnership with Wells Fargo started with an employee-led snack drive and has evolved to so much more. In a short period of time, they organized a second snack drive, added a gift card collection and even nominated Colin's Crew as a corporate grant recipient. We were honored to accept the grant and look forward to what Wells Fargo has in store for us this year!



Meet the Crew

Courtney Barrett, Co-Secretary Board of Directors



Courtney "Auntie" Barrett graduated from Bay Path College in 2001 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business and an Associate's Degree in Travel and Hospitality. She became a first time aunt when Colin was born in 2007. After Colin was diagnosed in 2009, she knew she needed to help her sister and brother in law (Heather and Mike Westbrook) and became a founding member of Colin's Crew. Courtney delivered the first meal in a crockpot to the Westbrook family while Colin was in-patient at Smilow Cancer Center in early October of that year. At the time, she would have no idea the impact it would have on a family struggling with cancer; a concept that would soon evolve into Meals4kids. Courtney is Co-Secretary of the Board of Directors and also works hard to secure donations as door prizes, raffle prizes and giveaways for the Plunge and Night of Hope every year. She loves traveling to fun, faraway places with her husband and her job at Southwest Airlines has come in handy for their crazy, hair-brained adventures over the past 13 years.

2015 Program Snapshot

Meals4Kids:

Thanks to our generous restaurant sponsors, 12 meal deliveries serving 180 families were delivered in 2015.

2015 Meal Sponsors:

Bar, New Haven
Dad's Restaurant, Wallingford
Marco Pizza, Branford
Amore Pizza, Wallingford
Gagliardi's Restaurant, Waterbury
Doody's Restaurant, North Branford
Interested restaurants, please contact us for sponsorship opportunities.

Snacks4Kids:

37 snack deliverers serving 1,131 families
14 snack boxes were included in the Adopt-A-Family gifts

Adopt-A-Family:

14 families were adopted for the 2015 holiday season

Camp4Kids:

21 snack bins were donated to Camp Rising Sun campers and counselors
11 CT families were sent to Camp Sunshine from the plunge proceeds



Fun4Kids:

Films4Kids: 48 families enjoyed the movie Minions
Yale Picnic: Families enjoyed a photo booth
Rock Cats: 11 families enjoyed a ball game
Movie Under the Stars: 8 families enjoyed the movie Home
Sound Tigers: 4 families enjoyed a VIP Sound Tigers Game



Fairview Tree Farm

Boo! Fairview Tree Farm of Shelton was at it again this year. Once again, they donated a portion of their proceeds from the Trail of Terror Charity Night to Colin's Crew. It was a spooktacular event that will help bring smiles to our heroes and their families faces as they continue to support our programs.

Adopt-A-Family

Fourteen families enjoyed some Holiday cheer thanks to all of you. Your generosity and time to help pull this together was amazing and could not have been accomplished without all of the support from each of you! A special thank you to the shoppers, toy and gift card drives, HUB Cap in Wallingford and wrappers from Webster Bank.



St Lawrence School Walk-A-Thon

St. Lawrence School in West Haven hosts an annual Walk-A-Thon to raise funds for different charities. This year, they selected Colin's Crew and raised \$1,000 to aid in our programs. Kid's helping kids is always a beautiful thing to witness and the day was awesome from start to finish!



Upcoming Fundraising Events

5th Annual Polar Dip:

Date: Saturday February 20, 2016
Time: 11:00 a.m. Registration. 12:00 p.m. Plunge
Location: Savin Rock Conference Center, 6 Rock St, West Haven, CT
Proceeds will benefit Camp Sunshine & Colin's Crew Programs

3rd Annual Night of Hope:

Date: Saturday April 2, 2016
Time: 6:00 p.m. -10:00 p.m.
Location: Villa Capri 906 North Colony Road, Wallingford
Tickets: \$60 per person or table of 10 for \$500
Proceeds will benefit Colin's Crew Programs

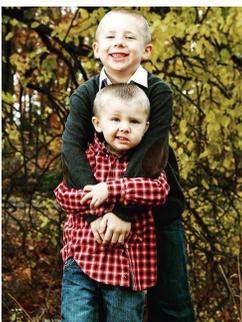
Walk of Hope:

Save the Date: Saturday September 17, 2016
Location: Cuno Camp, 6 Carey Ave, Meriden, CT
Proceeds will benefit Colin's Crew Programs

Join us for our third annual Night of Hope Event. Sponsorship and prize drawing opportunities available.



A Word of thanks



"A few months ago, we found out Colin's Crew had set up photography sessions with a wonderful photography pair. As any parent going through any stage of treatment, we all know that taking a few minutes out for things like family photos gets pushed aside for doctors visits and the chaos of trying to fit it all in. This was a wonderful Christmas gift to our family, to have beautiful photos done, by 2 amazing photographers. I can not express our thanks enough to Colin's Crew for knowing how important it is to remind us how important these things really are. Your group has been there for so many families throughout our entire journey and we are forever grateful to you and your wonderful volunteers!" Jennifer McGettigan



Jr. Crew

The Junior Crew has been busy putting together snack drives and fundraisers for Colin's Crew - birthday party guests have been asked to bring a snack rather than a present. A bowling alley was taken over to raise funds to promote our mission. One of our youngest Junior Crew members collected over 250 toys and games! Our youngest volunteers have truly given us new light and have brought a tremendous amount of smiles and hope to kids their own age. If you are interested in getting involved with our Junior Crew please email us!



colin's
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