2023-2024 IMPACT REPORT

CONQUERING CHILDHOOD CANCER™



FOUR * DIAMONDS

Conquering Childhood Cancer

EVERYTHING We Do is FTK®

- FOR THE KIDS®

Four Diamonds' mission is to conquer childhood cancer by assisting children being treated at Penn State Health Children's Hospital and their families through

- **⊘** Superior Care
- **Comprehensive Support**
- and Innovative Research.

We are committed to finding better, safer treatments and cures to help kids everywhere.



In 2015, Marcus was a high school football standout who was being recruited to play Division I college football. His cancer journey began when he was having excruciating back pain, jaw pain, night sweats and nose bleeds that would last for hours. His parents took him to the hospital for some tests, where Marcus was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL).

Marcus battled ALL for nearly three years, all while graduating high school and beginning his college career. In 2018, he rang the bell at Penn State Health Children's Hospital, celebrating the end of his cancer treatment. Despite the challenges of attending college while battling cancer, he graduated from Gettysburg College in 2022 with a degree in biology.

Now a young adult, Marcus works for an applied research lab, putting his degree in biology to good use by testing pharmaceuticals. He also participates in numerous fundraising efforts to help others going through cancer treatment.

FOUR DIAMONDS YOUNG ADULT MARCUS



officially declared cancer-free by the time she was nine.

As Monica transitioned to adulthood, she came to realize that sharing her journey was essential to coping with her mental and emotional components of having had cancer. Monica's mission to share her cancer journey took her to leading a Four Diamonds Mini-THON event, where she publicly shared her story for the first time.

Now a young professional, Monica has a master's degree and is an awardee and speaker in health justice work. She balances prioritizing her health, advocating for cancer reform and proudly building a career for herself. She seeks to create opportunities for adult survivors of childhood cancer to share their stories and spearhead initiatives to provide better support and visibility throughout one's survivorship journey.

"To my fellow survivors, including current fighters and families, I'm proud of you. Don't doubt yourself. You know what you need and what you deserve, and there's a community of survivors here to support you."

FOUR DIAMONDS YOUNG ADULT MONICA





At the time of her diagnosis, Four Diamonds child Logan, like many two-year-olds, could be described as 'spunky.' She loved spending time outside collecting sticks, pinecones and other items from nature, or as she referred to them, "treasures."

Early in 2023, Logan kept getting sick, and her treasure hunts were now few and far between. When her mom, Jennifer, took her to the pediatrician, they would often treat the symptoms and explain that it was common for kids to frequently get sick. Soon, there were an increasing number of trips to urgent care and the emergency room.

One morning, Logan seemed sicker than she had ever been. When she went to urgent care, she was diagnosed with double pink eye, double ear infections and strep throat. She was sent to a local hospital, and they ran blood tests. What Jennifer saw next was a nightmare for any parent; every single test had an alert on it indicating that Logan's levels were abnormal.

Jennifer was informed there was a very strong possibility of cancer. The doctors had already reached out to Penn State Health Children's Hospital, and the team there was expecting Logan's arrival.

A biopsy was completed the following morning. When the results came back, the doctor came to their room to discuss. At this point, Logan's parents had a feeling she had cancer, but officially hearing those words still took their breath away. "The diagnosis just catches you completely off-guard," said

Logan's dad, Matthew. Logan and her family were now facing childhood cancer.

As the doctor continued to go through all the information with the family, Logan's parents remember him saying, "you will not receive a bill for Logan's treatment. We need you two to focus on Logan and her getting better." Four Diamonds had Logan covered.

Jennifer burst into tears knowing that Logan's medical costs were covered, and Matthew couldn't believe the weight that had been taken off his family's shoulders. They felt a sense of relief knowing that they could put all their focus, time and energy into helping Logan get well.

"The gift that Four Diamonds has given to our family – I don't know what better gift we could have received," said Jennifer. "Logan getting better is the ultimate gift, and the gift from Four Diamonds is what is helping us get there."

Today, Logan is doing wonderfully and is currently in the maintenance stage of her chemotherapy. She had to learn how to walk again after her initial treatments, and her parents are thrilled to see her getting back to where she once was. She wakes up each morning excited for preschool, where she enjoys being back with her friends. And, of course, she is back to going on her treasure hunts outside.







RESEARCH FUNDED BY FOUR DIAMONDS IS

Giving Hope to Kids Everywhere

Four Diamonds helps to bring international research consortium to Penn State Health Children's Hospital and Penn State College of Medicine to strengthen their fight against childhood cancer.





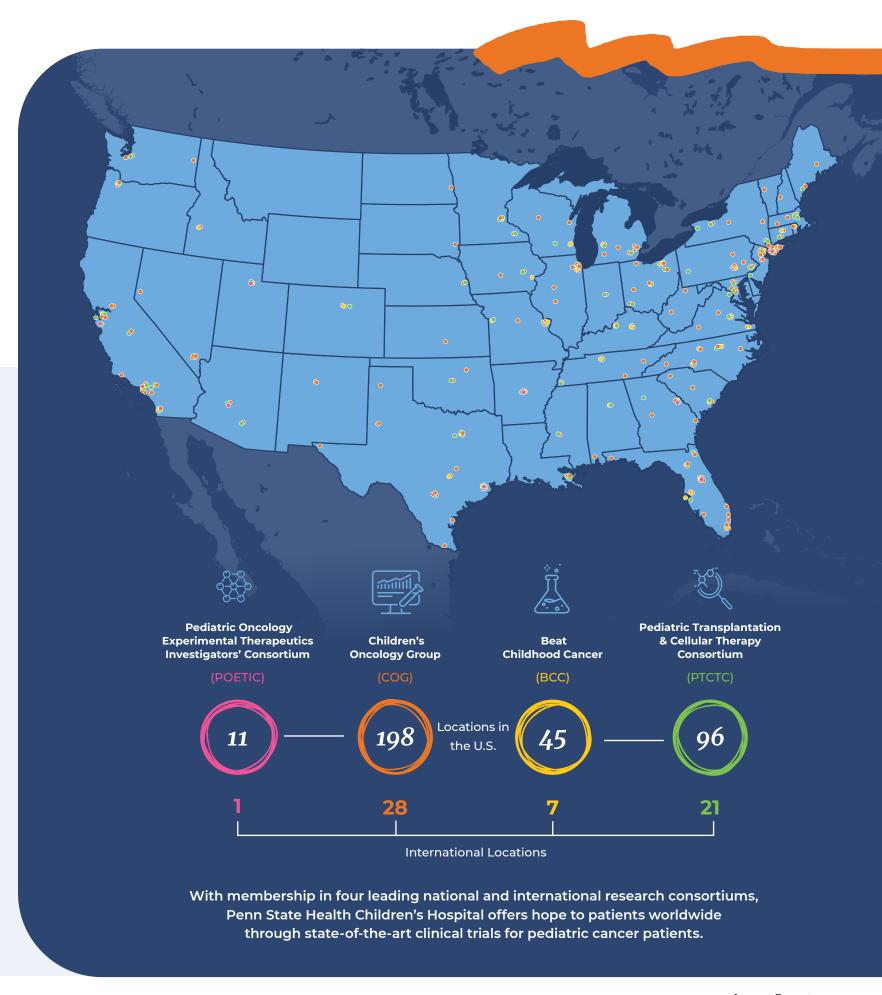
With support from Four Diamonds, Penn State Health and Penn State College of Medicine strengthened their commitment to conquering childhood cancer by bringing Dr. Giselle Saulnier Sholler, an internationally known physician-scientist, and her research consortium to Hershey. The move provides greater access to groundbreaking pediatric cancer care and research, including clinical trials, for Four Diamonds children.

Dr. Sholler, a pediatric hematology-oncology clinician and researcher, serves as the division chief of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology at Penn State Health Children's Hospital and is the director of pediatric oncology research at Penn State College of Medicine.

She brought with her the Beat Childhood Cancer Research Consortium, a worldwide network of more than 50 universities and children's hospitals dedicated to discovering new therapies and cures for children with cancer.

The research consortium has enrolled more than 1,800 pediatric cancer patients in over 23 trials.

Bringing Dr. Sholler and the research consortium to Penn State Health Children's Hospital and partnering them with Four Diamonds allows for significant steps forward in our quest to conquer childhood cancer. Together, our organizations and experts in pediatric cancer will continue to provide hope to every Four Diamonds child through superior care, comprehensive support and an unwavering commitment to innovative research.



Local Research Global Impact™

Four Diamonds funded research gives hope to kids everywhere. Our team collaborates with doctors and scientists around the world to conquer childhood cancer. Here are a few examples of our recent research.



FDA approves breakthrough pediatric neuroblastoma drug based on Penn State College of Medicine professor's work

Dr. Giselle Saulnier Sholler has been working for 20 years to change cancer outcomes for children.

In 2003, the first year of her fellowship in pediatric oncology, two of her first three patients had died from neuroblastoma, closely matching the 30% survival rate expected at the time for high-risk neuroblastoma. She knew research was the only way to change these outcomes. Now, 20 years later, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the first drug — based on Dr. Sholler's research and clinical trials she led through the Beat Childhood Cancer Research Consortium — to reduce the risk of relapse for pediatric high-risk neuroblastoma patients.

The drug, called effornithine (DFMO) and newly branded as IWILFIN by US WorldMeds, reduces the risk of relapse by more than 50% for certain pediatric high-risk neuroblastoma patients.

Dr. Chandrika Behura, associate professor at Penn State College of Medicine, submits clinical trial for FDA review

Dr. Chandrika Behura has a strong commitment to researching childhood cancer, including leukemia and neuroblastoma. Her major research project studies the role a therapeutic agent (called CK2) plays in suppressing a particular gene named Ikaros that is linked to leukemia growth and drug resistance. Her current work is focused on targeting CK2 for the treatment of blood cancers.

"There are 4, 5, 6-year-olds that get this disease who really have a long life to live," Dr. Behura said. "So, it's of the utmost importance to develop these less toxic medicines which have fewer side effects when they are 30, 40, 50-years old."

Clinical trial based on the work of Dr. Hong-Gang Wang receives FDA approval

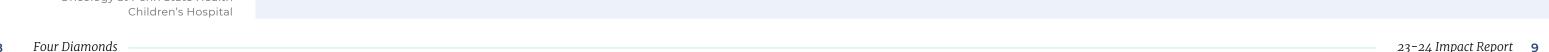
Four Diamonds researchers received approval from the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) to use the combination of two specific drugs to treat neuroblastoma patients in a clinical trial. The trial was written based on the work of Dr. H.G. Wang, Lois High Berstler Professor of Pediatrics and of Pharmacology at Penn State College of Medicine.

The goals of this study are to test the safety and tolerability of the drug combination in patients with cancer, the combination drugs' effectiveness and its impact on the progression or return of the cancer.

"What we learn from patients, we bring to the lab and what we learn in the lab, we bring back to patients. It's critical for finding new therapies for kids with cancer and for understanding cancer better."

DR. GISELLE SAULNIER SHOLLER,

Director of Pediatric Oncology Research at Penn State College of Medicine and Division Chief of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology at Penn State Health Children's Hospital



Comprehensive Care

Four Diamonds supports a holistic approach to childhood cancer treatment. We treat the disease, and we also care for the well-being of both the child and their family.

Four Diamonds funds the work of more than 35 specialty care providers to exclusively serve the

- Ø physical
- **Mental**
- **o** emotional
- and spiritual needs of our childhood cancer patients and their families.

The entire care team provides for these unique needs, in addition to providing expert treatment for childhood cancer.









THE TEAM INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING ROLES:

- Art therapist
- Chaplain
- Child Life specialists
- Clinical nutritionist
- Genetic counselor
- Music therapists
- Neuropsychologist
- Nurse coordinators
- Psychologist
- Pharmacist
- Social workers
- Translation services

FOUR DIAMONDS CHILD HARMONY,

CONQUERING B CELL ACUTE

LYMPHOBLASTIC LEUKEMIA

PICTURED WITH SHANYA HERR, RN



When your child is receiving support from Four Diamonds, you are family.

While receiving care at Penn State Health Children's Hospital, Madilyn and her family discovered what it means to be part of the Four Diamonds family.

Four Diamonds child Madilyn has big, beautiful blue eyes that light up a room. But shortly before her first birthday, her eyes had a bigger story to tell. Madilyn's parents noticed that she had some swelling in her left eye, and upon closer examination, they noticed that her pupils were two different sizes.

Madilyn's parents took her to see her pediatrician, who agreed with their concern about the differences in Madilyn's pupil size. She was then seen by a pediatric ophthalmologist, who informed them that Madilyn had Horner's Syndrome, a condition that affects the face and eye on one side of the body caused by the disruption of a nerve pathway from the brain to the head and neck.

While Horner's Syndrome is not always an indication of cancer, it was a possibility, so Madilyn and her parents were sent to Penn State Health Children's Hospital. Four Diamonds and the pediatric oncology team were awaiting their arrival. After further testing, Madilyn's diagnosis of neuroblastoma was confirmed.

The next week consisted of additional tests and meetings with doctors and psychosocial staff. "When you hear all the things that can happen, and all the things that can go wrong, it's very scary," said Madilyn's mom, Jessica. The staff at Penn State Health Children's Hospital were a huge help to Madilyn's family.

FOUR DIAMONDS CHILD MADILYN, CONQUERING

NEUROBLASTOMA

"The front office staff, the nurses, child life, they all make you feel so comfortable when you are there," said Jessica. "They remember your name, your child, and that rapport is amazing. You are family."

"Madilyn's medical team has also been nothing short of wonderful, and they care not only for Madilyn, but for our whole family. A real whole family approach." On one occasion, their doctor could tell that Jessica was struggling and needed to talk with someone. He called the Four Diamonds psychologist to check in on her, creating a safe space for her where she could start to heal as well.

Today, Madilyn has been doing well with her treatment and is back to being a happy, active kid. Madilyn inspires her whole family as she battles. After a long couple of months for her family, they are happy to be on the road to recovery.



FOUR DIAMONDS DIRECTS YOUR DONATIONS TO

MAKE THE GREATEST IMPACT

Each spring, a robust grant process directs where all funds raised by Four Diamonds will be used in the next fiscal year to further our goal to conquer childhood cancer.

> All requests are evaluated on the guidelines established in the original gift agreement by the co-founders of Four Diamonds.









FOUR DIAMONDS FINANCIALS

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

SOURCES OF FUNDS	
THON™	\$16,878,176
Mini-THON®	\$6,272,608
Memorial Gifts	\$38,715
Honorary Gifts	\$10,076
Bequests	\$482,234
Other	\$1,033,081
Gifts Restricted to Endowments	\$76,494
SUBTOTAL	\$24,791,384
Investment Income	\$6,005,791
TOTAL	\$30,797,175

USES OF FUNDS	
Funds allocated for use between July 1, 2023	– June 30, 2024
Patient Care & Family Support	
Patient Care	\$4,859,489
Family Support	\$1,007,409
Research	
Research Grants	\$49,946
Research Support	\$5,946,809
Strategic Infrastructure	\$1,697,887
Administrative	
Administrative Development, Marketing and Administration	\$3,731,158
Finance and Pediatrics Administrative Support	\$341,108
Investments in Endowments	
Immunomodulation and the Tumor Microenvironment in Cancer Endowment	\$2,098,035
Programmatic Endowment	\$5,033,395
Donor Restricted	\$76,494
TOTAL	\$24,841,730

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS:

Each spring, all available funds are allocated for the future fiscal year's use. Available funds for allocation in FY24 were comprised of all funds raised between July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023, and all previously allocated funds that were unspent during that time frame.

Funding Priority 1:

To ensure every Four Diamonds child receives the highest quality of lifesaving childhood cancer care at Penn State Health Children's Hospital without ever seeing a bill for that care. This compassionate process relieves both the financial pressures and the burden of billing paperwork for all Four Diamonds families.

Funding Priority 2:

To ensure Four Diamonds children and their families are wrapped in comprehensive services. This includes providing access to top-notch specialists proven to enhance positive treatment outcomes, combined with support services to meet their physical, emotional, mental and spiritual needs.

Funding Priority 3:

To ensure innovative research projects have the funding they need. This funding allows Four Diamonds' researchers to search for a deeper understanding of why and how childhood cancer happens, and new ways it can be treated. Funds are also invested in endowments, which earn interest, creating a secondary, permanent funding stream for our ongoing research efforts in pursuit of a cure for all childhood cancers.

Our Partners In The Fight™

We are grateful for the continued commitment of the multitude of volunteers and supporters who power our fight to conquer childhood cancer.

We are a community. Whether your role is that of patient, survivor, family member, student, friend, donor, volunteer, caregiver or administrator, we are **Partners In The Fight** to conquer childhood cancer.



THON™ is Penn State University's iconic student-run philanthropy engaging more than 16,500 Penn State students each year in raising awareness and funds to conquer childhood cancer. THON's efforts culminate every February in a 46-hour-long, no-sitting, no-sleeping dance marathon to benefit Four Diamonds.



Modeled after THON, **Mini-THON**® is Four Diamonds' signature fundraising program, mobilizing tens of thousands of K-12 students each year. Mini-THON is building the next generation of leaders and philanthropists as students learn team-building and leadership skills while raising funds to help conquer childhood cancer.



Community fundraising empowers our supporters to host their own events that engage the community while raising awareness and essential funds for Four Diamonds. Individuals and groups have the chance to create fundraisers based on their interests and passions.





Four Diamonds child Jonus was diagnosed with B cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia when he was only two-years-old. After his diagnosis, Jonus spent 148 days receiving inpatient treatment at Penn State Health Children's Hospital, followed by routine visits for outpatient treatment. During one of these visits, he and his mother, Tara, noticed some extra activity taking place around the hospital.

"We just so happened to be at the Children's Hospital when a group of THON students were there for the 100 Days 'Til THON celebration," said Tara. "They came into our room and talked to me and Jonus. We met a lot of wonderful young men and women that day, but one stands out – Stella."

Stella Antimarino was a THON 2024 Family Relations Captain, specifically a Family Events Coordinator, who was volunteering at 100 Days 'Til THON that day. "Jonus immediately took a liking to Stella," Tara continued. "He was enamored. He would ask every single day how she was doing. As THON weekend grew closer, Jonus would ask if Stella was going to be there. Would he see her? Would she play with him?"

Then came THON weekend. "As we arrived at the Bryce Jordan Center, all we heard was, 'where is Miss Stella?" said Tara. "Jonus ran to her when he saw her in the lobby, and they were inseparable for the entire weekend. They played and ran around. She held him while



he fell asleep during family hour. She became his best friend." Stella also has fond memories of that weekend at THON. She and Jonus were on stage together, played hide-and-seek and hung out in the family lounge.

A friendship was born. In the days since THON, Stella and Jonus' bond has grown even stronger. It started with video calls multiple times a week, and now they now see each other in person nearly every week. Stella came to Jonus' preschool graduation, and he returned the favor by coming to her graduation from Penn State. They go shopping together, go out to eat, visit the playground and anything else you can think of. Their families know each other, and Stella has said, "we are all one big family now."

"Jonus is an inspiration to me; he is a hero of mine," said Stella. "When we first met, it was an instant connection; it feels like I have known him forever. He doesn't realize how much he means to me." Stella is planning to attend medical school and says Jonus is her inspiration. She hopes to continue to impact families and make a difference in people's lives.



"Four Diamonds and THON have helped our family in more ways than I can count," Tara said. "For our family, THON means hope. It means that Jonus has the best chance of beating cancer. He has the best chance of surviving and thriving with the support of THON and Four Diamonds."



Mini-THON alumna and cancer survivor Lauryn is surviving and thriving thanks to support from Four Diamonds.

术 In 2015, when Four Diamonds young adult Lauryn was a sophomore in high school, she went to her first Mini-THON, where she heard Four Diamonds family stories and felt the magic in the room. She knew she wanted to get involved in Mini-THON, so she became a committee member and eventually worked her way up to a captain position during her senior year. Mini-THON was an opportunity for her to not only grow as a person and gain communication and leadership skills, but to help with a project that was bigger than herself.

In 2019, Mini-THON and Four Diamonds took on a whole new meaning for Lauryn and her family. She noticed herself feeling fatigued doing normal, day-today activities. She had massive bruises on her body, her skin was so pale that it looked translucent and her fingernails were blue. She went to her family doctor, and after some testing, she was told she needed to go to the ER immediately for a blood transfusion. One of her doctors told her they had found cells in her blood that looked cancerous, and on October 6, 2019, she was officially diagnosed with leukemia.

Due to the type of cancer she had, it was determined that she would be treated in the Children's Hospital. As soon as she got into the hospital room, Four Diamonds was there to help her family. A Four Diamonds social worker explained all the ways they would help. From that moment on, they were a Four Diamonds family.

After more than two years of treatment, Lauryn rang the bell on February 23, 2022, signaling that she was finally cancer free. The next fall, she went back to school, became the Vice President of the THON committee at Penn State Harrisburg and finished her bachelor's degree in kinesiology. She currently works in the Kris Olewine Milke Cancer Assistance and Resource Education (CARE) Center in Penn State Cancer Institute and hopes to attend medical school in the future. Lauryn says all of this was made possible by the support of Mini-THON and Four Diamonds.

"Four Diamonds and Mini-THON will always be a part of me," said Lauryn. "So many lives have been lost to cancer; I am so blessed and thankful to be here today as a survivor. Hopefully, we get to a point where we have nothing but survivors; if a parent must hear that their child has cancer, let us get to a point where we know they will survive it."



CHILDHOOD CANCER MOM AND

Volunteer Extraordinaire

Julie Hess generously gives back to Four Diamonds in a multitude of ways.

Ten years ago, Julie's daughter, Lydia, was diagnosed with leukemia, a memory that she can vividly recall even today. From the outset, Julie took the initiative to learn more about Four Diamonds, an organization that provided invaluable support to her family during their most challenging time. She immediately became an advocate and volunteer, dedicating herself to promoting our mission daily. "Knowing that families encounter the same heartbreaking news every single week is a reminder that the work is not done," said Julie. "We will always support Four Diamonds and advocate for families."

The moment an opportunity to give back presented itself, the team 'Love For Lydia' was established. Through a variety of events benefiting Four Diamonds, Julie mobilized her friends and family to raise nearly \$70,000 for the cause. As part of her fundraising efforts, Julie ran in the NYC Marathon on Team Hope Gala. During the race, she carried the names of 26 children battling cancer on her arms, each name serving as inspiration for every mile she ran.

Julie has served as an advisor for Mini-THON at her children's elementary school. There

she has played a pivotal role in supporting, coordinating and inspiring students in their efforts to help conquer childhood cancer by raising tens of thousands of dollars through their Mini-THON program.

Julie also partnered with the psychosocial team at Four Diamonds as they established the parent mentor program. Over the years, she has provided personal mentorship to numerous parents of newly diagnosed children, both individually and in group settings. Julie emphasizes, "I know that the impact of a parent connecting with another parent who has 'been there' is powerful in the childhood cancer journey."

Now, at the age of 12, her daughter Lydia is seven years cancer-free and thriving. Thankfully, Lydia was too young to remember much of her cancer treatment, but this hasn't stopped her mom from fighting for those facing childhood cancer every day. Julie continues to be a staunch advocate and passionate influencer, lovingly "paying it forward" for other families facing childhood cancer. Four Diamonds is forever grateful for Julie, her entire network, and the example she sets for us all.



Gettysburg Rocks FTK®

- FOR THE KIDS®

For over 10 years, Gettysburg Rocks has been jamming in support of Four Diamonds.



Rob Simon has always had a passion for music. He has been in numerous bands and helped put on countless live shows, but his love of music never served a greater purpose until a conversation with his daughter, Ashley, sparked an idea.

"My daughter attended Penn State's Mont Alto campus and was involved in THON there," said Rob. "She reached out to me looking for a way to use my connections in the local music scene to raise money for Four Diamonds. And from that conversation, Gettysburg Rocks was born."

Gettysburg Rocks is a multi-day musical festival that features hundreds of bands and musicians each year and is spread across multiple venues in the Gettysburg area. In 2014, only 11 weeks after that conversation between Rob and his daughter, the first event was held, which included 130 live bands across 12 venues. The event raised over \$14,000.



After the success of the first event, Rob was approached by several venues, musicians and community members about making Gettysburg Rocks an annual event. One of those folks was Mike Calandrelle, who heard about the event from a friend.

"A musician I know was telling me about this big fundraising event and how it benefited Four Diamonds," said Mike. "Our granddaughter is a Four Diamonds child, so I immediately knew I had to get involved. I wanted to give back because of everything Four Diamonds did for our granddaughter and our family."

Today, over 10 years later, Gettysburg Rocks continues to grow, with Rob and Mike leading the way. Since that first event in 2014, Gettysburg Rocks has raised more than \$328,000 For The Kids. Even with the continued success of the event, both Rob

and Mike are humbled. "We really play a small part in this thing," said Mike. "We don't do it for any sort of recognition. We do it to make a difference and make an impact."

"Gettysburg Rocks truly has become a community event. It brings people together," said Mike. "It's hundreds of musicians donating their time and talent, countless volunteers giving hours of their time, plus all the local venues and businesses offering their support that make this possible. People want to be involved and help a great organization like Four Diamonds. It's a beautiful thing to be a part of."

Rob added, "We have the experience and the ability to keep this thing going and continue to give back to a cause we are passionate about, so why wouldn't we? It's something we're grateful to be a part of."

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