Teddy20 Supporting Children with Cancer - Annual Review 2023

Dear Teddy20 Community,

As we reflect on the past year, we are overwhelmed with gratitude for the incredible support and dedication that has allowed us to make a meaningful impact in the lives of children battling cancer. The Annual Review for 2023 serves as a testament to the collective efforts of our donors, volunteers, and partners who have joined hands to bring hope and joy to those who need it most.

Accomplishments:

1. Ted's Shack:

One of our flagship initiatives, Ted's Shack, continues to be a beacon of hope for children undergoing cancer treatment. This year, we provided 23 stays at Ted's Shack, offering a home away from home for these brave warriors and their families. The cosy, supportive environment has been instrumental in fostering a sense of community and alleviating the burdens associated with prolonged hospital stays. In 2024 we aim to reach out and work with ALL hospitals in the Wessex Region and further afield so we can give to more children and their families going through a tough time with cancer.

2. Financial Aid:

In 2023, Teddy20 took a significant step forward in providing comprehensive support by extending financial aid to 24 families facing the economic strain of childhood cancer. Recognising that the financial burden associated with medical treatments can be overwhelming, we implemented a robust financial assistance program.

The financial aid was designed to alleviate the various costs that families incur during their child's cancer journey, including medical bills, travel expenses, and everyday living costs. Through the generosity of our donors and strategic partnerships, we were able to provide much-needed relief to these 24 families, allowing them to focus on the most important thing—supporting their child through treatment.

Each family received personalised financial assistance tailored to their unique needs, ensuring that no family faced the daunting challenge of choosing between medical care and financial stability. This initiative exemplifies Teddy20's commitment to addressing the holistic needs of families battling paediatric cancer, recognising that emotional and financial well-being are intricately connected.

As we move forward, we remain dedicated to expanding our financial aid programs, striving to reach more families in need and making a meaningful impact in the lives of those affected by childhood cancer.

Additionally, this Christmas we have provided 35x vouchers to families, aiming to alleviate the financial strain during the Christmas season. This gesture reflects thoughtfulness and consideration, as these vouchers enable families to procure essential items during what is tough times for everyone. By offering this support, we hope to ease their financial burdens and enhance their holiday experience allowing them to focus on what really matters, family.

3. Community Outreach:

Our commitment to raising awareness about childhood cancer reached new heights through various community programs. We engaged with local events, schools, businesses, and civic groups to spread awareness, destigmatize the conversation around paediatric cancer, and garner support for our cause.

4. Teddy20 Events and Challenges:

This year saw various events and challenges hosted by Teddy20. From Skydives, to Summer Fete's to Marathons, Cycle's and Walks, we've been involved in it all!

Sky Dive

Teddy20 soared to new heights, quite literally, with the exhilarating Sky Dive event in 2023. Fearless participants, including some of our very own brave children and their families, took the plunge to demonstrate the boundless courage that defines our community. The event not only raised funds for our cause but also symbolised the resilience required to face the challenges presented by childhood cancer.

Teddy Rocks 2023

What an amazing weekend it was! Teddy Rocks Festival has outdone itself once again, delivering an even bigger and better experience! And what better time to do so then on their 10th anniversary.

Our time there was simply unforgettable, with Vengaboys, East 17, GLC, Feeder and the Amazons being just some of the many highlights. We also had the privilege of meeting some incredible people along the way so a big thank you to everyone who came over to say Hi, brought our merchandise or donated to the cause.

A huge thank you must go out to our trustees and volunteers who ran the Teddy20 tent with excellence! Another big thank you to George's Rockstars Young Lives vs Cancer South Fundraising and Bone Cancer Research Trust, for being absolutely awesome neighbours for the weekend!

In addition to the incredible lineup and the amazing experiences we had, Teddy Rocks Festival offered a diverse range of cuisines and refreshing drinks to cater to everyone's tastes. From gourmet burgers to vegan delights and craft beers, there was something for everyone to enjoy.

The festival grounds were adorned with vibrant decorations, including mesmerising lights, screens and colourful branding. It created a magical atmosphere that enhanced the overall festival

experience. Additionally, the festival had multiple interactive zones for children and adults where attendees could participate in various fun activities like an inflatable course, Axe throwing, and even a dedicated indoor space for children to enjoy games and entertainment.

One of the most heart-warming moments of the festival was the dedicated video-poem tribute to the festival and the brave children and young people fighting cancer. It was an emotional and uplifting experience that brought the entire festival community together. Watch the video here.

Le Teddy Tour 2023

In a remarkable display of determination and goodwill, twelve men and women embarked on an extraordinary cycling journey across three countries – France, Belgium, and Holland. Their inspiring three-day adventure took place at the end of June 2023, with the goal of raising funds for Teddy20, a children's cancer charity. United by a shared passion for making a difference, these cycling enthusiasts not only conquered the demanding distance of 215 miles but also managed to raise over £15,000.

Halloween Party

October came alive with the spooktacular Teddy20 Halloween Party, where laughter and joy filled the air. Families, volunteers, and local supporters gathered for a night of festivities, costumes, and camaraderie. The Halloween Party not only provided a memorable experience for our young warriors but also served as a platform to celebrate life and the strength embodied by each child fighting cancer. The event fostered a sense of normalcy, allowing families to enjoy a carefree evening amidst the challenges they face daily.

Santa Sleigh Stops

Bringing festive cheer to the hearts of children and families, Teddy20 launched the heartwarming Santa Sleigh Stops initiative in the spirit of the holiday season. Throughout December, our Santa Sleigh made its way through local towns and villages, creating magical moments for everyone.

Accompanied by volunteers adorned in elf attire, the Santa Sleigh Stops brought joy, gifts, and a sense of normalcy to those navigating the challenges of paediatric cancer treatment during the holiday season. Santa, with his sack full of presents, took time to visit each child, spreading smiles and warmth even in the face of adversity.

The initiative not only created a festive atmosphere for the children but also provided a sense of community and support during a time that can be particularly challenging for families affected by paediatric cancer. The Santa Sleigh Stops became a symbol of hope, reminding everyone that, even in the midst of difficult times, the spirit of giving and compassion prevails.

The generosity of our supporters and the dedication of volunteers made these Santa Sleigh Stops possible, showcasing the power of collective kindness. Teddy20 is grateful for the opportunity to bring a bit of holiday magic to the lives of those who need it most and looks forward to expanding this heartwarming tradition in the years to come.

Challenges and Opportunities:

While celebrating our achievements, we acknowledge the challenges that persist in the realm of childhood cancer. The ongoing pandemic has added layers of complexity, underscoring the importance of flexibility and resilience in our operations. These challenges compel us to explore new avenues and creative solutions, fortifying our commitment to our mission. We're dedicated to embracing these challenges as opportunities for growth, ensuring that our efforts in fighting childhood cancer remain steadfast and impactful.

This year we have also joined with Charity Challenges. Charity Challenges specialise in delivering exceptional adventure challenges, allowing participants to raise money for the charity of their choice. Whether it's trekking, cycling, rafting, and even dog sledding, there's a Charity Challenge for everyone. Through this partnership, you'll have the opportunity to embark on life-changing journeys while raising vital funds and awareness for our cause.

Gratitude:

None of our achievements would be possible without the unwavering support of our community. From the generous donors who fuel our programs to the dedicated volunteers who lend their time and expertise, each contribution is a testament to the collective power of compassion.

As we look ahead to the coming year, Teddy20 is committed to expanding its impact, reaching more children, and advancing the fight against paediatric cancer. Together, we can create a future where every child has the opportunity to thrive, regardless of their health challenges.

Thank you for being an integral part of the Teddy20 family. Your support is the driving force behind our mission.

With warm regards

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Teddy 20 Supporting Children with Cancer

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