

## How Our Third-Party Events Team Raised \$5M in a Year Without Events



### Welcome



Katie McHugh-Escobar Director, Community Partnerships SickKids Foundation



Kelly Dickinson Manager, Community Partnerships SickKids Foundation

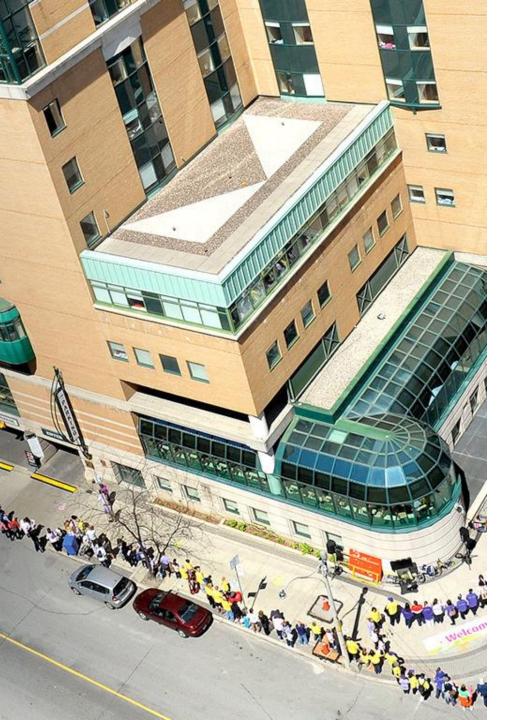




# Our Agenda

- About SickKids Hospital & SickKids Foundation
- Events at SickKids
- Community Partnerships at SickKids
- Pre-Pandemic VS Pandemic fundraising
- 5 ways we raised \$5 million in a year with no events
- What did we learn?
- Q&A





# SickKids Hospital

- Canada's most research-intensive hospital and the largest centre dedicated to improving children's health in the country.
- SickKids is located in downtown Toronto and receives more than 400,000 patient visits every year
- SickKids trains nearly 80% of Canada's specialists in kids' cancer and over 400 fellows from around the world each year
- Over **3,200** research projects happening now at the SickKids Research Institute to improve kids' health
- SickKids is currently under a campus redevelopment project which will be completed in 2032





# SickKids Foundation

- SickKids Foundation is the fundraising arm of SickKids Hospital, founded in 1973
- 250 staff with three fundraising departments, in addition to Operations, IT and Brand Strategy
- In 2016, SickKids Foundation launched the VS Campaign, and pivoted the brand from a charity brand to a performance brand, a huge departure from previous campaigns
- In 2017, launched the largest Paediatric fundraising campaign in Canadian History with the goal to raise \$1.5 billion by 2023





# Events at SickKids

- Signature and Community Events separate teams but same department
- Allows investment and success in both teams with lowered cost per dollar across the department
- Segmentation of teams allows for professional growth and specialization; ability to provide levels of support to maximize return on opportunity; identifies trends and areas of growth in fundraising
- We rise and fall together and support each other, when it is needed most



## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

### CHAMPIONS OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE FIGHT AT SICKKIDS

### MISSION

We maximize 'Return On Gratitude' (ROG) at SickkKids Foundation

#### **FUNCTION**

Enable the fundraising initiatives and events of our community partners







## Community Partnerships Pre-COVID

- Over **1000** third party events and **\$14M+** raised/year
- 9 full-time staff
- Mix of loyal (returning) and new events conceived, owned and executed by the Community Event Organizer
- Devoted resources to building trusting relationships between our SickKids Advisors and our donors through personalized relationship management
- **90%** of revenue comes from 8% of donors
- **50%** of Event Organizers are patients/patient families
- **70%** of revenue is donor directed or Foundation priorities vs. unrestricted giving
- Generated \$35M in pledge commitments to end of Campaign (2023) for Foundation priorities and campus redevelopment





### Community Partnerships in a Pandemic World

- Events for Spring/Summer and Fall 2020 were cancelled
- 2/3 of Event Organizers went dormant
- Revenue fell by **2/3** in fiscal year '21
- We still raised **\$5 Million** in third party events revenue

### So, how did we do it?....





# 1. Stewardship:

Our focus was to support our donors, even if they were not fundraising.

- We made no assumptions when it came to our donors
- At the beginning of the pandemic, we focused on checking in with our donors to see how they were coping not to talk fundraising
- No initial asks about their events but used touchpoints to keep the communication open
  - Ask the Expert webinars
  - Virtual Stewardship Celebrations
  - Surprise & Delight Opportunities
- As time went on and when it was appropriate, we moved donors from Stewardship to Impact mode with the various tools and virtual programs we developed





## 2. Impact:

We developed and shared virtual tools for new and existing donors

We identified and segmented event types & developed tools that could help generate the most funds and resonate with our donor base

- Galas & Cocktail parties
  - Partnered with a catering company & a virtual auction company that was able to provide discounts / support in planning an event at home
- Golf Tournaments:
  - Distributed email communication to help introduce the concept to our donors
  - Developed a tool kit with ideas of how to host a safe and impactful tournament in a socially distant world.
- Holiday Fundraising and Events under \$5K









### GO CHIC. STAY HOME.

Bring the glitz and glamour of a Gala right to your doorstep! A Virtual Gala powerful way of bringing the community together "virtually" through food al fundraising and is a great way to rally everyone in support of a shared pure to the support of a shar

With the help of peer-to-peer fundraising tools, you will be able to empower your community with fun activities, such as creating table captains, which y encourage individuals or companies to rally their networks to support your virtual gala. You can fundraise for a defined period, and/or consider stream virtual ceremonies, entertainment and speeches on a specified date.









Dear Tournament Organizer,

Summer has finally arrived, and we hope that you are keeping well and safe!

We all know summer is a great time to get outdoors and as we slowly return to a new normal, we are excited to see so many of our supporters returning to what they love to do, in a socially distanced world. Golfing is no exception! As courses have re-opened, the team here at SickKids Foundation have been brainstorming ways to help our community plan and execute their tournaments in the safest way possible.

As a loyal supporter and tournament organizer we are giving you a sneak



# 3. Integration:

We built in brand new revenue streams to existing foundation and hospital programs

- GetLoud: Flagship Signature Fundraising Event
  - Partnered with Signature events team on a strategy to pivot our donors to GetLoud in lieu of hosting their own event.
  - Raised \$30,000 in revenue through GetLoud and added over 100 new participants to this event.
- Sponsor A Family: Gift-in Kind Hospital Program
  - In lieu of in-kind donations, provided each donor with a OneCause P2P fundraising page and asked them to fundraise, so that our child life staff could purchase gift cards for families.
  - In 2020, we raised \$37,700 in revenue through Sponsor a Family, which was revenue that previously did not exist.







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#### About SickKids' Sponsor a Family Program



SICKKIDS' SPONSOR-A-FAMILY PROGRAM SUPPORTING SICKKIDS FOUNDATION

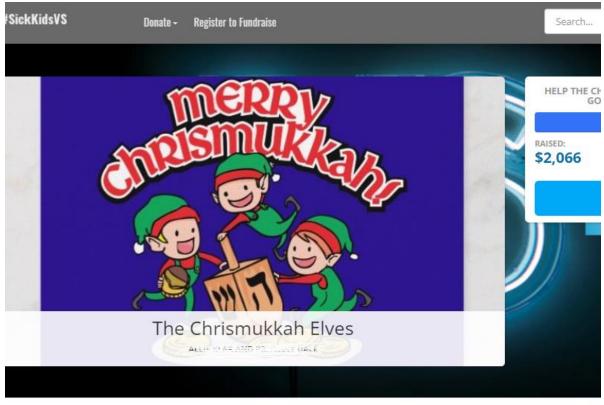
> SickKids FOUNDATION \$37,737

61 People have accepted the challenge

18 Teams have accepted the challenge

4.1 million Social Media Reach

387 Donations



#### The Chrismukkah Elves has accepted the challenge

We have provided some information about the family, their needs and wishes. Your donation will allow us to purchase these items to be shipped directly to the family's home on your behalf. Thank you again for your generosity and help in sponsoring this SickKids family!

#### About the Family:

Sam\* is 14 years old, he has end stage kidney disease and is currently on the waitlist for a transplant.







## 4. Sustainability:

Created digital tools that will improve the donor experience, even after the pandemic

We continue to adjust and update our tools to help provide impact to our donors virtually and help them fundraise:

Social Impact Tools



Digital Cheque presentations

Celebration in a box

Certificates

Secure link to submit funds online







## 5. Investment:

Created new platforms and programs for specific demographics

#### • SickKids Go Fundraise: (\$5,000 and under fundraisers)

- Developed new online Do It Yourself (DIY) fundraising platform for frictionless fundraising
- Events are funneled through DIY site with turn-key fundraising tools and digital fundraising platform
- To date we have seen **250** net new events and **\$200K and counting** come through the platform

### • Campus Challenge: (College & University fundraisers)

- The Campus Challenge is fundraising initiative geared towards University and College students to be able to fundraise under their school banner and perform an *act of bravery* to stand in solidarity with SickKids Patients
- 55% increase in revenue year over year with this demographic

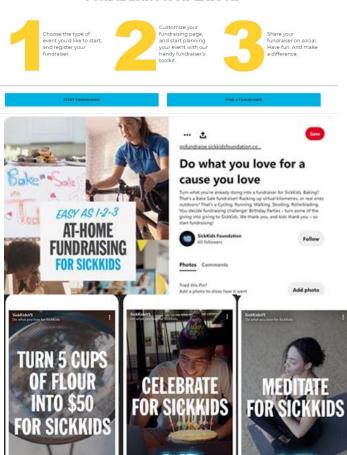
#### • P2P/Warrior Program: (Challenge based fundraisers)

- Active-based challenges, huge increase in events and revenue
- Used all of the digital tools available through OneCause pages, activity trackers, social integration, multi-event templates, etc. to maximize the donor experience to generate as much funds as possible





#### FUNDRAISING IS AS EASY AS

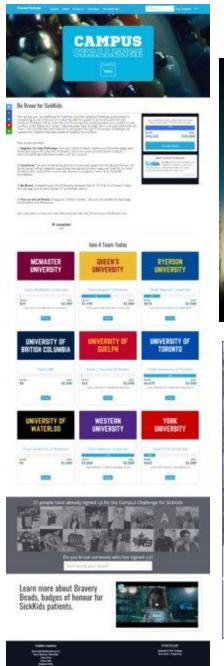


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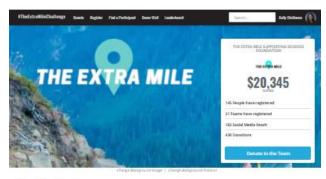
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#### About The Extra Mile



Thank You To Our Sponsors!

### What did we learn?

- **\$5 million** in many ways is harder to raise than **\$14 million**!
- The **relationships** we developed and the impact we delivered prior to the pandemic were key to unlocking the trust of our donors to try new ways of fundraising
- Robust digital fundraising tools need to be **invested in and integrated into** the long-term strategy
- We evaluated the **long-term**, not the short-term ROI in developing new tools and platforms. Recognizing the upfront work needed to develop new tools may not pay off right away but we are making investments in the future of our business
- **Hybrid events** is our future. We need to continue to develop the fundraising and digital skills in our staff to meet the needs of a hybrid portfolio and changing needs of our donors





# Questions?

