



TEAM SHAAN AND NATIVITY ACADEMY ARE COMBINING EFFORTS FOR MAJOR IMPACT

June 16, 2026 – The [Team Shaan Foundation](#) and [Nativity Academy](#) both strongly believe in supporting youth by providing opportunities that would otherwise not be possible.

Five friends formed the Team Shaan Foundation to honor their close friend, Ra'Shaan Willis, who passed away in the devastating Louisville flood in 1997. Their hearts were broken again in December 2017 when Shaan's only sibling, Ra'Tonya Willis Friedman, suddenly passed away. The Team Shaan Foundation now honors both.

Through 2025, the Team Shaan Foundation held its annual golf outing for twenty-six straight years, raising more than one million dollars to support youth in the Greater Louisville community by donating to forty local not-for-profit agencies, including the Nativity Academy. Family and friends had a recurring calendar hold and looked forward to connecting with one another while sharing stories about Shaan and Tonya's magnetic personalities.

Similarly, Nativity Academy hosts a golf outing that takes place annually in April. This year's outing sold out and was their most successful.

Those five founding members of the Team Shaan Foundation are now 46 years old, and each raise their children to understand the importance of philanthropy. As the Team Shaan Board began to envision how they could have an even greater community impact, the idea of developing a partnership with Nativity Academy came about.

Because of their shared mission to benefit youth in the community through education and faith, the two organizations have decided to join forces. The Team Shaan Foundation Golf Outing benefiting Nativity Academy will take place on April 19, 2027, at Audubon Country Club, which will include a morning and afternoon playing option.

"As nonprofits face growing challenges, it is critical to explore ways to streamline operations and work together. Once we saw the strong alignment between Nativity Academy's mission, leadership, and Team Shaan's values, partnering to expand our impact was the clear next step," said Jeremy Jarvi, President of the Team Shaan Foundation.

"We are honored to partner with the Team Shaan Foundation, which embodies the same values as Nativity. Together, we will be able to walk with more families to open doors of opportunity through Catholic education so young people realize a life without limits. In turn, our greater Louisville community is strengthened and flourishes," explains Meghan Weyland, President at Nativity Academy.

More information, visit www.nativitylouisville.org.

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