



c/o Delaware Corporate Services, Inc., 919 N. Market Street, Suite 725, Wilmington, DE 19801



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Happy Holidays to All

Year End Letter, December 2025

Reflection always seems to accompany the closing of a year. Recently, while waiting in the airport, I saw a group wearing shirts with the phrase “Making Spirits Bright”, and it made me pause and reflect about what the true meaning of that phrase really is. I learned that to “Make Spirits Bright” is to bring joy through kindness, community, and shared moments during the holidays.

But for our Katie Swaney Foundation (KSF), this spirit isn’t limited to one season. Thanks to your generosity and compassion, we can bring light and hope to those living under the shadow of cancer all year long. Your support means that people facing unimaginable challenges know they are not alone. They feel the warmth of our caring KSF community standing beside them, ready to lift them up and share in their fight. This embodies the KSF mission.

In 1999, the KSF began its mission of caring and helping. Together we have built a Foundation to carry out our very simple, but very personal and powerful mission as outlined below:

- Support the emotional and physical welfare of the children stricken with cancer by donating play equipment, gift cards for celebrating special moments and other items requested by the hospitals
- Develop ways in which we can support the physical and emotional needs of the children and their families
- Provide monetary grants to research institutions

Fundraising Activities

We were able to come together again for the 27th Annual KSF Early Fall Classic Golf Outing held at Cedarbrook Golf Club in Belle Vernon, PA. Once again, the weather did not disappoint, and we were blessed with a beautiful, warm fall day for golf. What a day it was. We had our largest group of golfers, 107, in the last 10 years. Brad Campbell, who organizes and leads the Early Fall Classic, added a few new twists for the outing including a putting contest and a 50/50 raffle, coupled with team photos that were enjoyed by all. For everyone that came to the outing, we thank you. If you could not make it this year, we would love to have you join us next year. We also want to give a big shout out to our hole sponsors. We could not do what we do without you. The golf outing was a tremendous success thanks to many, but especially to the efforts of Brad Campbell. Brad truly outdid himself this year, as this year’s outing set a fundraising record of \$25,300! Please be sure to keep an eye out for the “Save the Date” letter for the 2026 golf outing planned for September 19th, 2026. All skill levels are welcome.

In addition to the golf proceeds, we received over \$3,842 in monetary donations in 2025 from many friends and family. We extend our thanks to all our donors for your ongoing support and commitment to the KSF.

Making a Difference

This Fall, our KSF board had the privilege of meeting with Duke Family Support and Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh (CHP) to learn about their evolving needs and, most importantly, to hear firsthand how our contributions are making a real difference. During our Meeting on November 24th, the Duke Family Support program director shared a touching story that truly illustrates the power of our support of the Music Therapy program. A young patient undergoing a transplant was able to experience a moment of joy and normalcy through music therapy. With the help of Tray, the musical therapist, the patient formed the “Rainbow Band,” created tickets, practiced, and performed for the entire transplant unit—complete with rainbow hair for the occasion. This uplifting event not only brightened the patient’s spirits but brought hope and happiness to everyone present.

On October 3rd we held our annual meeting with CHP. One way in which we provide support is by donating Starbucks gift cards that the Child Life team distributes to patients and families as needed. The team shared that the gift cards are a huge hit. The Child Life Specialist said that oftentimes, families will be waiting for their child to be discharged for a few hours. They are so close to going home, but they must wait, which can be stressful and frustrating. The team gives them Starbucks gift cards to get some coffee to provide a small measure of stress relief. The Child Life Specialist said the families greatly appreciate the gift cards and it really touches them that “someone” else out there cares. Such a simple gesture, yet so impactful as it lets the family know they are not alone.

As a supporter, you may ask the question, are we making a difference? The answer is an emphatic YES!

2026 Donations

Now on to our favorite part of the letter, to share what we have accomplished together as a Foundation with our collective time, talents, and donations! On November 10, 2025, the KSF Board of Directors convened to review the donation requests from both Duke University Medical Center and Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh. We are happy to share with you the approved 2026 donations of \$25,800 made possible by our generous KSF community.

Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh	\$11,800	Duke Medical Center	\$14,000
Meal Vouchers	\$4,800	Music Therapy	\$6,000
Snack Cart	\$6,000	Parking Passes	\$6,000
Starbucks Gift Cards	\$1,000	Discharge Bags	\$1,000
		Leukemia Research	\$1,000

What’s New

We are extremely excited to share that the KSF website has been officially launched. You can now find us at <https://katieswaneyfoundation.org> or scan the QR code at the top of this letter. Along with our website, we have also created a new logo as seen in the header of this email. We would like to thank our newest board member, Georgia Parsons, for her time and web design expertise in creating the site and spearheading the development of the new logo and refresh of our labeling materials.

Final Thoughts

Writing the annual letter is a treasured KSF tradition for David and me. Your commitment to our Foundation has afforded us an opportunity not everyone has, once a loved one passes. We can give back to those very organizations that supported us during our cancer journey with Katie all the while keeping her spirit alive through the great works of the KSF.

We thank each of you for believing in the KSF and making it one of your chosen, not for profit organizations. The annual support you provide allows us to carry out our mission each year. Because of you, we can offer moments of joy, comfort, and connection. Thank you for helping us make their spirits bright, not just during the holidays, but every single day. If you would like to donate to the KSF, please send your gift to the address at the top of this letter.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2026.

David and Kathie Swaney