



2023 Annual Report



Dear WINKS Supporters,

Thanks to your support, WINKS has made great strides this year in advancing our mission, increasing our capacity to support brain tumor patients, and achieving financial sustainability.

Let's continue to rally together to enhance the quality of life for brain tumor patients and caregivers With INtentional Kindness and Support – no journey is traveled alone!

We look forward to partnering with you to continue the great work WINKS is doing to enhance the quality of life of brain tumor patients and their families in 2024.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samaria Hunter". The signature is written in a dark grey or black ink.

Samaria Hunter, President

Welcome, Lance Kawaguchi



New Chairperson

WINKS is proud to announce the appointment of Lance Kawaguchi to serve as Chairman of its board of directors. Lance has swiftly emerged as a prominent leader in the non-profit sector, following a successful 25-year career in global finance and banking. After experiencing the devastating loss of his mother to cancer in 2016, Lance made the courageous decision to leave behind his thriving corporate banking career and take the helm of Australia-based Cure Brain Cancer Foundation and is now proud to serve alongside Sam and WINKS. To learn more visit winksbt.org/media.

#SouthPoleTrek4Cancer

In December, Lance started a remarkable journey to Antarctica and the South Pole with a mission to raise a flag on New Year's Day on behalf of WINKS and 23 other cancer charities around the globe. The South Pole Trek 4 Cancer is about breaking down conventional barriers and traditional silos that make up non-profit work and instead leading the way with global collaboration by bringing together multiple charities from around the world to fight together.

This partnership exemplifies a shared commitment to making a difference in the lives of those affected by cancer. With this collaboration, WINKS aims to raise further awareness and support for cancer research, treatment, and prevention initiatives. The trek showcases an incredible journey of determination and resilience, pushing boundaries and inspiring others to join the cause.



In collaboration with Lance and the incredible #SouthPoleTrek4Cancer initiative, WINKS had the privilege of ringing the Nasdaq Stock Market Closing Bell on December 18, 2023

Hampton Roads Community Partners

Community Partnerships

Through community partnerships, our Empathy in Action program continues to grow and have lasting impacts on the brain tumor patients and families we serve. In 2023, WINKS was awarded the United Way of South Hampton Roads United for Equity Grant and the Sentara Cares Grant, which enabled WINKS to continue to provide emotional, financial, and logistical support services. The Hampton University Proton Therapy Institute helps facilitate support groups.



United Way of
South Hampton Roads



HAMPTON UNIVERSITY
PROTON CANCER INSTITUTE
Cancer and Research Center

Community Engagement

The 2nd Annual Tee Up for Brain Tumors raised over \$10,000 for our Empathy in Action program and attracted 80 participants and volunteers. WINKS increased awareness through speaking engagements at local health fairs and medical facilities. In 2023, WINKS lifted burdens and empowered those we serve. We awarded \$10,000 in Empathy in Action Grants and distributed 133 Brain Tumor Power Packs through our partnership with 10 local medical facilities.

**\$10,000
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**133
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**Over 80
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We Are Stronger Together!

Through partnerships with the community, local medical facilities, and other nonprofit organizations, we are doing extraordinary things. However, there is a lot more work to do.

Here is how you can help us advance our mission:

SUPPORT. WINKS continues to be a leading force in driving advancements in cancer research and providing support to those in need. By joining forces with Lance Kawaguchi, the #SouthPoleTrek4Cancer initiative, and WINKS, you can help create a lasting impact and bring hope to individuals battling cancer worldwide.

- To learn more about the SouthPoleTrek4Cancer please visit www.southpoletrek4cancer.org.
- To donate to WINKS please visit winksb.org/donate.

GIVE. Our Empathy in Action (EIA) program provides need-based grants, urgent funds requests, resource connections, and other support.

- Your donation of **\$35** enables WINKS to distribute a Brain Tumor Power Pack (BTTP) to a newly diagnosed patient and their family, which provides information and services to better equip them to meet the challenges of a brain tumor diagnosis.
- Your donation of **\$500** enables WINKS to provide urgent funds requests for medical copays and transportation.
- Your donation of **\$1000** enables WINKS to provide a need-based grant to a qualifying brain tumor patient and/or caregiver in Hampton Roads.

SHARE. Your willingness to share this message helps WINKS SPREAD THE WORD. Please tell your friends and family why you believe in our work and encourage them to support us too! Make sure to use hashtag #WINKSBT so we can share!



Vision

Lifting the Burdens to Focus on the Fight

Mission

Enhance the quality of life for brain tumor patients and caregivers With INTentional Kindness and Support (WINKS) – no journey is traveled alone!

Program

Empathy in Action provides emotional, financial, logistical, and informational support to brain tumor patients and caregivers

Services

- **Empathy in Action Grants** - Provide need-based grants
- **Eye Opener** - Share knowledge to enable better decisions about care, increase awareness, and communicate the needs of the brain tumor community
 - Distribute **Brain Tumor Power Packs** to Newly Diagnosed Brain Tumor Patients in the Hampton Roads area to provide - Information, Comfort, and Support
- **Encouraging Nods Quarterly Support Group** - Provide support, confidence, and hope to Brain Tumor Patients and their families through compassion, sharing, and understanding

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PO Box 5186, Suffolk, VA 23435