



# COMMUNITY MARATHONS

## K-12 DANCE MARATHON COMMUNITY EVENTS

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2023 - 2024



# ABOUT DANCE MARATHON

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**Dance Marathon at Florida State University**, a Miracle Network Dance Marathon, is a year-long effort that culminates with an annual 30-hour event, where more than 1,800 students stay awake and on their feet to raise money and awareness for our local beneficiaries. Over the past 28 years, Dance Marathon at FSU has raised over \$20 million for our local Children's Miracle Network Hospital, Shands Children's Hospital, and the FSU College of Medicine. In 2023, DM at FSU raised a grand total of \$1,308,578.28 for our beneficiaries. These funds make the difference in providing the medical care, treatment, and research needed at our local Children's Miracle Network Hospital and the FSU College of Medicine!

**Children's Miracle Network** is an international non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness and funds for children's hospitals. Children's Miracle Network at UF Health Shands Children's hospital is located in Gainesville, FL and is Florida's premiere CMN hospital. UF Health Shands Children's hospital is the participating hospital for the Tallahassee and South Georgia region.

**Community Marathons** is a branch of our program that incorporates our local high schools and middle schools to facilitate their own extension of DM at FSU. Our Community Marathons program was established in 2015, where we had just one event. Since then, we have welcomed 13 new programs to grow beyond any expectations. The program was established with the framework that shadows the events and programming of DM at FSU throughout the year. We work to incorporate as much of the same details with each of our schools. We work as a program to emphasize leadership and philanthropy with these students. This program gives these local high school and middle schools an opportunity to grow their students beyond the current curriculum, which ultimately prepares these students for both college and future careers.

# WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO?

**48%**  
**PEDIATRIC RESEARCH**



**42%**  
**PEDIATRIC PROGRAMS**

**10%**  
**IMMEDIATE NEEDS**

Dance Marathon at FSU is unique because we have two beneficiaries: Children's Miracle Network and the FSU College of Medicine's Pediatric Outreach Programs. Half of our efforts directly impact the children at Shands Children's Hospital in Gainesville, Florida through comprehensive care, pediatric research, and the purchase of the latest technology to maintain this high standard of clinical care.

## FSU COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

### *Pediatric Outreach Programs*



Provides pediatric services in Gadsden County by funding two ARNPs to improve access to healthcare.

**Gadsden School-Based Health Clinic**



Support for the Pediatric Dental Program through the purchase of dental equipment: NRW BK Sling chairs, hygiene system, handheld x-ray, and more!

**Bond Community Health Center**



Helps fund a full-time Pediatrician, equipment, supplies, book, and mental health support.

**FSU Primary Health Facility**



Provides a full-time, Master's level, board certified Music Therapist, music supplies, and necessary funds for community outreach.

**FSU Institute for Infant and Child Music Medical Therapy**

The other half of our funds stay right here in our local Tallahassee community through our FSU College of Medicine beneficiary. Because of the help from our local high school programs, we are able to support the College of Medicine Pediatric Outreach programs which include: Big Bend Hospice, Gadsden School-Based Health Clinic, Gadsden County's Early Head Start, multiple pediatric units at TMH, and more.

# STUDENTS FIRST

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## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Our Community Marathon programs go beyond our students and involve the entire community. Dance Marathon is a nationally recognized brand, with an extremely involved alumni network from both Florida State University and our nation-wide Dance Marathon alumni network.



## SCHOOL SPIRIT

The main goal for our Community Marathons programs is not monetary. We aim to instill a passion for service in high school and middle school students across the state. Through a combination of student body engagement and leadership opportunities, our hope is that your students develop a deeper love for your school and our cause.



## MENTORSHIP AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Our team is responsible for cultivating the leadership skills of our participating high school students. We focus on personal and professional development while introducing students to the inner workings of Dance Marathon and the history of our philanthropic cause.





# WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU



A school staff member willing to advise the students and make sure all school and district rules are being followed throughout the year. This person should be willing to assist the students while keeping them on track with their goals!



A group of students who want to start a movement and make a difference in the lives of others!



The rest is on us and your students! Our team will hold weekly or bi-weekly check-ins with the students to ensure each part of their marathon is being planned correctly and efficiently, as well as to guide them in reaching their school and personal goals throughout their experience!



# IMPACT LEVELS



Rickards High School



Lincoln High School  
Florida State University Schools



Lawton Chiles High School  
Maclay High School



Leon High School

Our Impact Levels help to show the monetary amount that each of our schools are making, and encourages them to reach for the next level to make a larger impact for their community and local CMN hospital!



# 2022 -2023 STATS

6 HIGH  
SCHOOLS

3 MIDDLE  
SCHOOLS

**\$427,738**  
TOTAL RAISED  
IN 2022

TOP  
FUNDRAISING  
PROGRAMS

LEON HIGH SCHOOL  
**\$175,025.59**

CHILES HIGH SCHOOL  
**\$96,533.36**

MACLAY HIGH SCHOOL  
**\$91,449.41**

**650+**  
STUDENTS

**\$644.18**

AVERAGE RAISED PER STUDENT  
IN 2023

# MEET CADEN

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At 4 weeks old, Caden was diagnosed with severe hemophilia A, a rare bleeding disorder in which his body does not allow his blood to clot and stop bleeding. Complicating this condition, Caden was also diagnosed with having an inhibitor, an antibody that eats his factor VIII, an essential blood-clotting protein, also known as anti-hemophilic factor. This diagnosis required Caden to have a port inserted in order to receive these factor injections.

This port became infected, which led to a six-week hospitalization at UF Health Shands Children's Hospital. Worried that removing his port would result in uncontrolled, hard-to-stop bleeding, Caden's physicians

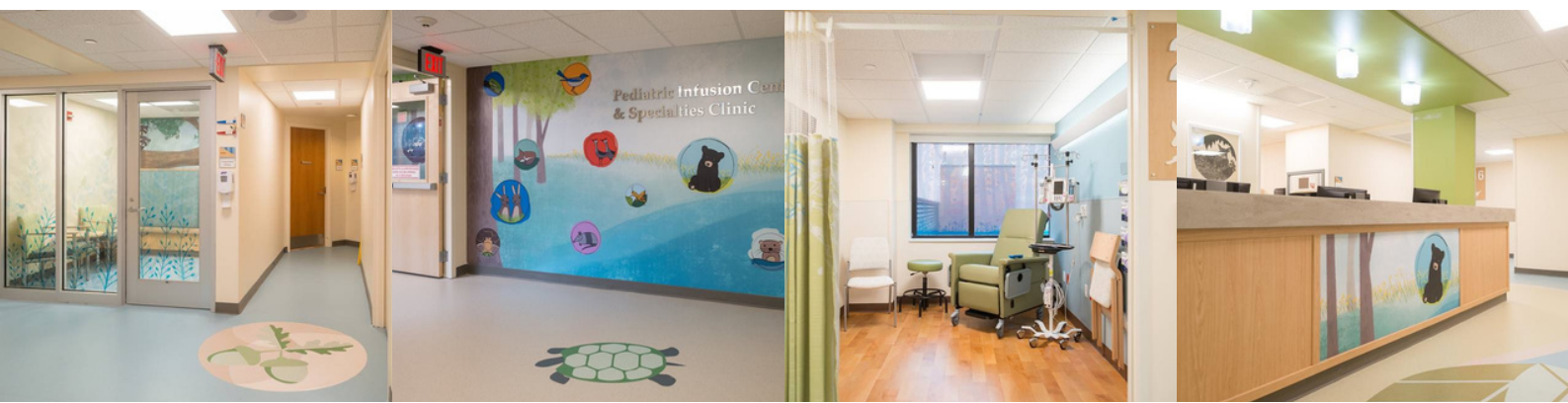
were conflicted about removing the infected port. They ultimately removed and replaced the port with a Broviac Catheter – a soft, flexible tube that is placed under the skin of the chest and inserted into a large vein near the heart. This catheter is designed for long-term access and is used to administer fluids, medications, blood products, nutrition and to draw blood for labs.

Caden's family faced significant changes in November 2017, as physicians wanted to start Caden on a new weekly subcutaneous hemophilia therapy recently approved by the FDA. Since receiving his first injection in February 2018, Caden has not experienced a single bleed. He no longer has to miss school or play dates!

# PEDIATRIC INFUSION CENTER

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On December 21st, 2018 our newly renovated Pediatric Infusion Center and Specialties Clinic began welcoming patients on the fourth floor of UF Health Shands Children's Hospital. This renovation was made possible due to \$2.6 million dollars dedicated by Children's Miracle Network. The renovated unit features a larger waiting room, 16 infusion chairs each with a TV and gaming station, a compromised waiting area, nourishment area, more spaces for nurses, and so much more. Patients at each chair will have more room with more privacy. This renovation would not be possible without your hard work and dedication to Children's Miracle Network!







# OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

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We understand that every school is different, and Dance Marathon may look different at each school. We aim to be creative with our programming and offer unique opportunities to best engage each of our programs and provide schools with a way to learn more about our mission in a way that is customized to each school. Beyond holding a marathon, we also offer other opportunities to introduce your students to our mission, without the commitment of holding an event. For example:

## Miracle Jeans Day

- Miracle Jeans Day is a day that schools pick to dress casual to make a difference for kids in your community!
- Select a day for your event, promote the event, and encourage everyone to wear jeans, and then collect a small donation on that day to support Children's Miracle Network and UF Health Shands Children's Hospital.

## Penny Wars

- Penny jars can be set up in homeroom classes and students bring in coins for their class jar!
- Select a time frame from your event, promote the event, and choose an incentive for the class that raises the most to support Children's Miracle Network and UF Health Shands Children's Hospital.

There are plenty of other opportunities to customize events, such as holding a fundraising sporting match, like kickball or flag football, or holding a bake sale for Children's Miracle Network and UF Health Shands Children's Hospital. We would love to discuss a plan that best fits your school, and your students!

# CONTACT US

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**FOLLOW ALONG WITH US  
THIS YEAR!**



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FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

**UFHealth**  
shands children's Hospital



**Children's  
Miracle Network  
Hospitals**