

Young Chefs Academy Announces Campaign to Raise Funds for Cookies for Kids' Cancer

Proceeds from August and September Events Going to Childhood Cancer Research

September 22, 2016

WACO, Texas – Young Chefs Academy is helping researchers find a cure for childhood cancer, the number one disease killer of children in the United States, one Good Cookie at a time. The country's leading kids cooking school, with more than 20 locations in 10 states, is hosting a series of bake sales with its student chefs to raise money for childhood cancer research. The campaign is timed to coincide with Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September and funds raised will support Cookies for Kids' Cancer, a national non-profit organization that provides critically needed funds to new, less toxic therapies for childhood cancer.

The first set of fundraisers are being held during the Young Chefs Academy Food Network Magazine Fall Open House events taking place at the Academy's locations coast to coast late-August through September. The events include a Cookies for Kids' Cancer station in which donations are collected as participants make a special Young Chefs Academy Potato Chip Cookie recipe.

Plus, throughout the month of September, each of the 20-plus Young Chefs Academy locations is hosting a bake sale to raise funds for the cause. The organizations are teaming up to actively market the philanthropic drive through onsite materials, social media engagement and publicity. In addition to the donations collected at the events, Young Chefs Academy is raising funds online through customized websites for each of the Academy's locations.

"What makes this so special is that the two organizations share common values. We both believe that teaching kids life lessons at a young age can help grow a generation of strong, responsible adults with incredibly meaningful intentions. In fact, it is our Young Chefs Academy students leading the fundraising charge for Cookies for Kids' Cancer," said Julie Burleson, founder and CEO of Young Chefs Academy. "I'm filled with immense emotion uniting the Young Chefs Academy family around the country...our owners, staff and students...with Cookies for Kids' Cancer."

“Young Chefs Academy is a special company – one that we feel shares our passion and dedication to improving the lives of children,” said Gretchen Witt, co-founder of Cookies for Kids’ Cancer, “These nationwide efforts illustrate the magnitude of the difference we can all make, especially for the children who are leading the charge in raising the funds. What a great life lesson!”

Cookies for Kids’ Cancer’s partnership with Young Chefs Academy gives families and entire communities an opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of the 14,000 children that are diagnosed with cancer every year. So far, Cookies for Kids’ Cancer has funded 80 childhood cancer research grants resulting in 32 new treatments that are currently available to children.

About Young Chefs Academy

Founded in 2003, Young Chefs Academy is one part culinary adventure, one part culinary education, and it’s all for kids. Here, learning invaluable life lessons (shhh... they don’t even know it’s happening) occurs through a cooking curriculum that evokes curiosity, which provides kids a pathway to personal discovery and creativity, all in a warm, welcoming and inspiring movement.

Young Chefs Academy provides driven entrepreneurs the opportunity to join an American movement that is here to stay. Complete with a celebrated curriculum, extensive marketing, operations and real estate support, Young Chefs Academy is on a course for nationwide U.S. expansion. Currently, the company has more than 20 locations open or in development throughout ten states.

For more information about Young Chefs Academy, visit www.youngchefsacademy.com.

About Cookies for Kids’ Cancer

Through the concept of local events and online cookie sales, Cookies for Kids’ Cancer has granted \$10 million as of the end of 2015, funding 80 research projects, including 32 that are now treatments available for children battling cancer today. Founded by parents of a toddler battling stage IV cancer, the organization inspires individuals, organizations, and businesses to join in the fight against pediatric cancer by raising the funds for new and improved and less toxic treatments.

Since Cookies for Kids’ Cancer launched in 2008 following a 96,000 cookie bake-a-thon, there have been more than 7,000 events in all 50 states and 16 countries. Grants are peer reviewed by a scientific advisory board of esteemed pediatric cancer oncologists, with funds going directly to the leading pediatric cancer institutions in the country including: Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Dana Farber, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital and Texas Children’s Cancer Center. In addition, Cookies for

Kids' Cancer is the largest single donor to the Children's Oncology Group (COG) Phase I Consortium project with a donation twice the amount that the Federal Government allocates per child enrolled. The organization has been profiled in the Wall Street Journal, Today Show, Good Morning America, NY Daily News, Family Circle Magazine and dozens of other esteemed media outlets. In addition, the organization has received several national awards for its work.

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