

# Lauren's First and Goal Foundation

mloose@lfgf.org  
www.lfgf.org

## Newsletter

1002 B Bartlett Loop  
West Point, NY 10996  
484-788-9239

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Founded in 2004, LFG is a 501c3 charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. EIN 20-1556643

## Grant Recipients for 2017

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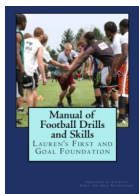
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Newsletter Editor:  
Patrice M. Domozych  
docdomo@optonline.net



Lauren's First and Goal Foundation announced nearly \$153,000 in grant awards to pediatric cancer research, patient services, and families impacted by the disease. LFG has awarded more than \$1.95 million in grants as part of the fight against pediatric cancer since 2004.

LFG is focusing the largest amount of its grants on pediatric cancer research. The foundation supported three research projects that received \$38,000 each. The research projects, which have received funding from the foundation previously, are:

- Dana Farber's Pediatric Low-Grade Astrocytoma (PGLA) program
- Johns Hopkins' Pilocytic/Pilomyxoid Research program
- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia – Children's Brain Tumor Tissue Consortium/Low Grade Glioma research program

The next category of grant funding is patient services, with commitments to two different programs, totaling \$22,000. One the awards is designated for camp programs specifically designed for children battling pediatric cancer and other major illnesses. LFG has awarded \$12,000 to Camp Sunshine.

The donation to Camp Sunshine allows families to attend camp for the Low Grade Pediatric Brain Tumor week. Camp Sunshine is a year-round program that provides respite, support, joy and hope to children with life-threatening illnesses and their immediate families through various stages of a child's illness.

The second patient services grant for \$10,000 covers the adoption of a room and a pledge commitment for the permanent adoption of a new suite at the Ronald McDonald House Philadelphia Chestnut Street location. By adopting a room, the

foundation is sponsoring each family who will stay in that room as their child battles a serious illness. One very special family, the Cavanaughs, spent an extended period of time in the room while their daughter and sister Callie received



Callie Cavanaugh and Lauren at PA 2017. (above)

treatment at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. The Cavanaughs reached out to LFG to thank us for sponsoring the room and to let us know that their son participated in the foundation's one-day football camp in Pennsylvania in 2016 and 2017! LFG is proud to partner with the Cavanaugh family in permanently endowing one of the new patient family suites being built at the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House expansion project.

The final piece of LFG's mission is family support, recognizing the financial strain of a cancer diagnosis. The foundation has committed more than \$17,500 to more than 50 families.

For further information and links to programs and services that Lauren's First and Goal supports, visit our website and click the [Grants](#) tab.

Save the Date!

15th Annual

Lafayette Presents

Lauren's First and Goal Football Camp

Sunday, June 3, 2018

Please register online early

@ [www.lfgf.org](http://www.lfgf.org)

Early bird registration fee of \$40 ends April 1!

# Army Athletics lends support to LFG



Army fans, Marianne and Lauren Loose. (above)

At a time of year when many reflect on their blessings and pursue their holiday traditions, Boo Corrigan, Director of Athletics at Army West Point and his wife Kristen have developed a practice of giving during their holiday party for Army Athletics. Each year the group chooses a charitable cause to benefit from their generosity. This year the beneficiary of their kindness is Lauren’s First and Goal Foundation.

Army athletics coaches, staff members and their

families donned ugly Christmas sweaters and contributed over \$1,800 in gift cards and a host of arts and crafts supplies to LFG.

The gift card donations will be used to support patient families at the Children’s Hospital in Philadelphia. The financial strain of a cancer diagnosis can present a tremendous challenge for families and caregivers. This strain can be especially amplified during the holiday season. Families can apply for financial assistance for uncovered medical, housing, utility and

funeral expenses through the oncology clinic social workers who partner with the foundation to ensure that requests are valid and appropriate. In 2017, the foundation made 38 payments and provided more than \$1500 in gas and food assistance to families dealing with a pediatric cancer diagnosis. This need is expected to be greater in 2018.

Donated arts and crafts supplies will be utilized at LFG PA football camp at the Kids and Family Fun Tent, an informal crafts and activity area that is offered during the afternoon of the camp. It is open to all of the pediatric cancer survivors, families and friends from our local clinic as well as to the children of volunteers, coaches and younger siblings of the players who are participating. Activities and crafts are appropriate for children up to age 12 and are manned by camp volunteers.

The afternoon features an array of arts and crafts activities, a visit with the Lehigh Valley Therapy Dogs and handlers and a special guest appearance by the Lafayette Leopard. The Fun Tent includes food, drinks and gifts to take home.

Previous activities at the Fun Tent have included costume character visits, volunteer artists from Splashes of Hope, treats from the Angel 34 ICEE Van, and former NFL quarterback Phil Simms signing autographs and spending time with the children.

The support and generosity of Army Athletics will have tremendously positive impact on the work of LFG Foundation and we are truly grateful.

## Where are they now?

Since 2004, LFG has hosted thousands of high school athletes with dreams of playing football at the highest level. Check out this list of just a few alums who have gone on from LFG football camp to achieve great things in football, college and life!

| Athlete          | College/Team  | Accolades   |
|------------------|---|---|
| Andy Breiner     | Mississippi State                                       | 2002-2006 Lockhaven wide receiver, coached at Allegheny College, UConn, Fordham and now Mississippi State |
| Andy Davison     | Army  | HS All State Linebacker, two time All Conference MVP  |
| Rashan Gary      | Michigan  | 2011 top player in the country, <i>USA Today</i> Defensive Play of the Year, HS All American              |
| Anthony Gonzalez | Pitt  | HS All State Class AAAA, honorable mention All-ACC selection  |
| Andres Morales   | Rutgers   | All State Fullback, four bowl championship appearances, Mettle Movements Coach                            |
| Eric Olsen       | Notre Dame, Broncos, Titans, Redskins, Steelers, Saints | started in 31 games at Notre Dame   |
| Jabrill Peppers  | Michigan, Cleveland Browns                              | drafted by the Browns in the first round of the 2017 NFL Draft  |
| Dan Persa        | Northwestern  | set the Big Ten single-season record for completion percentage  |
| Greg Sullivan    | Colgate   | two time Varsity845 Player of the Year, Assistant Football Coach/Running Backs at Colgate                 |

# COS Profile - A Dynamic Duo



*Lynette and Tonette heading up the Group/Team Check tent in LFG PA 2017. (right)*

Beginning at 7:30 am on PA camp day, nearly 2,000 student athletes, flood the fields at the Metzgar Athletic Complex of Lafayette College to check in and begin their day at LFG football camp. A dedicated core of volunteers works diligently to welcome and direct these athletes as they arrive. A team of Group/Team

specialists works to manage the check in of teams who arrive together in buses with their high school coaches. This fantastic team is headed by two extraordinary women who have volunteered to assume this enormous task and are the focus of this years COS profile.

Tonette Placotarlis and Lynette Knoble have partnered to manage all aspects of team registration for the camp. In the months leading up to camp, Tonette arranges for group/team registration and contacts coaches personally to be sure any team needs are addressed and handled with care. She and Lynette organize all aspects of team registration, coordinating necessary information electronically and into binders and folders, as well as arrange all needed supplies for registration. After the check in rush, both women head to the fondly dubbed “war room” to assist in the management of camp day information and inputting.

Tonette and Lynette arrive, often times days ahead of camp, and help with any additional needs that Pam Troxell, director of camp registration, requires. Pam says, “It’s amazing to be able to give them anything and see the amazing job they do with it. We are so lucky to have them.”

Tonette is a resident of Forks Township, PA and works as a senior paralegal at Honeywell International Incorporated handling all aspects of worldwide patents and the areas of law that surround filing, granting and protecting inventions worldwide. She lives with her husband Steve and children Luke,

10 and Evan, 9. She began her support of LFG in 2005. She volunteers and continues to volunteer because “she loves it.”

Lynette resides in Alpha, NJ with her husband of 32 years, Jim Knoble. The couple has three sons; James 31, Joshua 28, and Jacob 21. She is the Executive Vice-President of Customer Relations and the NJ Branch Manager at Ahart, Frinzi & Smith, an Insurance Agency in Phillipsburg, NJ. Lynette, who has worked at the agency for over 35 years, also sell all kinds of insurance. More than 8 year ago, Lynette’s son Joshua filmed the PA camp and created a [video documentary](#) of the event. This motivated Lynette to become involved with LFG. “I started to volunteer because I believed it was a good cause and because I had a son the same age as Lauren and could only imagine what this family was going through. I continue to volunteer not only because cancer still exists and our work is not done until it doesn’t exist, but because the strength and love of this amazing family and awesome ‘community’ of volunteers continue to inspire me to be better every day.”

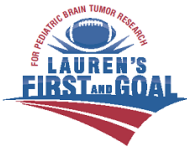
Tonette and Lynette are incredible people who demonstrate how to use gifts and talents in a way to help others. LFG is tremendously grateful for their service.



*Lynette Knoble and Tonette Placotarlis take a momentary break at Group/Team Check in at LFG PA. (above)*

# Shop AmazonSmile for LFG

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support LFG every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you’ll find the same low prices, selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to LFG. On your first visit to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), select LFG to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. Then every eligible purchase you make at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) will result in a donation. To shop at AmazonSmile and support LFG simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device.



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Phone: 484-788-9239

E-mail: [mloose@lfgf.org](mailto:mloose@lfgf.org)

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