

A cluster of small purple and grey stars above a larger yellow star.

MAKING MIRACLES 4 KIDS

HIGH SCHOOL
WITH A COLLEGE
INFORMATIONAL
PACKET

Who am I?



Hello!

My name is Daryn Polzin and I am 22 years old. I'm originally from Lexington, Kentucky and attended Lafayette High School. There I was a participant in our mini dance marathon for three years and on the leadership team during my senior year. I just recently graduated from Oklahoma City University with a Bachelor of Performing Arts in Dance Performance and a History Minor. During my four years there I was involved with our university dance marathon and had the honor to be the partnerships chair and fundraising director.

I have been participating in the Miss America Organization for five years and through this opportunity have developed my community service initiative *Making Miracles 4 Kids*. I'm currently Miss Bardstown and when I'm not singing, acting, or dancing for my job I work towards growing *Making Miracles 4 Kids*. I hope you enjoy reading about how you can get involved with *Making Miracles 4 Kids*.

What is Making Miracle 4 Kids?



Making Miracles 4 Kids is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization that raises funds to give to high schools so they can start their own mini dance marathon. *Making Miracles 4 Kids* hosts separate fundraisers throughout the year in order to make this possible. Schools can use this donation for any part of the mini dance marathon. This can be for the food, DJ, decorations, or anything the school may need for success. This donation is given just the first year the mini dance marathon is created to help get it up and running.

Making Miracles 4 Kids also finds a university nearby to help assist the high school. This university will either have a dance marathon already or they will be creating one. *Making Miracles 4 Kids* does all the work for you to make creating the mini dance marathon as easy as possible.



What is a Dance Marathon?

Dance Marathons raise money and awareness for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals (CMN Hospitals). The wonderful part about CMN Hospitals is wherever you are in the US the money you raise goes to your local or closest CMN Hospital.

Your high school would have a mini dance marathon instead of a full 24 hour dance marathon. You would be partnered with the closest university that has a full dance marathon. All the money your high school raises would then go to the university's dance marathon total, then their total with yours added would go to your local Children's Miracle Network Hospital.

The money goes directly towards charitable care, research and treatments, advancement services, patient services, equipment, and education.



miracle
network
dance
marathon

Why Partner with a University?

The main reason why it is so great and recommended to partner with a university is because it creates a mentorship program since high school students will work with university students.



Most university's have held many successful dance marathons and have partnerships with several other high schools. They will also have a positions on their executive team that is ready to help with your mini dance marathon. This position is called the Youth Philanthropy Coordinator. They provide you with a fundraising page, time, and education/ideas.

High school students will never be alone when it comes to the whole process of a mini dance marathon because they will have the university students to lean on. These students are qualified because most of them have been working on their dance marathon for over a year and many also came from a high school that held a mini dance marathon.

Lastly, partnering with a university makes it easier when it comes to dealing with donations and money raised. The money the high school raises is given to the university and then they give the money to the hospital. This is because the university has a specific Hospital Advisor while the high school does not. This Hospital Advisor is the communicator between the Children's Miracle Network Hospital and the university's dance marathon.

Your Mini Dance Marathon

Getting Started

Pick a date and start planning!

The title and theme is up to you

Everything is customizable to the schools needs.

The Main Event

Your mini dance marathon can be 4, 6 or 8 hours of standing and dancing the whole time which raises money and awareness for your local Children's Miracle Network Hospital. For those who cannot stand the whole time, there are other ways to participate.

The reason you stand is because you are standing for the nurses and doctors who must stand during long hospital shifts.



Your Mini Dance Marathon

Mini dance marathons take place in the gym or the largest room at the high school. The day of, your leadership team and student volunteers will help set up the area. When it is time for your event each hour kicks off with a line dance to track what hour it is. This line dance is a short dance choreographed by the morale team that everyone can learn.

It is similar to the cupid shuffle!

During the mini dance marathon every student and teacher can participate. If students are not apart of the leadership team students have the option to attend and just have a good time, although students who want to have some involvement can create their own booth. Booths can be placed around the gym to help promote their organization. Student organizations or teams such as the dance team, cheerleaders, choir, band, or debate team can perform.



Student Positions



How the high school chooses to organize the team is up to you. This is just an example of what some leadership teams may look like.

Teacher Advisor

Director

Finance

- Finance Assistant

Fundraising

- Partnerships team

Participant Relations

- Recruitment team

Event Operations

- Morale team

Communications

- Social Media team

How to Fundraise

Your high school will decide on how much you would like to raise and create benchmarks to follow. The university Youth Philanthropy Coordinator and I will provide you with resources on how to fundraise and make partnerships. Some examples of fun ways you raise money before the main event are bake sales, car washes, and fundraising nights at food places near by.

During the main event itself you can charge around \$10 for people to attend. The booths placed around the gym can also sell or auction items off. You can also create fundraising pushes throughout the night. Lastly, being able to save money by getting food/drinks donated to the mini dance marathon. Often times you can also get parents and friends to help pitch in.



Extra Information

There will be a script that the leadership team creates for the mini dance marathon that lays out the order of the event and makes sure that there is something happening at all times. This can be challenges/games, performances, fundraising pushes and much more!

You can also incorporate your Children's Miracle Network Hospital as much as they allow. Often times kids and families that have been treated in the hospital can come speak at the main event. This is a great opportunity to see where your donations are going.

At the very end of the mini dance marathon the total will be revealed!

My job during the entire process is to be your go to person if you ever need anything. I can be at meetings in person or over zoom. I can attend fundraising events and the mini dance marathon. It is up to the high school how much or how little you all would like me to do.

I'm one phone call away and my personal cell is
(859)-576-4790

Why create one in your school



- It is an incredible learning opportunity.
- Teaches students to have a passion for something bigger than themselves.
- Allows students to give back to their community and most students will continue doing so even after high school graduation.
- Many students who participate in a high school mini dance marathon will serve on their college dance marathon team if they have one or serve in a leadership position for another organization.

End Goal

- For students to learn how to lead and help the community.
- Money and awareness is raised for your local Children's Miracle Network Hospital.
- Your high school will have a mini dance marathon that will last for several years and grow more and more.
- We make miracles for all kids!

