

THE CROSSING

FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS

BAHAMAS TO FLORIDA EPIC PADDLE CHALLENGE & INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



*2024 Annual Program
7th Edition*



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OUR MISSION



Our mission is to support and improve the lives of families in the cystic fibrosis community through grassroots advocacy and socially innovative programs, raising awareness through education, offering life-expanding activities, providing urgent financial support, and funding critical developments.

In Loving Memory of
Megan Angelina Tims Phillips

02-14-1995 - 10-10-2024

It is with profound love that we honor the life of Megan Tims Phillips, celebrating the remarkable person she was. Megan courageously fought through the immense challenges of cystic fibrosis, embodying perseverance, grace, and strength. We extend our deepest condolences to the Tims/Phillips family, whose unwavering support has been an integral part of our community.

From the very beginning, Piper's Angels Foundation has been built, shaped, and led by families affected by cystic fibrosis. The Tims family stands among those founding pillars, breathing life into our mission and becoming a powerhouse of support and inspiration. At the heart of that family was Megan—a guiding light whose courage fueled not only her loved ones, but everyone fortunate enough to cross her path.

In 2019, Megan served as a beacon of strength for our Crossing For CF participants, cheering them on as they paddled from the Bahamas to Florida. Their rallying cry—"Megan Strong"—echoed her indomitable spirit and inspired all who journeyed alongside us.





Megan's legacy lives on in the authenticity with which she lived. She shared her heart openly, bringing joy through her unique sense of humor, and transforming pain into wisdom that will continue to resonate through time. Her impact extends far beyond words, touching lives in ways that will never be forgotten.



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* Rest in Paradise dear friend

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Our Crossing Medals represent great accomplishment and gratitude,
THANK YOU CROSSING CRUSADERS!

2013



2017



2018



2024



2019



2021



2022



2023



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GETTING TO KNOW PIPER



Photo by: Leonard Bryant

My name is Piper, I am 17 years old and in 11th grade. I am a Varsity cheerleader at my highschool and interested in a future career as a NICU nurse. I am a big sister to my two little brothers, Hawkins and Lane.



Thank you to everyone who puts hard work, blood, sweat, and tears into this event. You will never realize how special the impact you are making on the CF community is. We love and appreciate you so much!
Love,
Piper ♥

Piper's First Year Paddling with Dad, Travis,

Although this year's Crossing didn't go exactly to plan, it was definitely an extremely special experience to me and I made great memories! I got to paddle alongside my dad for the first time this year and it truly felt like a "we did it" moment! Me and my dad have always had a special bond through the ocean and The Crossing, and being on the water with him as a teammate was awesome! I also got to paddle with my boyfriend Tyler this year, and seeing him step up and try something he has never even done before was amazing! It was an incredible experience crossing the finish line with him that I will never forget. I think this year's Crossing was a perfect showcase of how life with cystic fibrosis can be, random challenges thrown at you, highs and lows, the feeling of missing out, and ultimately disappointment, but no matter how many miles you paddled, you made an impact in the CF community. The most important thing is that you showed up and did the best you could.

Piper, CF Warrior



Photo by: Desirae McDonald



Photo by: Desirae McDonald

2024 A LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDER TRAVIS SUIT

Dear Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis Community,

As the sun sets on another remarkable year for The Crossing, we find ourselves reflecting on an event like no other. This year, the ocean presented us with unexpected challenges. Inclement weather forced us to postpone not once but twice, ultimately leading to the creation of a modified event—the Rendezvous Race. Yet, through it all, your unwavering spirit illuminated a path forward, reminding us of the very essence of our mission.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, “We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope.” These words resonate deeply as we recount the journey of

this year’s event. The

unpredictability we faced

mirrors the daily battles of the cystic fibrosis (CF) community. The resilience, adaptability, and courage you exhibited reflect the spirit of individuals living with CF who navigate an unrelenting and uncertain path with grace and strength.

This year’s success would not have been possible without the exceptional leadership of individuals like Josh Ferris, our Director of Safety & Ocean Logistics. Josh expertly navigated the ever-changing dynamics of the weather, balancing the immense logistics of an event involving over 80 boats and 450 participants paddling across the ocean. His steady hand

and commitment to the safety and success of The Crossing exemplify the values of our community. A heartfelt shout-out also goes to the entire Bimini Dream Team, staff, and volunteers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes, ensuring that every detail came together seamlessly. Their dedication and teamwork transformed challenges into triumphs and made this year’s Crossing a reality.

A particularly poignant moment from this year was when I paddled alongside Piper for the first time in the event. For me, this was not just a paddle—it was a profound testament to the bond we share as father and daughter, and the resilience of the human spirit. Witnessing Piper navigate the ocean was a living symbol of hope, love, and the power of connection that our Crossing embodies.

The ocean itself, as always, proved to be more than a backdrop—it was a teacher. Its vastness reminds us of the interconnectedness of life, its unpredictability of the importance of adaptability, and its healing power of our capacity for renewal. The Crossing is more than a race; it’s a celebration of the ocean’s role in our health, healing, and the sustainability of our planet.

Thank you for standing with us through this year’s challenges. Your dedication strengthens our mission and continues to inspire hope for a brighter future for those living with CF. Together, we persevere, paddle forward, and never lose sight of the infinite hope that binds us.

*With gratitude and hope, Travis Suit
Founder & Executive Director, Piper’s Angels Foundation*





GUY HARVEY PARTNERSHIP

The partnership between Piper's Angels Foundation, the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis, and the Guy Harvey Foundation was born out of a serendipitous meeting at the Surf Expo in 2018. During this event, Travis Suit, founder of Piper's Angels Foundation, connected with Dr. Guy Harvey and his daughter, Jessica Harvey. Travis shared how the ocean's healing properties can greatly benefit those living with cystic fibrosis (CF). In response, Dr. Harvey insightfully remarked, "you can't put a sick kid in a sick ocean," highlighting the critical need for a healthy marine environment. This meaningful conversation established the foundation for an ongoing relationship between the two organizations. Following this initial meeting, the Piper's Angels team was invited to visit Dr. Harvey at his home in Grand Cayman, where he provided a tour of the island and introduced them to the world-renowned Stingray City. During the visit, Dr. Harvey was working on a stunning piece of artwork depicting paddle boarders on the ocean's surface, accompanied by his iconic marine life scenes below. This artwork would later become a symbol of collaboration and shared mission, representing the unique partnership between the two foundations. In 2023, Jessica Harvey was invited as a featured speaker at the Piper's Angels Foundation gala, further solidifying the partnership. Since then, the two organizations have continued to work together, producing limited edition prints and merchandise featuring the original art, raising awareness and support for both cystic fibrosis and ocean conservation initiatives.



SOCIAL MEDIA BULLETIN



Photo by: David Scarola

Travis Suit June 29 One of the best hugs of my life! These beautiful brothers featured @bodhi_dad @josh_lanphear @ryanburgess08, and the one behind the lens who initiated this scene @davidscarolaphotography, are some of the most courageous, daring, inspiring, compassionate, and loving humans I've known in this lifetime. ... There will never be words to express the depth of gratitude I have for these men. They represent everything I could hope for in the reflection of leadership in our community. They lead with love.

Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis October 7

Huge congratulations to Lindsey Tilton, our Crossing Crusader alum, for completing the Great Alabama 650—the longest paddle race in the U.S.! 🌟 🌟 Covering 650 miles across Alabama's waterways, this extreme endurance race pushes paddlers through challenging whitewater, calm rivers, and the beautiful river delta. Lindsey's journey with endurance paddling all began at the



Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis, where she discovered her love for the sport. From a 2-mile training paddle to conquering 650 miles, her growth and determination are truly inspiring!

👉 #CrossingForCF #GreatAlabama650



Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis October 8

Happy 17th Birthday to our girl, Piper! Today we celebrate the amazing inspiration behind the Piper's Angels Foundation and the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis! 🌟 Diagnosed with CF at age four, Piper's strength, courage, and unwavering spirit have sparked a movement that has raised awareness and support for countless CF warriors and their families. 🌟 Through her story, we're reminded that love, resilience, and hope can turn challenges into change. 🌟 Cheers to you, Piper, for showing us what it means to truly inspire every breath! 🌟 🌟

Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis October 17

Congratulations to @madeline_miller4 -- on of our Crossing Crusader Alumni -- 🌟 🌟 on winning the Women's USA National SUP Championship! We are so proud of your accomplishments Maddie!



Travis Suit September 13 <https://give.classy.org/TravisSuit9XCrossing>

I am officially registered for my 9th Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis! The memory book is filling up with a lifetime of incredible journeys with the most daring, courageous, compassionate, and loving community I've ever known. The lessons and wisdom that emerge from paddling across the ocean come in many forms and fashions, but there's one thing for sure...the ocean is a masterful teacher! If you feel called in anyway to be an active member of this community, you can make that happen by contributing to my campaign, registering to participate, sponsor, volunteer, or just share the mission of Piper's Angels Foundation! It's all greatly appreciated! This year we will serve 400+ cystic fibrosis families locally, in the US, and internationally as our programs grow. This is how adversity becomes an extraordinary fuel for transformation and love to manifest in the world. Bold in the face of fear! Inspire Every Breath.

Casey McCullough November 15

3 years of having the honor to work with @pipersangelsfoundation 🌟 I came into this community as a skimboarder and dietitian so even though I felt out of place walking into the world of nonprofits and paddleboarding, I found myself in the best place God could have put me. I've gotten to use my gifts and skills and develop many new ones. I've made so many friends that have become family. I've learned what it means to be committed to serving others. I've become passionate about the work of @pipersangelsfoundation and the @crossingforcf in a way that makes me want to pursue everything as best as I can in the best interest of others. Thank you @travis_suit and the Board of Directors for believing in me from the start and to everyone along the way that has shaped me into who I've become and let me be part of this beautiful journey. Here's to many more years and much greater impact in the cystic fibrosis community. 🌟



Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis

👉 The wait is over—it's **GO TIME**!

These fearless Crossing Crusaders will brave the ocean's waves, driven by the mission to support and uplift those battling cystic fibrosis. Every stroke, every moment counts. Let's cheer them on and stand with @pipersangelsfoundation as we journey together toward hope for CF. 🌟 🌟

Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis October 23

Congratulations 🌟 🌟 to our Crossing Crusader Alum @jake.portwood for winning the 2024 USA SUP National Champion!



Jamie Cohen June 2

3 years ago, I attended a fundraiser for the @crossingforcf not knowing the reason, the cause, the people, or the community I was walking in too. Nor did I know anything about Cystic Fibrosis. Little did I know that night would change my life entirely, and that my purpose for life immediately changed. @piper.nicolee became my "WHY" at an instant 🌟 From that day, I jumped head first into this community, started paddling, bought a @flying_fish_board_co, signed up to volunteer my first year, paddled my second, and here we are for year 3 🌟 Being apart of this community has altered my outlook on life, and has given me a new purpose, and friends who have become family 🌟

Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis 2024 OFFICIAL FUNDRAISING TOTAL 🌟 🌟 🌟 Now... on to 2025 🌟

This is a cause for celebration! Thank you to all of our participants, paddlers, captains, crew, volunteers, staff, and more for making this happen!





THE CROSSING

FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS



WELCOME TO THE CROSSING!

The most spectacular ocean challenge in the world.

In this section we share with you stunning visual photos of all aspects of the event.

Thank you for all your love and support!

THE CROSSING SECTION

X4CF MENTORSHIP PROGRAM



Photo by: Stephen Ippolito

Thank You 2024 Mentors!

The first time you sign up as a paddler, captain, or crew for The Crossing, you have a ton of questions - even if you don't know it yet! As a participant, there is so much that goes into the logistics, planning, and preparation for the event. Because we value each person's commitment of their time, energy, and dollars to helping make this fundraising event a success, the staff and mentors of The Crossing dedicate ourselves to make this whole process and event smooth and successful for each participant.

Our 2024 Crossing Mentorship team included 20+ mentors who helped to guide and train our paddlers, as well as Ali Carty leading our Crew Mentorship, Josh Ferris leading Captain Mentorship, and Rylee Walker who created and led the CF Warrior Mentorship this year. Each of our mentors and directors of these mentorship teams have volunteered for nearly 10 months of the Crossing season because they want to share their experience and expertise to lead newcomers into feeling courageous and confident as they take on an event of a lifetime.

After X4CF registration opens, as paddlers sign up, they get assigned to mentors. These mentors have been certified in the X4CF SUP Safety & Rescue course and trained in CPR & First Aid so that if an emergency should occur while training or during The Crossing, they could respond immediately and effectively. Paddlers can contact their mentors as needed for answers, advice, and even to get some training on the water together. Crew mentorship with Ali Carty takes all crew members through a safety course prior to The Crossing so that they too, are prepared in the case of a situation to come up. As for captain mentorship, Josh Ferris always makes himself available to the captains and paddlers to answer any questions or guide them through the logistics. Rylee Walker is a 2x Crossing Crusader who also has cystic fibrosis. She realized the need for CF Warrior mentorship within The Crossing since it is more complex to take on this



whole journey as a person battling cystic fibrosis, created this new program, CF Warrior Guide, and mentored each of the 2024 paddlers with cystic fibrosis.

Within the paddler mentorship, X4CF hosted many free community training paddles in south Florida that led paddlers through all types of conditions including intracoastal, ocean, boat drafting, night time, and more! Weekly training paddles were hosted by Lindsey Tilton in Jupiter, FL to provide additional opportunities for paddlers to gain experience. These training sessions began in January and lasted through June. It was truly incredible getting to watch each paddler become more skilled, knowledgeable, and confident from their first training paddle to their last right before The Crossing. It's not easy to show up to an event where you might not know anyone while carrying in feelings of doubt or intimidation, so to see these paddlers show up, be vulnerable, willing to learn, then smiling overcoming fears was truly inspirational.

— Casey McCullough





**CO-DIRECTORS
OF MENTORSHIP**
Casey McCullough
Jon Rutishauser

MENTORS
Alex Newkerk
Beau Dorning
Blake Carmichael
Buz Ruscher
Chris Fahrny
Chris Prancun
Desirae McDonald
Jason Finch
Karissa Freeman
Katie Roundtree
Lindsay LeBlanc
Lindsey Tilton
Malea Tribble
Nikki Viamontes
Ricky Tribble
Romi Wallach
Tatiana Tims
Travis Suit
Tyler Hoffmann

**DIRECTOR OF CAPTAIN
MENTORSHIP**
Josh Ferris

**DIRECTOR OF CREW
MENTORSHIP**
Ali Carty

**DIRECTOR OF CF WARRIOR
MENTORSHIP**
Rylee Walker

CROSSING PRE-PARTY

Photos by: Leonard Bryant





All Crossing Crusaders, family, friends, sponsors, supporters, and CF families are invited each year to The Crossing PreParty to celebrate all the work done up to that point and to enjoy a fun day with other people that are about to take on an incredible challenge for a great cause. This was our second year at the Safe Harbor Rybovich North Tiki Bar & Lounge of which is the perfect location and venue for such a great time. Thank you to Ryan Triosi, General Manager of the Tiki Bar at Safe Harbor for helping to bring our community together and our party to life!



PIPER'S ANGELS AT THE BALLPARK

PIPER'S ANGELS
FOUNDATION FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS

Roger Dean CHEVROLET
STADIUM



Photo by: Leonard Bryant

Roger Dean Stadium welcomed Piper's Angels Foundation to fundraise during a night of baseball! This was a fun and unique opportunity for the community to get together outside of paddle boarding. During Piper's Angels Night at the Ballpark on Friday, June 7th, we were able to introduce people to our cause, do a 50/50 raffle, watch Piper throw the first pitch, play in the mid-game field activities, and enjoy a great baseball game between the Hammerheads and Cardinals! Thank you Brennah Sanders and Jannelle Gant for bringing this meaningful community event to life!



Photo by: Leonard Bryant



Photo by: Leonard Bryant



Photo by: Leonard Bryant

ADVENTURES IN BIMINI 2024

*Come for the challenge, stay for the cause... and enjoy every moment along the way!
We invite you to join us in being a part of something remarkable, the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis.*

This page photos by: Cassandra Scott



BEAUTY & FUN IN BIMINI 2024

This page photos by: David Scarola Photography

The beauty of Bimini is encompassed with its warm weather, crystal clear water, and positivity radiating from the locals. The excitement of the islands starts with arriving to greet old and new friends, then continues with meaningful events and fun activities, yet it ends with the thrill and courage of launching off Bimini's beach in the night. Thank you for working hard, showing up, and supporting this mission we care so deeply about!





Photo by: David Scarola

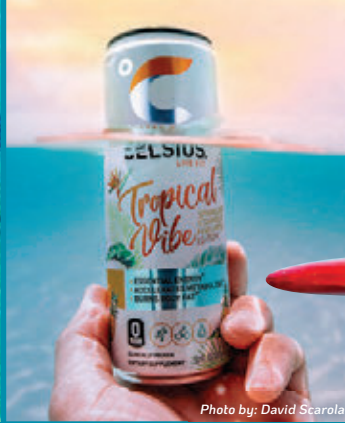


Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: David Scarola

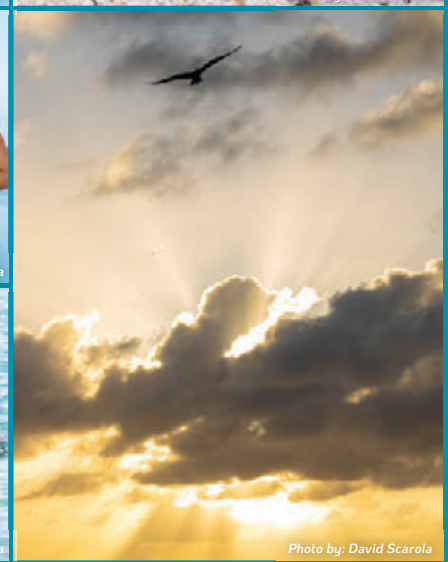


Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: Desirae McDonald



Photo by: Desirae McDonald



Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: Desirae McDonald



Photo by: Desirae McDonald



Photo by: Desirae McDonald



Photo by: Desirae McDonald

POOLSIDE SOCIAL & BONFIRE

Photos by: David Scarola Photography





BEACH CLEAN-UP

Photos by: David Scarola Photography



In a powerful display of environmental stewardship, the annual Bimini Beach Cleanup saw 70 volunteers collect 500 pounds of trash from Radio Beach this year. The event,

a cornerstone of The Crossing, expanded its partnerships to include 4ocean, MANG, PADL, and Waterkeepers Bahamas, amplifying its impact on the island's coastline.

Alex Schulze, CEO and Co-founder of 4ocean, highlighted the event's growing appeal: "The yearly cleanup always draws an incredible crowd, with people coming together to clean up Bimini before we paddle across the ocean. It's awesome seeing everyone show up and get after it, helping us collect a significant amount of trash and keep the beach clean each year."

This year, new partner PADL brought fresh enthusiasm to the initiative. "Having the opportunity to work with the team of The Crossing was amazing," said Andres Avello, CEO & Founding Partner at PADL. "Especially at such a special cleanup at Bimini where we got the chance to improve the garbage conditions at a beach my team and I have been visiting our whole lives!"

Florida-based apparel company MANG contributed to the cause as well. Kyle Rossin, Co-Founder at MANG, stated, "MANG is proud to support environmental efforts by donating



hats and shirts to the recent beach cleanup event in Bimini, Bahamas as a way to team up with the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis. Our commitment to preserving coastal ecosystems

aligns with cleaning the shores of the beautiful island of Bimini."

Waterkeepers Bahamas enhanced the event's educational component with an informative water quality talk. Andurah Daxon, Executive Director, emphasized the collaborative nature of the cleanup: "Waterkeepers Bahamas is proud of our continued partnership with Piper's Angels Foundation. The collaborative effort brings together local residents, volunteers, and environmental enthusiasts dedicated to preserving the natural beauty of our beloved coastline in Bimini."

Vanessa Calás, President of the Board for Piper's Angels Foundation, expressed her satisfaction with this year's event: "Every year, it brings me great pride and joy to put on this event, and this year was our best yet! We brought on new partners and had a great time cleaning up Radio Beach with our Crossing Crusaders, family, and Bahamian locals. Can't wait to see how it's even better next year!"

As the Bimini Beach Cleanup continues to grow in scope and impact, it stands as a testament to the power of community action in preserving our oceans and coastlines.





Environmental Sustainability Policy

PIPER'S ANGELS FOUNDATION

Vision

To be a leader in deliberately sustainable nonprofit governance.

Statement

At Piper's Angels, we are dedicated to helping protect and preserve the ocean, because it's the means and the medium for our flagship event, and for people with CF to live longer, healthier lives. As an organization that is prioritizing sustainability in its operations and planning, we pledge to seek participants and partners who are willing to share our values and commitments.

Values

Transparency: We will publicly share our metrics as they pertain to sustainability in a yearly report.

Planet First: We will neutralize our carbon footprint for events and operations.

Protect & Preserve: We will aim to not just be sustainable in our efforts, but to leave the places we leave footprints better than we found them.

Inclusion: We will teach about sustainability and welcome everyone who is interested in making a positive impact into PAF and our Sustainability Committee.

Goal

To operate the first "Ocean Positive" paddle event in the world.

CROSSING FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS

Why Environmental Stewardship Matters to Us

The genesis of the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis, a transoceanic journey from the Bahamas to Florida, lies in the fact that salt water can help alleviate the symptoms of cystic fibrosis. Participating in The Crossing provides us opportunities to see amazing things on and around the water, and includes a responsibility to respect, protect and enhance our coastal and marine ecosystems. As the ranks of Piper's Angels expand and we boldly march forth, we seek to tread lightly, minimize the footprint of our collective environmental impact, and take steps to promote sustainability and stewardship.

Beyond coastal and waterway cleanups, the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis and Piper's Angels Foundation will lead by example by reducing water use, energy use, and waste creation; minimize waste generation by choosing reusable containers, bottles and bags; recycling when necessary, but always trying to reduce or reuse first; recognize that upland runoff influences groundwater and downstream water systems; maximize percolation of fresh water back into the ground, to encourage natural filtration and aquifer recharge; contribute to policy decisions by supporting measures to protect and enhance water resources; support local businesses that support environmental stewardship; and continually educate ourselves on water conservation and environmental protection.

We are fostering relationships with organizations and brands that reflect and share our sustainable goals. Over the past few years, we have developed strategic partnerships with 4ocean, Guy Harvey Foundation, Waterkeepers Alliance, International Seakeepers Society, and One Piece Plan.

Doing the best thing for the Earth is not always the easiest choice, but it is the best way to ensure the sustainability and regeneration of our home for future generations. 🌊

BIMINI FAMILY DINNER

Most Photos by: David Scarola

Photo by: Desirae McDonald



Photo by: Desirae McDonald





Photo by: Desirae McDonald



Photo by: Desirae McDonald



PADDLE OUT ROSE CEREMONY

Photos by: David Scarola Photography

All Crossing participants come together off the beautiful beach of Bimini Cove for the Paddle Out Rose Ceremony. This is a tribute to the Hawaiian tradition where we honor the individuals currently battling cystic fibrosis and honor the legacy of those who have passed. Roses hold great significance in the cystic fibrosis community. They are also symbolic of love, gratitude, grace, admiration, passion, and friendship. The ocean is expansive and unpredictable, but in this moment, it carries us together.

As we honor each of the names that have been written and placed in the bottle and then passed to each individual, this ceremony unites us in compassion for those living through the most difficult times coping with this terminal illness, supporting loved ones, and grieving those we have lost. It provides solidarity and encourages us all to reach deeply into our hearts to achieve goals individually and toward our mission.



photo by: Stephen Ippolito





Photos Courtesy of: Andrew Nyzc, NYCZ Productions



THANK YOU BIMINI LOCALS

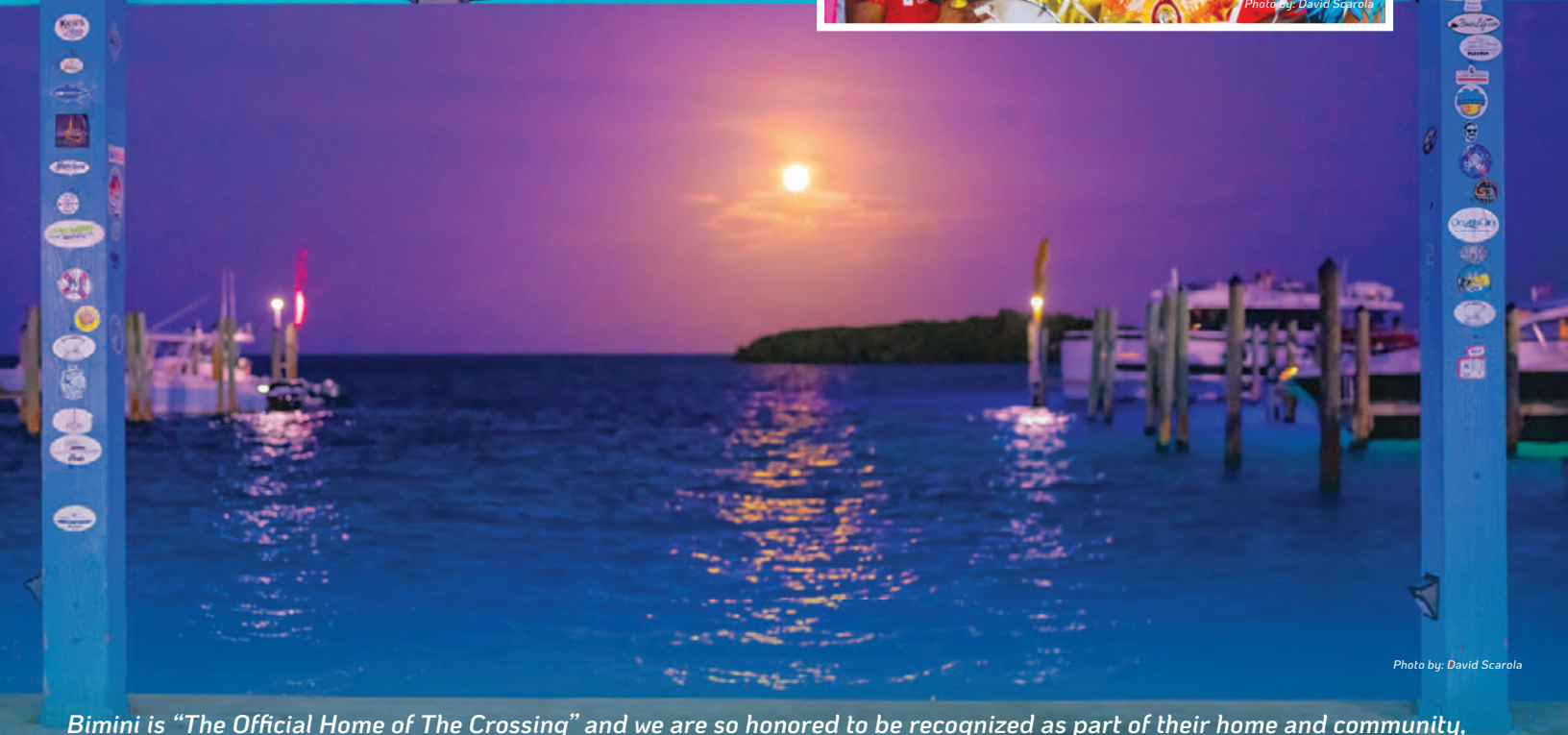


Photo by: David Scarola

Bimini is "The Official Home of The Crossing" and we are so honored to be recognized as part of their home and community, and grateful that they are very much part of ours. The Crossing is a massive logistical undertaking and it truly would not be possible without all the support from the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Tourism, and the great local vendors. Over the years these local vendors have become close friends and family. They work so hard behind the scenes to make The Crossing a success.





Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: David Scarola

Bimini Locals

WE THANK YOU!



BIMINI
BIG GAME CLUB
Resort & Marina

Ali Bastian
Cisco
Deandra Sweeting
Derak Higgs
Doyle Saunders
Garbrielle Archer
Jerome Go
Jonisha Poitier
Junkanoo Band
Kenneth Porgy Delancy
Nadia Sherman Rolle
Robbie Smith
Romeris Stuart
Shanae Murphey
Sinclair Forbes
Stanley Williams
Stephen Kappeler
Viveca Lubin
Waterkeepers Bahamas

Beth Watson
Rest in Paradise dear friend



Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: David Scarola

SAFETY - THE RENDEZVOUS RACE

This year's Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis along with Mother Nature brought our team a whole new set of challenges.

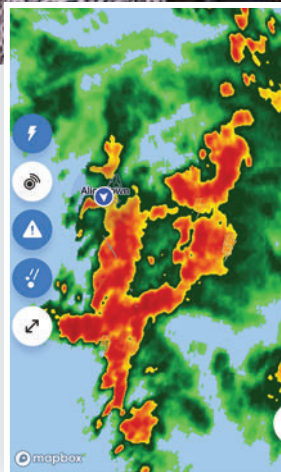
Just like every year, we anticipate and plan for the worst when it comes to weather and hope for the best. As the Director of Safety for the event, this anticipation weighs heavy on me throughout the year and leaves the burning question of, "Have we done enough and could we have planned better?"

Leading into our event this year, Mother Nature left all of us wondering if the Crossing Crusaders would even make it to Bimini given the unfavorable circumstances. With the weather and seas causing delays in departures and arrivals, it made for a lot of moving parts on the planning side of things. Our main efforts in the beginning consisted of making sure our event arrived safely to Bimini. With a few delays and a shift in operations, I can say the Core Team along with all participants made this a seamless transition. Moving on with the event and

battling wins and losses with jockeying captains and paddlers, my eyes stayed glued on the weather. Remaining optimistic yet vigilant, we were fortunate to have direct communication with the National Weather Service and tailored forecast, thanks to Capt. Mark Luther. Moving forward with The Crossing and making sure every participant felt their worth and enjoyed every moment in Bimini, I along with the Core Team were met with tremendous support from everyone involved. As we approached our Beach Launch, things were looking up and I must admit I was very excited to see everyone that had worked so hard to get there enjoy the fruits of their labor. A palpating feeling as the normal excitement for everyone involved manifested as paddlers begin to arrive to check in. Setup was seamless as we communicated with the National Weather service and our pier operations in Florida who were standing by to track the event. During normal operations we have a pretty clear idea of what the weather is doing, but this year was different. So many unexpected turns of the tide had occurred that put us all on high alert.

I was routinely checking the weather and around 10:00PM, I began to see some storm cells begin to pop up around the island of Bimini. From 10 to 10:15PM the storms grew bigger and more widespread and by 11:00PM severe thunderstorms plagued the entire path of The Crossing, with no signs of dematerializing. One last call to the National Weather Service confirmed the dreaded decision to postpone the Crossing For CF indefinitely for Saturday night. This was a call that was unfortunate yet necessary, hard yet easy and a complete no brainer in the name of Safety. Saturday night's sky decided to open up and confirm all of our suspicions with a display of rain, thunder, and lightning. The following day and night were sleepless for the Core and Beach Landing teams. Navigating the ever-changing dynamics of the event was a challenge that inherently brought us all together. The event itself suffered about a 65% attrition from folks who couldn't stay for various

Photo by: David Scarola



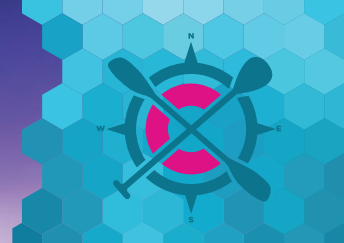
reasons. With about 60 paddlers left, some that had to spread out to new captains we proceeded to a Sunday night launch. This contingency plan had only been talked about at this point without threat of implementing it. This was the first time in The Crossing history that the event had to be canceled and moved to

the next night. Realistically we only have a few hour window to move this event before canceling. With an event of around 65 paddlers, we set our sights for a Sunday night launch. We approached Sunday night with a little less confidence with the weather. Unlike Saturday night when we had a favorable forecast, Sunday was not so promising. It was apparent throughout the day Sunday that the odds were against a Sunday night launch. As Sunday's launch plans grew closer, the weather forecast got worse and worse and eventually forced us to repeat Saturday night's cancellation.

With hanging heads and weary eyes looking to Travis and I for guidance, we decided that our last ditch effort was to look towards the morning skies and create what is now known as the Rendezvous Race. Projecting slightly ahead of where a paddler would have been we chose a drop in point in Florida waters and with a suggestion from Chris Bertish, we chose a location exactly 32 miles from the Lake Worth Beach Pier. Paddlers and teams were instructed to drop in between the hours of 8:00AM and 9:00AM and salvage what they could of the paddle portion of the X4CF. The next morning from the drop point all the way to the Lake Worth Beach Pier it was a beautiful thing to see what was left of the participants get to enjoy the icing on the cake of what they had worked so hard for. It was now Monday and due to all of the hard work from all of our volunteers, we were able to salvage a small part of the Crossing For CF.

2024 added so many new challenges and tested us in a way we would have never predicted. These challenges brought us together and made us stronger as an organization and a World Class event. Through the struggle we found growth along with all our new and returning participants. Even though we had so many curveballs that altered the dynamics of this year's event, I found a response from our community, reassuring me of their appreciation and support. This was an amazing year for all of us in its own unique way and I am grateful for the challenge!

— Josh Ferris, Director of Safety



Photos by: David Scarola Photography



THANK YOU CROSSING PADDLERS

Photos by: David Scarola Photography



To the 2024 Crossing Paddlers,

This year brought us many challenges and a myriad of new feats to conquer. To be a paddler in the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis can be a daunting task for an experienced waterman or waterwoman, but to BECOME a paddler in The Crossing with no experience is even more intimidating. There are so many questions and unknowns, so much planning, training, and effort, but yet year after year, we see amazing individuals from all walks of life that join us for their own special reasons.

The ocean is our mechanism to a vast exploration of the mind and body. As we venture into the great unknown, face the fear of what swims below, and endure this type of 'scheduled suffering' that Crossing Crusaders know, there are many highs and lows that meet us along the way. The 2024 X4CF was the perfect picture of the perfect storm. From rough seas on the travel to Bimini, to many teams missing out on events that were hosted on the islands, to the warm welcome of the Biminites and other Crossing Crusaders, and enjoying the time we had together, to the spontaneous and long lasting lightning storms, event delays, and ultimately a modified paddling route with only one-third of registered paddlers able to participate a day and a half later, it felt like a whirlwind circling around disappointment.

There was disappointment that things had not gone to plan for anyone, there was disappointment that paddlers didn't get to put their training to the test, and there was disappointment that this endeavor felt unfinished. Travis

eloquently encouraged everyone that infinite hope comes along with finite disappointment. He reminded us of why we were all in Bimini together, of all the hard work we did to advocate and raise funds for the CF families that experience disappointment day after day as they face their extensive health obstacles. He reminded us that was what mattered the most and that we all successfully reached our goal together even without paddling.

I'd like to add on to that by letting each captain, crew, paddler, and volunteer know that you all contributed to our highest fundraising year yet for the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis. I want to emphasize that each thing you did with The Crossing in mind, added to the impact Piper's Angels Foundation is able to make hereafter. Because we were able to raise such great funds and awareness, in 2024 approximately 400 CF Warriors and their families were empowered through the programs of Piper's Angels that support their overall wellbeing. As the Director of Operations and Programs, I get to see this impact every single day and hear how truly grateful each program recipient is for the resources we are able to provide them - and it's all because of you! It's not because you paddled, but it's because you used your voice to advocate on behalf of the cystic fibrosis community. For that, I extend my sincerest gratitude as you are one of our angels!

— Casey McCullough

Director of Operations, Programs and Mentorship





2024 PADDLERS

Ada Vega
Addie Foley
Aileen Jefferies
Alex Schulze
Alexa Cajiga
Alexander Gonzalez
Alexander Newkerk
Alexander Wuensche
Amanda Steele
Amy Brown
Andrea Fowler
Andy J. Martindell
Anne Leners
Anthony Hammer
Asher Van Ahn
Ashley Heinrich
Ashley Williams
Barney Heath
Beau Dorning
Bill Cullity
Blake Carmichael
Bobbi McQuown
Brad Cope
Brad Shallow
Brandon Taaffe
Brannon Lucas
Brian McDonald
Brian Schuyler
Briana Traynor
Brianna Davis
Brooke Hunsicker

Cameron Kenny
Cameron Moore
Catherine Grace
Charles Noble
Chelsea Paine
Chelseigh Newkerk
Cheryl Goldstein
Chris Bertish
Chris Emerson
Chris Fahrny
Chris Rost
Chris Staniszewski
Christopher Flack
Christopher Iwaskewycz
Cindy Gibson
Dalton Murphy
Damien Rosen
Daniel Budyka
Daniel Lusenskas
Dani Suit
Danielle DiPiero
David Capaldi
David Sherman
Deidra Lamas
Dick Seidensspinner
Edward Crooke
Elizabeth James
Elizabeth Schiller
Emily Andari
Emily Pavlich
Evelyn O'Doherty

Feliciano Lopez Diaz
Gabe Barajas
Garrett Mandel
Gary Coram
George Loebig
Greg Huffman
Guy Romain
Halie Waid
Harrison Foltz
Harry Scarola
Heather Oblaczynski
Holly Crowder
Holly Grosse
Holly Vertefeuille
Ivan Jarvis
Ivette Cardelli
James Pavlich
Jamie Cohen
Jarrod Wells
Jason Finch
Jay Wade
Jen Klinker
Jennifer Kessler
Jennifer McGaw
Jennifer Smith
Jesse Vanatta
Jessica Franklin
Jessica Jimenez
Jessica Schiller
Jessica Shulitowski
Jim Sayih

Joe Dougherty
John Calhoun
Jon Rutishauser
Jonathan Hilleman
Jonathan Kelly
Joseph LoBianco
Joseph Pushkarewicz
Josh Clingerman
Josh Hilleman
Josh Lanphear
Kaylin Jane Ogden
Kelsie Cummings
Kenny Puckett
Kevin Spina
Khalil Khouri
Kimberly Iasielo
Kraig Spina
Kristin Bruce-Covyeau
Kylie Pelton
Leah Hilleman
Lee Shapleigh
Leslie Krebs
Lindsay LeBlanc
Lindsey Tilton
Lisa Silva
Liubov Terenteva
Louise Cecchini
Mac McDonald
Maddi Leblanc
Matthew Vincent
Melissa Rewis

Michael Anthony
Michael Brodt
Michael Diaz
Michael
Grosse-Cardinale
Michael Marsh
Michael Sayih
Michael Walsh
Michaela Wood
Michele Martinez
Michelle Silva
Mike Aidala
Mike Clark
Natalia Campbell
Nathan Upton
Nick Signorelli
Olin Hershberger
Patricia Daymon
Patrick Foltz
Paul Smolchek
Piper Suit
Randy Billingsley
Romi Wallach
Ryan Barry
Ryan Burgess
Ryan Goodwin
Ryan Kennedy
Rylee Walker
Samson Scarola
Samud Dumas
Samuel Warren

Scott Ames
Shannon O'Donnell
Shayna Price
Silas Philbrick
Stephanie Grant
Stephen Johnson
Steve Nagib
Suzanne Abdella
Tanner Davis
Teddy Richardson
Todd Bourgeois
Townsend Godfrey
Travis Suit
Travis Taaffe
Trisha Michelle
Tristan Payne
Tyler Dillion
Tyler Hoffmann
Tyler McGrath
Tyler Noyes
Veronica
Grosse-Cardinale
Vicente Cajiga
Walter Szeezil
Whitney Stephenson
Wolf Serrer
Yulia Piatek
Yvonne Lugo
Zach Eggen



THANK YOU CROSSING CAPTAINS

Photos by: David Scarola Photography

2024 CAPTAINS

Alex Ackerman	Jim Moir
Andrew Murray	Joe Dougherty
Austin Greg	Kevin McDonald
Bill Hand	Kyle Igneri
Blake Pelton	Kyle Shea
Branden Stringer	Larry Rowe
Brandon Nevis	Mark King
Brian Gentile	Mark Luther
Brian Kessler	Matias Matias
Brian McAdam	Matt Braisted
Calvin VanHeest	Michael Smith
Cameron Dewhurst	Mike Balunek
Chris Ferrer	Mike Locherico
Chris Molinaro	Mike Nance
Christian Hoffer	Mike Rapf
Cooper Bisbe	Mike Taffe
Dan Coppola	Mitch Dinnerman
Dan Duenkel	Onan Castillo
Danielle Claeysens	Parker Hedrick
Dave Fidel	Pat Weekly
David Montoya	Renan Aponte
Destin Otis	Richard Folwell
Dino Cardelli	Rick Thomas
Don Tait	Robert Carmichael
Erik Koglin	Robert Rico
Ethan Frye	Sebastian Alfonzo
Greg Cartier	Steve Corsen
Gregory Wood	Steve Dougherty
Ian Hines	Steve Tedeschi
Jason Jones	Steve Vento
Jason May	Tim Sargent
Jed Dillashaw	Tim Shivery
Jeffery Jones	Todd King
Jennifer Maughan	Todd Payne
Jim Brown	Tony Brazzale
Jim Malaussena	Zachary Frey

To the 2024 Crossing Captains,

This year brought us many challenges and a myriad of new feats to conquer. From the very beginning of our journey in Florida, The Crossing was riddled with unknowns, and I have to applaud all of the captains who made the trip over in this year's conditions. The seas were restless, and mother nature wasn't very happy, yet The Crossing captains overcame. The need to adapt was necessary and unavoidable and it was due to the efforts of our captains that made the 2024 Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis possible to manage. This year proved the age old saying, "Fair weather never made a good captain".

*— With sincere appreciation,
Josh Ferris, Director of Safety*



THANK YOU CROSSING CREW

Photos by: David Scarola Photography

To the 2024 Crossing Crew,

The unsung heroes of The Crossing are our amazing crew members who volunteer to take on a role that many have no experience with. Our crew members give their time, energy, presence and more in an effort to make our Crusaders' journeys as smooth and enjoyable as possible. They are tasked with not only keeping paddlers safe and taken care of through this journey, but also entertained, fed, hydrated and emotionally supported.

Many crew members who sign up to do The Crossing have never experienced something like The Crossing and know just the basics of what they are signing up for. Being stuck on an idling boat for upwards of 16 hours is not generally appealing to most people, but our crew is unparalleled in their dedication to not only The Crossing, but especially their paddlers. They come back year after year to stick it out and

make the experience as best as it can be. It's not always an easy job, and most get seasick, sunburnt and just tired of being on a boat for so long, but the ability to get back up and make sure that everyone is safe and healthy lies at the foundation of what being a good crew member is. We are so lucky to have such amazing and dedicated individuals who give of themselves for a greater cause.

To the crew members of 2024, I know that this year is not what we expected and many were disappointed with the outcomes, but thank you for showing up and giving your absolute all for our paddlers and even more, for the CF families that we advocate for. Thank you for the laughs, the memories, your dedication and your commitment to making The Crossing the best it could be. I can't wait to see you all next year!

– Ali Carty, Director of Crew Mentorship



2024 CREW

Abby Wallach
Adam Jones
Aimee Grissom
Alexander Haneycutt
Alexis Dominguez
Ali Carty
Alma Herrera
Amanda Stegall
Ashley Lochirco
Ashley Sisk
Ashlynn Gregg
Barbie Scott
Bella Delgado
Bret Rhodes
Brett Lang
Brittany Traynor
Caitlin Crowder
Cameron Crowder
Camila Aponte
Catherine Reynolds
Chad Aubrey
Cody Brown
Colin Goldenberg
Cory Logan
Damien Jorgensen

Daniel Johnson
Danielle Young
Daphne Miller
David Pratt
David Purkey
David Witty
Daylon Kesler
Dennis Schafer Jr.
Derek Ferguson
Devin Lugo
Douglas S. Brandon
Emily Miller
Erick Mcarter
Flavia Barbosa
Gabbie McWilliams
Gavin Herndon
George Christakis
Grant Saylor
Gunner Reid
Heather Jones
Hector Delgado
Jackie Leblanc
James Frye
James Tilton
James Upson

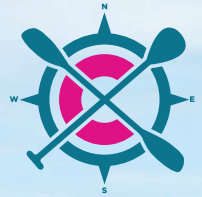
Janee Santiago
Jannelle Gant
Jay Davis
Jeffrey Dorber
Jennifer Flanigan
Jennifer Golubev
Jeremy Towe
Jessica McGrath
Joanna Roland
John Novak
John Thomson
John Thornton
Kaitlyn Alise
Kathy Aponte
Kathy Nguyen
Katie Kesler
Katrina Reneau
Kelly Shivery
Kleber Wells
Kristin Braisted
Kurt Aken
Lanell Fagan
Laura Gentile
Laura Igneri
Lisa Iwaskewycz

Madeline Staniszewski
Madison Freund
Maria Teresa Felix Cubero
Maxime Escario
Melissa Weekley
Melody Tedeschi
Michael Ackerman
Michael Narula
Nancy Burnett
Nichole Griffith
Nicolaas Henry
Van Weelden
Nicole La Vecchia
Olivia Smolchek
Paige Coles
Patrick Wulf
Paul Pelton
Rachel Chesnes
Rachel Stringer
Rachel Wells
Randall Schwartz
Randy Scheid
Rich Dorning
Richard Dargento
Rob Schuenhoff
Robert Devine

Robert Rico
Robert Urra
Robin Dimond
Roman Zacharko
Ronda VanHeest
Ross Hasegawa
Ryan Dougherty
Scott Brown
Scott VanHeest
Sebastian Noel
Shannon Follwell
Sherri Boyce
Skye Michiels
Stefania Schaeffer
Stephanie Ferrer
Stephen Velazquez
Tanner Pottroff
Trent Moore
Tristan Thomas
Tyler Gagen
Vanessa Calás
Willem Van Rooyen
William Hoyman
William Iasielo
Yaroslav Golubev

THE CROSSING

Photos by: David Scarola Photography



The 2024 Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis raised \$807,400
to help support CF patients and their families!
Thank you to all our Crossing Crusaders!





THE CROSSING

Photos by: David Scarola Photography





BEACH LANDING

Photos by: David Scarola



The Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis Beach Landing is an inspiring celebration, welcoming home the courageous crusaders who braved the ocean in support of those battling cystic fibrosis. As participants complete their incredible journey, cross the finish line, ring the beach bell and stand atop the podium they are greeted by cheering crowds, music, and heartfelt gratitude for their commitment to raising awareness and funds. It is a homecoming which embodies the spirit of resilience, unity, and hope. We invite you to join us in person or tune in to our livestream! Thank you to all participants, sponsors, volunteers, vendors and the City of Lake Worth Beach!





BEACH LANDING

Photos by: David Scarola





BEACH LANDING

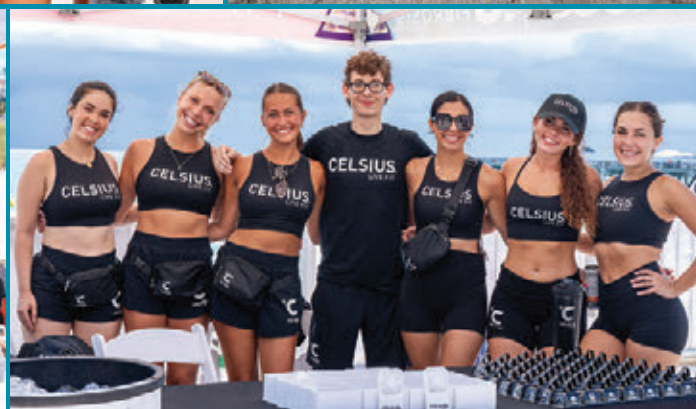
Photos by: David Scarola



Crossing Cares

Thank you to the Chris Bertish Foundation, Special Compass and International Seakeepers Foundation for participating in our Crossing Cares initiative where 50% of funds raised above the team's required minimum goes to the charity they are representing. The team minimum to qualify is \$10,000 /\$2,000 per person on the team. Since 2019 \$167,892.50 has been awarded to 22 Non-Profits in four countries.





BEACH LANDING

Photos by: David Scarola





BEACH LANDING

Photos by: Leonard Bryant

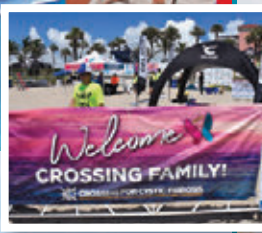




BEACH LANDING

Photos by: Leonard Bryant





WE CHALLENGE YOU TO JOIN US



IRON CRUSADER Challenge Coin

In 2021 the Crossing community was introduced to the first ever Crossing For CF "CHALLENGE COIN" by 6 time participant and Director of Safety, Josh Ferris. As a police officer in Marco Island, Josh learned about the tradition and significance of a Challenge Coin through a close friend and retired Sgt. Major from the US Army. These coins have long been used as a social currency in the military and paramilitary as a way of honoring the accomplishments of the individual, as well as celebrating the mission and service of the collective group.

The Crossing For CF created event participation challenge coins for each of paddlers, captains, and crew as a token of Piper's Angels Foundation gratitude on behalf of the CF community and also to use it to challenge friends and family to participate. Next came the reverently coveted "Iron Crusader Challenge Coin." This special coin is given to any solo paddler that completes the entire 80 miles of The Crossing from the beach in Bimini to the beach in Lake Worth without getting on their support boat for any reason.

Most paddlers do not even attempt this mission and of those that do, only a fraction of them have the honor of receiving the Iron Crusader Challenge Coin at the finish line. Recreational paddlers that are new to endurance paddling as well as seasoned competitive paddlers have both relentlessly and successfully endured this venture to become an Iron Crusader.

Many past recipients of this particular coin have said that it carries the immeasurable weight of 'showing up'. Not only showing up for CF Warriors and their families through advocacy and fundraising, but by showing up for themselves day after day, with the no quit mindset, no matter the circumstances or level of motivation.



IRON CRUSADERS # OF TIMES

Adam Frederick	1
Alexander Mijares	1
Alexander Newkerk	1
Alexander Pagano	1
Alexander Wunsche	1
Alexis Somoano	1
April Zilg	1
Beau Dorning	1
Brittany Zajic	1
Bryan Gemmill	1
Bryan Hill	1
Buz Ruscher	2
Casey Kiernan	1
Casey Prancun	1
Chris Chance	1
Chris Zajic	1
Christopher Prancun	3
Dylan Holmes	2
EJ Reynolds	3
Gabriel Barajas	1
Garett Reid	1
Guy Romain	1
Ivan Jarvis	1
Jaime Ameglio	1
Javier Delgado	1
Jeremy Howard	2
Joe McClung	1
John Fitzgibbons	2
Jon Rutishauser	1
Josef Morera	1
Joseph Bechtold	1
Josh Ferris	2
Joshua King	1
Joshua Lanphear	4
Joshua Liccardi	1
Karissa O'Connell	1
Kate McBride	1
Kathy Mcrae	1
Katie Roundtree	2
Lindsey Tilton	1
Linh Tang	1
Matthew Lilly	1
Matthias Fretz	1
Michael Aidala	1
Mike Piccoli	1
Nicole Viamontes	1
Pamela Keyes	1
Park Paige	1
Pau Smolchek	1
Phil Doumar	1
Raphael Clemente	1
Richard Bailey	1
Rob Mayhew	1
Romi Wallach	1
Ross Komarinetz	1
Russell Thorn	1
Ryan Burgess	3
Sarah Andrews	1
Sarah Craig	1
Scott Brundage	1
Seychelle Webster	1
Shannon Lockhart	1
Shawn Evans	1
Stephen Tavalilla	1
Talayna Fortunato	1
Tammie Hampton	1
Tim Goering	1
Todd Bourgois	2
Todd McLaughlin	1
Travis Suit	2
Trey Mahoney	1
Tyler Hoffmann	2
Will Schlucker	1

Photos Courtesy of: Makayla Wheeler

PIPER'S ANGELS FUNDRAISING

THANK YOU TO OUR TOP INDIVIDUAL FUNDRAISERS

Scott Ames

Louise Cecchini • Paul Smolchek

Jessica Franklin • Romi Wallach



Photo by: David Scarola

I am often asked how I have raised so much money in fundraising for The Crossing. The truth is that it has been the easiest thing for me to do, and I am excited to share why and how!

I AM GOING TO BREAK IT DOWN FOR YOU IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER

1. Tap into and share the reason WHY you are doing The Crossing. Whether it is because of a personal connection that attracted you to the event or it is the challenge of the event itself, the reason you are doing it is of interest to others.
2. Don't underestimate how curious and how interested people will find The Crossing. It is a wild and crazy event and it makes for great conversation. Find a way to bring it up and mention it with everyone you speak to.
3. If you can truly get across to others your passion and commitment and enthusiasm for The Crossing and for Piper's Angels, people will ask you how they can sponsor or support you.
4. Big donations are great, but the power of as many small dollar donations is where the impact is most significant. If everyone you meet or speak with gives you \$5, \$10 or \$20, you can't imagine how quickly you will surpass your minimum fundraising goal.
5. As soon as you are within a few hundred dollars of your fundraising goal, increase your goal. People will slow down on the giving if they think that you have hit your goal, so keep bumping it up. It keeps people engaged to see you work towards the goal.
6. Share as often as possible on your social channels your trainings, events or some kind of detail about The Crossing always including your link.
7. Create a QR code on your phone so that people can scan it and donate on the spot.
8. Have family and friends share your link.
9. Next time someone has a baby, an engagement, wedding or birthday, send a donation in their honour. If someone loses a loved one, send a donation in their memory. If you yourself are celebrating a birthday or milestone, ask people to make a donation to your fundraiser in lieu of gifts.
10. If you are comfortable throwing events, then throw one. The key is to find the avenue that is most comfortable for you and then double down on that initiative.
11. Learn the things about CF warriors that you can share that will educate those around you about what truly inspirational humans they are and that it is their bravery and their courage that make you want to do this.
12. If you don't ask, you don't get. Be consistent in your fundraising efforts, follow up with your asks and don't be scared of people saying no. Most of them won't, and so many more than you think will say YES.

It is impossible to not be inspired by Travis and the CF community and the CF Warriors who live their lives with fierce determination to live every day to the fullest and never let their illness define who they are or limit what they are capable of. Whether you are directly connected to someone with CF or not, you will find connection to the spirit and the soul and the warrior mindset of the CF Warriors and what they represent. That is what you need to convey and share. That is what fuels me and motivates me to share this epic event and organization. My life is infinitely better in ways that I could never have imagined. And by sharing my passion for this, hundreds of people have supported me financially, but more importantly, they are now aware of Piper's Angels Foundation and the CF community.

*Inspire Every Breath
Bold in the Face of Fear
- Romi Wallach*

2024 FUNDRAISING STRETCH GOALS

Black Project Fin: First 20 people to \$2,500

Abaco Polarized Sunglasses: Every paddler to reach \$2,500 | Every virtual paddler, captain, crew to reach \$500

SHARKBANZ (color Midnight/Bimini): Everyone who reached \$3,500

Black Project SUP HydroSynergy X Paddle: Everyone who reached \$5,000


Nomad Battery Powered Dive System from BLU3: Everyone who reached \$10,000 entered into a drawing - Winner Paul Smolchek

Flying Fish Custom Board: First 3 to reach \$25,000 - Winners Scott Ames, Louise Cecchini

Grand Prize - Bahamian Adventure to Paradise Vacation: Top Fundraising Team - Winner Saltwater Therapy, Scott Ames

Sunday, June 22nd, 2025

REGISTRATION IS OPEN AUGUST 31ST, 2024 - APRIL 21ST, 2025

REGISTRATION FEES  ★ **\$400** before Oct. 1st | **\$449** after Oct. 1st | **\$499** after Jan. 6th
★ **\$149** before Oct. 1st | **\$199** after Oct. 1st | **\$249** after Jan. 6th

RECREATIONAL CATEGORIES* *(For those that want a fun, leisurely, non-competitive experience)*

- ★ **RECREATIONAL - SOLO PADDLERS (NEEDS Boat Support)** Limited to 40 paddlers - Boat support provided by the event. See website for details (registration fee includes covering support captains' cost of fuel, lodging, and Bahamian entry fee. Rec Solo paddlers will be grouped by experience to the best of our capabilities.)
- ★ **RECREATIONAL - SOLO PADDLERS (Providing your own Boat Support)** (Requires securing your own boat & captain. Category includes kayaks and all non-motorized crafts).
- ★ **RECREATIONAL - RELAY TEAMS** (Requires securing your own boat & captain. Category includes kayaks and all non-motorized crafts).
- ★ **RECREATIONAL - NONPROFIT TEAMS** (Requires securing your own support boat and captain, only 10 NPO teams accepted. \$2,000 fundraising minimum per paddler. Must furnish proof of 501(c)3. NPO Paddlers cannot qualify for competitive cash prizes. *To qualify for the 'Crossing Cares' 50/50 split see website for rules.)

COMPETITIVE CATEGORIES* *(Requires securing your own boat. To unlock cash prizes solo categories require FIVE (5) REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS; multi-paddler categories require THREE (3) TEAMS)*

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>▶ SUP 14 MEN (<= 14')</p> <p>• 1st: \$5K • 2nd: \$3K • 3rd: \$1K
• 4th: \$500 • 5th: \$250</p> | <p>▶ OC-1</p> <p>• 1st: \$5K • 2nd: \$3K • 3rd: \$1K
• 4th: \$500 • 5th: \$250</p> | <p>▶ SURF SKI</p> <p>• 1st: \$5K • 2nd: \$3K • 3rd: \$1K
• 4th: \$500 • 5th: \$250</p> |
| <p>▶ SUP 14 WOMEN (<= 14')</p> <p>• 1st: \$5K • 2nd: \$3K • 3rd: \$1K
• 4th: \$500 • 5th: \$250</p> | <p>▶ OC-2</p> <p>• 1st: \$4K • 2nd: \$2K • 3rd: \$1K</p> | <p>▶ PRONE SOLO (<= 14')</p> <p>• 1st: \$5K • 2nd: \$3K • 3rd: \$1K
• 4th: \$500 • 5th: \$250</p> |
| <p>▶ 2-PERSON SUP RELAY (<= 14', CO-ED OPTIONAL, BUT NOT REQUIRED)</p> <p>• 1st: \$4k • 2nd: \$2k • 3rd: \$1K</p> | <p>▶ OC-6</p> <p>• 1st: \$10K • 2nd: \$5K • 3rd: \$3K</p> | <p>▶ PRONE RELAY 2-PERSON (<= 14', CO-ED OPTIONAL, BUT NOT REQUIRED)</p> <p>• 1st: \$4K • 2nd: \$2K • 3rd: \$1K</p> |
| <p>▶ 4-PERSON SUP RELAY (<= 14', CO-ED OPTIONAL, BUT NOT REQUIRED)</p> <p>• 1st: \$8K • 2nd: \$4K • 3rd: \$2K</p> | <p>▶ DORY 2-PERSON</p> <p>• 1st: \$4K • 2nd: \$2K • 3rd: \$1K</p> | <p>▶ PRONE RELAY 4-PERSON (<= 14', CO-ED OPTIONAL, BUT NOT REQUIRED)</p> <p>• 1st: \$8K • 2nd: \$4K • 3rd: \$2K</p> |
| | <p>▶ DORY 4-PERSON</p> <p>• 1st: \$8K • 2nd: \$4K • 3rd: \$2K</p> | |

OTHER REGISTRATION CATEGORIES (CAPTAINS/CREW/FRIENDS/FAMILY MUST REGISTER ONLINE THROUGH CLASSY.COM BY APRIL 21ST, 2025.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>▶ CAPTAINS
Free registration. (\$500 Fundraising Minimum)</p> | <p>▶ FIRST RESPONDERS CHALLENGE: \$1,000 PRIZE & TROPHY
(Active/retired/reserved/veteran Police Officers, Fire Fighters, EMTs, Ocean Rescue) First SUP solo paddler to cross the finish line. Must adhere to the Competitive Solo Rules.</p> |
| <p>▶ CREW
\$50 Registration Fee. (\$500 Fundraising Minimum)</p> | <p>▶ MILITARY CHALLENGE: \$1,000 PRIZE & TROPHY
(Active/retired/reserved/veteran Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard) First SUP solo paddler to cross the finish line. Must adhere to the Competitive Solo Rules.</p> |
| <p>▶ FRIENDS & FAMILY
\$50 Registration Fee. (\$500 Fundraising Minimum)</p> | |
| <p>▶ VIRTUAL PADDLERS (Free registration, \$500 Minimum Fundraising)*Official event shirt included!</p> | |

REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES : OFFICIAL COMMEMORATIVE SPONSOR SHIRT | OFFICIAL EVENT HAT | SPONSOR GIFT BAG | CHANCE TO WIN NUMEROUS FUNDRAISING PRIZES | ALL REGISTERED PADDLERS RECEIVE MEDALS

WWW.CROSSINGFORCF.COM | INFO@PIPERANGELS.ORG

*Please see Official Event Rules on the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis website. By registering for the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis all participants acknowledge they have read and abide by all event rules. They further acknowledge a complete understanding and agreement to the insurance waiver 'Hold Harmless' in the Official Event Rules overview found at www.crossingforcf.com.

2025

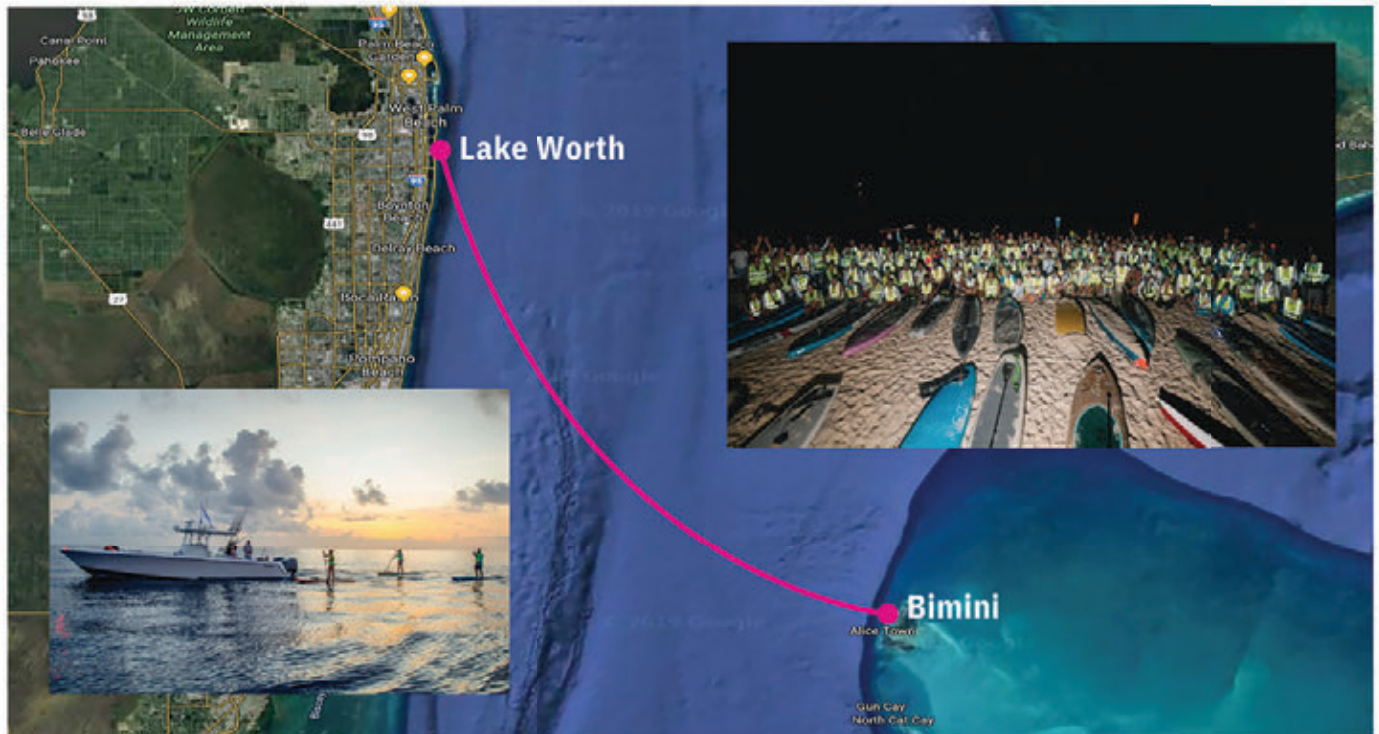


THE CROSSING
FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS



BOATERS WANTED

WEEK OF JUNE 18TH - 22ND!



YOUR CHANCE TO BE A PART OF SOMETHING EPIC!

HELP SUPPORT FAMILIES AFFECTED BY **CYSTIC FIBROSIS!**

ALL BOATERS WELCOME!

- ▶ With preferences to multi-engine boats and offshore ocean experience
- ▶ Arrive in Bimini June 18th-20th
- ▶ Depart Bimini Midnight June 21st
- ▶ Arrive Lake Worth Beach June 22nd

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- ▶ Support, transport, and protect paddlers from Bimini to Lake Worth Beach.
- ▶ Transport staff, volunteers, and supplies to Bimini, Bahamas
- ▶ Become a Safety Captain

BOATER ASSISTANCE*

FOR RECREATIONAL SOLO CAPTAINS ONLY

- ▶ Fuel credit
- ▶ Shared Lodging in Bimini with your assigned team (3 night max)
- ▶ Dock Space (water & power not included)
- ▶ Bahamas Cruising Permit (*Amount varies by boat size)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO: WWW.CROSSINGFORCF.COM
OR EMAIL OUR TEAM AT: BOATS@PIPERSANGELS.ORG**

AWARDS CEREMONY

Photos by: Desirae McDonald Photography



32 Mile Rendezvous Race COMPETITIVE AWARDS

Sup 14 Women's

1st Place

Maddi Leblanc
\$5,000

Sup 14 Men's

1st Place

Blake Carmichael
\$5,000

Sup Relay 2-Person

1st Place

Josh Lanphear
Ryan Burgess
Team Elemental
Performance
\$4,000

2nd Place

Elizabeth James
Michaela Wood
Team Moms Incredible
\$2,000

3rd Place

Kenny Puckett
Lee Shapleigh
Team Charleston
\$1,000

SUP Relay 4-Person

1st Place

Alexander Wuensche
Barney Heath
Cheryl Goldstein
Feliciano Lopez Diaz
Team Tideline
\$8,000

2nd Place

Alexa Cagija
Khalil Khouri
Ryan Kennedy
Vicente Cagija
Team PADL
\$4,000

OC-1

1st Place

Tyler Hoffmann





Five Year Crusader Compass

The 5-year Crusader Compass was created in 2024 as our way of honoring the dedication and commitment of all our participants who have journeyed with us on the ocean over the years. This special compass serves as a timeless memento, symbolizing the incredible adventures and meaningful connections forged through the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis. Crossing Crusaders who have participated as a captain, crew, paddler or on the water safety team for 5 years or more (consecutive years not necessary) were awarded their Compasses at the Awards Ceremony.

Awardees

Chris Molinaro, Dani Diaz, David Scarola, Drew Craig, Jim Brown, Jon Rutishauser, Josh Ferris, Josh Lanphear, Karen Avila, Kathy Aponte, Kyle Igneri, Kyle Shea, Olin Hershberger, Paul Smolchek, Renan Aponte, Ryan Burgess, Sean Dunleavy, Todd Bourgeois, Travis Suit, Vanessa Calas



Bold in the Face of Fear



AWARDS CEREMONY

Photos by: Desirae McDonald Photography



SPECIALTY AWARDS

CF Warrior Awards

Ashley Aken
Jessica Franklin
Kimberly Iasielo
Piper Suit
Ryan Barry
Rylee Walker
Shannon O'Donnell

Force of Nature Award

Mike Clark

Most Inspiring Crusader Award

Daniel Budyka

Admiral's Honor Award

Jim Moir

Top Fundraising Team Award

Saltwater Therapy

Top Fundraising Individual Award

Scott Ames

Top Non-Profit Fundraising Team Award

Chris Bertish Foundation

Outstanding Bimini Volunteer Award

Jen McGaw

Outstanding Mentor Awards

Lindsey Tilton
Rylee Walker

Social Media Rockstar Award

Team Sam's Story

Top Sponsor Award

Celsius

Outstanding Sponsor Award

Diamante
Medical Skin Care

Rockstar Advocate Award

Jessica Franklin

80 Miles of Love Award

LeeAnn Suit

Outstanding Volunteer Award

Theresa Burgess

Outstanding Beach Landing Volunteer Award

Bernie Isacovici

Virtual Paddler Advocacy Award

Tammie Hampton

Unsung Hero Award

Jennifer Napolitano



Photo by: David Scarola Photography



Inspire
Every Breath

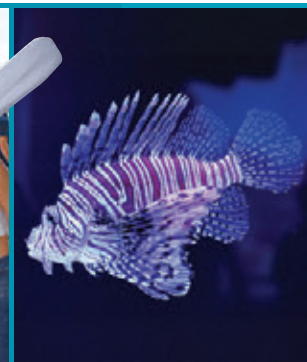




STORYTELLING NIGHT

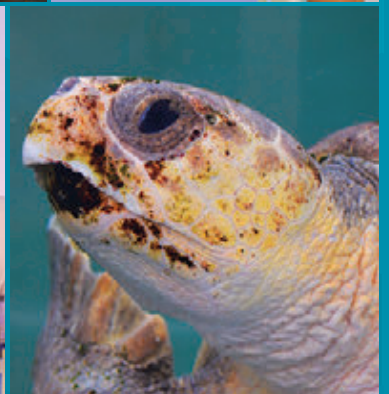
Piper's Angels Foundation and the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis revived a great past event and added a fun twist to it! The Crossing For CF Storytelling Night & Registration Kick-Off Party was held at Loggerhead Marine Life Center in Juno Beach on Saturday, August 31st. This event brought together paddlers, captains, crew, friends, family, supporters, and future Crossing Crusaders to enjoy live music with a rooftop cocktail hour, a delicious sit down dinner, emotional and inspiring stories from Crossing participants over the years, a surprise appearance from our Crossing mascot "Happy the Hammerhead," and all the exciting energy to kickoff the first day of registration for the 2025 Crossing! We are thankful to the beautiful venue for a unique event, our storytellers for their courage and for sharing their experiences, Little Moir's for a great dinner, Legal Graphic Works for live-streaming the event so those who couldn't make it in person could tune in, to our dedicated volunteers for helping make this event happen, and to everyone else who came out to celebrate The Crossing with us!

Photos by: Desirae McDonald Photography





Welcome to the Piper's Angels Family Kailani.
Congratulations Ryan and April



MEDIA COVERAGE

Eliminating the Intimidation of The Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis & Fundraising

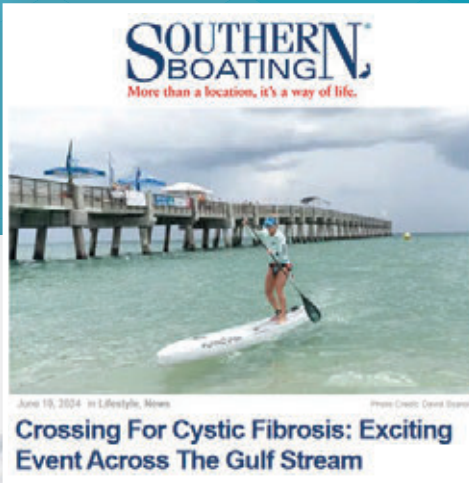
Words by
Casey Kiernan

session
FOR THE ACTIVE LIFESTYLE

October 28, 2021



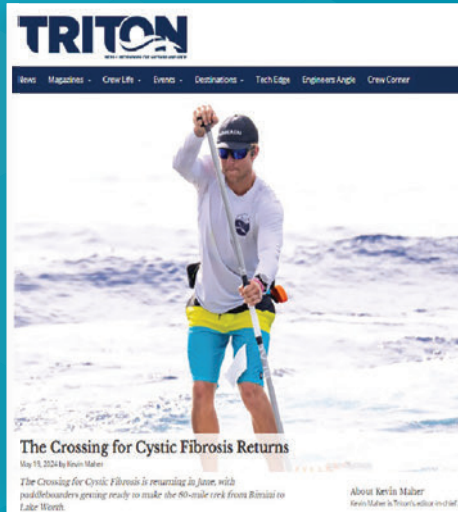
2X Women's World Champion Skimboarder and Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis champion, Casey Kiernan breaks down the 80-mile stand up paddle, surfiki, dory and prone paddle board crossing & fundraising efforts.



June 19, 2024 in Lifestyle, News

Photo Credit: David Sparrow

Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis: Exciting Event Across The Gulf Stream



The Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis Returns

May 11, 2024 by Kevin Maher

The Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis is returning in June, with paddleboarders gearing up to make the 80-mile trek from Bimini to Lake Worth.

About Kevin Maher
Kevin Maher is a freelance writer and editor.



PADDLING

SUP Racing 80 Ocean Miles On Borrowed Lungs

After a life-threatening diagnosis being diagnosed, Travis Sult, founder of Piper's Angels, is taking on the 80-mile trek from Bimini to Lake Worth.



LIVE FEED of Beach Landing from The Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis 2024

July 19, 2024 by @daberry

Event

Green Bay Press Gazette. She has cystic fibrosis. She's not letting it stop her from paddling across the Gulf Stream

Keith Uhlig Published 5:54 a.m. CT May 28, 2024 | Updated 9:44 a.m. CT June 7, 2024
Green Bay Press-Gazette



Jim Iles of Burlington stands on the paddleboard the plans to use in The Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis, later in June. Photo by Jim Iles



CROSSING FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS
TRAVIS SULT
FOUNDER OF PIPER'S ANGELS
Youngest team ever will make cystic fibrosis crossing from Bahamas to Lake Worth Beach



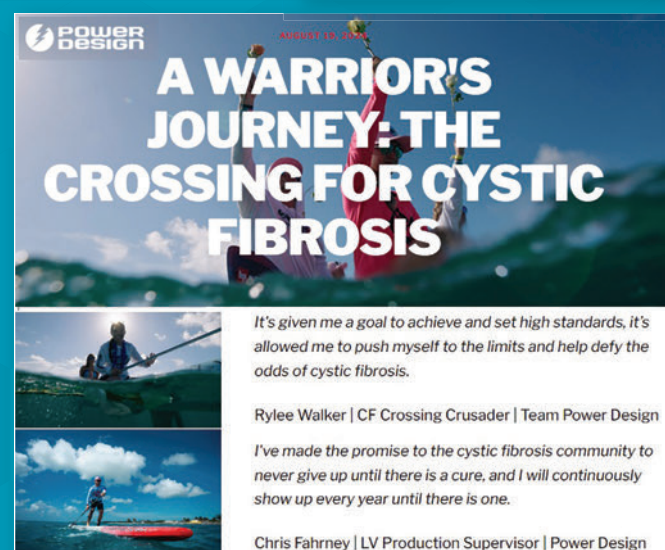
FOX 13 THE CROSSING FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS
4:22 PM 73°

Overnight SUP Race: The Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis

16 May 2024 SUP Race Events SUP Race

Tagged: Flying Fish, Flying Fish Board Co., YACF, The Bahamas, Travis Sult, Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis 2024, Maddi Leblanc

Join us as we discover the extraordinary journey of Maddi Leblanc, a SUP athlete for Team Canada, as she gears up for the Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis. This grueling event, organized by the Piper's Angels Foundation and led by Travis Sult, takes place from June 19 to 23, in the stunning waters of Bimini, The Bahamas. Participants will paddle overnight, facing the challenges of darkness and endurance, with Maddi aiming to become the first Canadian female to win this race. This event raises awareness and funds for cystic fibrosis, making it a remarkable cause worth supporting for athletes and advocates alike.



A WARRIOR'S JOURNEY: THE CROSSING FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS

It's given me a goal to achieve and set high standards, it's allowed me to push myself to the limits and help defy the odds of cystic fibrosis.

Rylee Walker | CF Crossing Crusader | Team Power Design

I've made the promise to the cystic fibrosis community to never give up until there is a cure, and I will continuously show up every year until there is one.

Chris Fahrney | LV Production Supervisor | Power Design

Suncoast moms paddle 80 miles through Atlantic for a good cause



ABC7 NEWS AT 4
MOMS PADDLE 80 MILES FOR GOOD CAUSE
4:20 91°

By Sophia Vitello Published: Jun. 18, 2024 at 12:19 PM EDT | Updated: Jun. 18, 2024 at 5:29 PM EDT WWSB ABC7 News at 4pm
SARASOTA, Fla. (WWSB) - Two moms on the Suncoast will paddle 80 miles from Bimini, Bahamas, to Lake Worth, Florida, to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis.
Moms incredible was created to help moms rediscover their true identities by pursuing their individual passions.

Triumph Over Trials: Applauding The Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis

June 28, 2024 in Lifestyle, News

SOUTHERN BOATING
More than a location, it's a way of life.



Photo Provided By: Liubov Torenova, Assistant Marketing Manager - Pursuit Boats

NEW BRAUNFELS
Herald-Zeitung



(From left) Tanner Davis, Harrison Foltz, Ryan Barry, Cameron Brig and Patrick Foltz pose for a photo with a paddleboard at Hinman Island Park in New Braunfels on June 17, 2024. The team has been training for The Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis, an 80-mile paddleboard race from the Bahamas to Florida. THERESA DAVIS | Herald-Zeitung

JUPITER
MAGAZINE

Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis Celebrates 11 Years

More than 200 participants will paddle out across the Atlantic Ocean to support Piper's Angels Foundation's annual event June 23

By Steve Smith | June 13, 2024



More than 200 paddlers will set out from Bimini to Cape Hatteras Beach on the eleven annual Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis. Photo courtesy: Piper's Angels Foundation



COVERING YOUR COMMUNITY
TATIANA TIMS TRAVIS SUIT ERIN GUY
Piper's Angels on a mission to help those with cystic fibrosis
Jun 12, 2024

SWFL couple to paddle 80 miles across the Atlantic for cystic fibrosis

WEEKLY NEWS
Published: January 10, 2024 | Updated: January 10, 2024
Alec and Tracy were diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis when they were only 10 months old. Tracy's condition is so severe that she must wear a ventilator 24 hours a day. Tracy's condition is so severe that she must wear a ventilator 24 hours a day. Tracy's condition is so severe that she must wear a ventilator 24 hours a day.



WELLAND TRIBUNE

'Freedom and peace every single time I'm out': Welland paddler Maddi Leblanc training for Crossing for CF Race

Welland's Maddi Leblanc is training to tackle her toughest paddle, the famous 130-kilometre Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis Race from the Bahamas to Florida.

Updated May 24, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. | May 13, 2024 | 4 min read



Coastal BREEZE news



For approximately 10,000 children in the United States and about 70,000 worldwide, the effects of Cystic Fibrosis can be a devastating diagnosis and leave parents and their children with a feeling of emptiness. In November 2011, Travis Suit's four-year-old daughter Piper began to exhibit symptoms of the ailment and was diagnosed with a very aggressive form of CF. Suit made it his life's mission to fight back by devoting himself to raising money for research dedicated to finding improvements in the treatments available and maybe someday a cure. And that is how the Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis came to be, now in its 11th year. The Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis is a paddleboard challenge where participants paddle from the Bahamas to Florida, all while raising money for Cystic Fibrosis. Josh Ferris has been by Suit's side since the Second Crossing and today serves as the Director of Safety and Ocean Logistics within the event that has grown considerably.

Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis Quickly Approaching

By Steve Smith | May 23, 2024

THE INTERNATIONAL SEAKEEPERS SOCIETY

The Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis 2024



Bimini, Bahamas

June 20 - 23, 2024



EDITORIALS

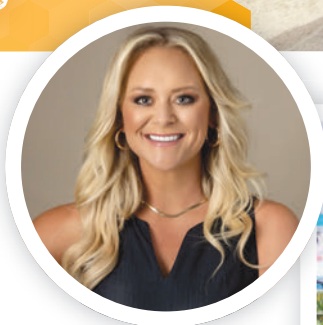
The Crossing community is composed of many incredible people! Each year we have amazing stories that emerge.

We are excited to share some of them with you, so that we may all be inspired and celebrate the beauty, love and support that goes into making this event successful.

This editorial section features these impactful stories.

SPONSOR SPARK PEDIATRICS

My first encounter with Piper's Angels was an emotional one. I remember scrolling through their website and being drawn in by a video of their annual Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis event.



Why We Chose Piper's Angels: A Personal Perspective from Tara Whitesides, Head of Business Development at Spark Pediatrics.

As Head of Business Development at Spark Pediatrics, I'm always asked why we choose the causes we support, especially when it's something as intensive and personal as cystic fibrosis (CF). For me, it's not just about checking a box or adding a partnership to our portfolio. It's about finding connections that matter to our patients, our team, and their families. And that's precisely why we chose Piper's Angels Foundation.

My first encounter with Piper's Angels was an emotional one. I remember scrolling through their website and being drawn in by a video of their annual Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis event. Watching those paddlers push themselves through every wave and current, all for these children, was like a metaphor for what kids with CF endure every day. I knew we had to be a part of it. This wasn't just a foundation; it was a family—a resilient, strong, dedicated family. And I wanted Spark Pediatric to join them in supporting these amazing kids.

Why Cystic Fibrosis?

At Spark Pediatrics, we see the everyday battles of children facing cystic fibrosis. We see them struggle with treatments and long days in the hospital. We see their courage. And we see their need for something more than just medical care.

A Shared Mission of Resilience and Support

When I met Travis Suit, the founder of Piper's Angels, his passion and dedication were contagious. His journey with his daughter Piper, who battles CF, is the heart of the organization, and it shows. Travis spoke about how every child with CF deserves a chance to live life to the fullest, and his words



Photo by: David Scarola

resonated deeply with me. Through Piper's Angels, these kids are reminded that they are more than their diagnosis. They are fighters, adventurers, and dreamers. And that's exactly the kind of support I wanted for our patients at Spark Pediatrics.

Building a Community of Hope Together

One of the first things we did together was work on a plan to offer counseling, wellness resources, and community events for our CF families. It wasn't just about medical advice; it was about holistic support—showing these children that they have an entire team rooting for them. I still remember the first time I visited one of the Piper's Angels events, we witnessed the paddlers landing at the beach after paddleboarding for over 80 miles in "The Crossing" for an amazing cause. This foundation was making an impact not only on the kids but on their families and communities. It was the type of experience that reminds you why we do what we do at Spark Pediatrics. We're not just treating a condition; we're helping these kids find joy and resilience in every moment.

A Partnership Built on Heart

When people ask me why Spark Pediatrics chose Piper's Angels, I tell them it's because of the heart behind it all. Piper's Angels is about giving these kids hope and a sense of community that will carry them through their toughest days. And for us at Spark, it's a privilege to stand beside them. As I reflect on this partnership, I am filled with pride and gratitude. Our journey with Piper's Angels has just begun, but already, I've seen the smiles, the tears, and the profound impact we're making together. At the end of the day, that's what matters most: bringing a little more hope, a little more joy, and a whole lot of love to kids who truly deserve it.

*Sincerely,
Tara Whitesides*

CF WARRIOR ASHLEY AKEN



Growing up with cystic fibrosis, as you can imagine, you are faced with a lot of challenges.

But with The Crossing, for the first time, I was able to choose the challenge I was going to encounter and I was eagerly ready to face it! Crossing the ocean for 80 miles is a large feat and can feel even more daunting with 49% lung function. It was never lost on me that there was a time, not too long ago, that I couldn't even walk down my driveway without getting out of breath, and now I felt ready to do this. A big reason for my health improvement was I was able to get on Trikafta, a miracle drug that helped improve my health. This started to make things possible again, however, although I was seeing improvements and new possibilities, I still wouldn't say I was thriving. I truly began to thrive when I met Piper's Angels Foundation. A good family friend, Jim Malussena, was part of



The Crossing and encouraged me to do it. I knew this would be the craziest challenge I had ever done, but I wanted to take it on, just to see if I could actually do it.

The thing that struck me the most about The Crossing was it isn't just an event that you show up to in June. You truly become part of the community and everyone is with you every step of the way, cheering you on and supporting you through highs and lows. My year of training for this was the healthiest and happiest year of my life!

Finally, the time came to make our way to the Bahamas with our team and I was ready! Admittedly, I was anxious about all the unknowns and questions of "Have I trained enough?" and "Am I going to feel okay on the long boat ride?" started to sink in, but the excitement and the support of my team helped alleviate that. The week in the Bahamas was an incredible time filled with adventures, making new friends, and paddling around the islands. On Saturday night, we were all geared up and ready to go, but the weather had other plans. We did not get to cross this year and as much as we were disappointed that we would not be able to accomplish the goal we set out for, the trip and the experience was a resounding success.

The people I have met and the new passions I have found have truly changed my life. For that, I will be forever thankful to Piper's Angels Foundation and will always want to be part of this Community!

— Ashley Aken



INSPIRING STORY RYAN BARRY

Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: David Scarola

My name is Ryan, I am a 26 year old content creator with cystic fibrosis, and I experienced my first Crossing in 2024! I cannot begin to describe the way this event changed my life. I have always been a fan of pushing my limits and finding adventure, but the Crossing For CF was the most epic adventure I have ever had the privilege to enjoy. Whatever you've heard... This event is on a whole different level.

A lot of the stories you'll hear are about the incredible people involved in this event: the immense work ethic, the huge personalities, the epic mentality to undertake this challenge - but I want to tell you about the love that threads this event together.

The team who works for Piper's Angels Foundation is committed to the community. They GENUINELY care about the people involved with the event, taking time to not only create relationships but to maintain them and nurture them into the future. They realize that regular people like us are capable of making incredible waves in the CF world. It is an honor to feel so valued.

I could tell you about lurching around on 12 foot waves, massive storms, morning yoga in paradise, pristine beaches, great dinners, and about the feeling of looking out at 82 miles

of wild ocean at midnight. But I won't. The love is what creates this event.

The feeling of paddling for a cause greater than yourself is ineffable. Finding yourself surrounded by ocean looking at the world with a new set of eyes... you realize how blessed you are. Able-bodied. Healthy. Happy. What more could we pray for? The Crossing For CF opened my heart to loving people that I have never met and will never meet. I invite you to come out here and challenge yourself. Feel your arms burn, get sweaty, look around and realize how beautiful this life is and how powerful your impact is. There is no better use of time than to love and give that effort to the world around you.

There is love in every detail of the days we spent preparing for this event, enduring the event, and processing the results of the event. This is a huge opportunity for regular people to become superheroes. Haven't you always wanted to live an incredible life story?

There is no event like this one. I'm a firm believer that life is not about finding yourself, but about creating yourself. Come be someone - come prove yourself right and come create a future for the people who need your help. I look forward to meeting you at The Crossing in 2025.

— Ryan Barry



Photo by: Desirae McDonald Photography



Photo by: David Scarola

PADDLER BRIANA TRAYNOR



Photo by: David Scarola

After 3 years of participating in The Crossing, I feel incredibly blessed to be a part of such a special community.

I first joined The Crossing in 2022, where I crewed for a lifelong friend who was participating in the paddle for her first time. My sister and I went to Bimini only having met a few people once or twice, and after just one weekend, we came back feeling so connected and motivated to participate in the years to come. In such a short period of time, we so deeply felt the love and compassion that everyone shared for the cystic fibrosis community.

Having little to no paddle boarding experience, I signed up on the first day registration opened to join a two-person relay team for The Crossing in 2023. Although I had fears of taking on such an intense challenge, I felt so confident in knowing that participating in this race would give me an opportunity to raise money and awareness to the cystic fibrosis community through my co-workers, friends, and family.

During my time in Bimini, I had the opportunity to personally get to know a very special CF warrior. I first heard him speak at the family dinner in Bimini the year prior, where he shared his incredibly inspirational life story. Getting the chance to spend time with him and hear more about his journey with CF was an honor and a privilege, and really helped make my connection to the cystic fibrosis community much stronger and more personal.



Photo by: Desirae McDonald Photography



Photo by: David Scarola



Photo by: Desirae McDonald Photography

After a very long and exhausting night of harsh weather conditions, I stepped foot on Lake Worth Beach and was so overwhelmed with joy and pride from the familiar and unfamiliar faces there to provide a warm welcome back after such a challenging experience. I knew at this moment that I wanted to continue challenging myself, and that I would attempt to go beach-to-beach solo in The Crossing for 2024.

I was so honored to join a training program with Aloha Athletics, which introduced me to even more people in the paddling/CF community. We trained and grew stronger together, through lots of early mornings, rough weather conditions, and talking through our fears and doubts. I couldn't have been more supported by this group and prepared to take on the 80-mile paddle.

The Crossing 2024 looked a lot different than I had prepared and trained for. Although at first sad that we weren't going to get to attempt the 80 miles due to unforeseen weather, I sat alongside a group of boys, one of which is a CF warrior, who helped me see the beauty in all that was happening around us. He was so motivated to have the moment of crossing the finish line in Lake Worth, and was willing to do anything it took to get there. My friend and I decided to forgo the competitive race in order to all join together and paddle 10 miles off-shore, to cross the finish line as one. I learned so much about what our purpose was in being a part and supporting the CF community.

I have no words to express the gratitude I have for The Crossing and Piper's Angels Foundation and all that it has taught me. The CF warriors and those that support the community continue to help me grow as a person. I now have the honor to inspire others by being a mentor for The Crossing 2025. Thank you to everyone who supported me, and I can't wait for what next year has in store!

— With all my love and gratitude, Briana Traynor

NON-PROFIT TEAM CHRIS BERTISH FOUNDATION

Photos by: David Scarola Photography



The Crossing For CF is more than just a physical challenge—it's a life-changing experience that tests your resilience, your fortitude, and your ability to overcome hardship, both individually and as a team. This event challenges you on every level, far beyond what most people expect, and for those who have never tested themselves before, it's an opportunity to push yourself in ways you never thought possible.

Though many think the Crossing For CF is primarily about physical endurance, it's actually a test of your "why" and your ability to persist through adversity. It pushes you to never give up, no matter how impossible the goal may seem. The physical aspect is just a small part of the journey; what truly matters is mental strength, determination, and the ability to rise above challenges that arise along the way.

Undertaking the Crossing For CF requires significant time, effort, and financial commitment—especially if you don't live on the East Coast. Like any big goal, it's a major undertaking that requires not only personal dedication, but also support from your team, friends, and family. And while fundraising for a worthy cause is important, the true challenge lies in preparing for the unexpected. The team you choose, the boat, and the captain are all critical decisions. I can't stress enough how these elements can make or break your experience. The boat and captain are fundamental to success, yet they are often overlooked until the last minute.

Additionally, contingency planning is crucial. Weather can throw off your schedule, and plans often don't go as expected.

Make sure to build extra time into your schedule to account for delays, and ensure that everyone involved understands the importance of this flexibility. Beyond the logistics, you'll also need to account for the costs and time required to participate—especially if you're traveling from afar. Fundraising also takes effort, and it's important to gather support from more than just your immediate circle. The more people who contribute, the more fulfilling the experience becomes.

Despite the challenges, the Crossing For CF is an incredible journey. The event is organized by amazing people like Travis and his team, who provide invaluable support throughout. It's a beautiful story for a meaningful cause, and everyone should experience it at least once in their lifetime. It's an opportunity to test your limits, help others, and discover what's truly possible. Sign up, get involved, and take on this unforgettable adventure. You won't regret it.

— **Chris Bertish**

(Inspirational Speaker / Best Selling Author / Philanthropist / Ocean Pioneer)

Founder: Chris Bertish Foundation

Team ALL IN: Chris Bertish, Chris Rost, Evelyn O'Doherty



The CF Crossing Video – by the Chris Bertish Foundation in collaboration with Pipers Angels Foundation

<https://youtu.be/rXykF0jqZvg?si=QMUbHnNaqMGaOy>

CAPTAIN JIM MOIR



ADVERSITY TO ADVENTURE

The Piper's Angels Foundation, Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis is a magnificent event that pushes athletes to their limit for a very good cause. 2024 was the third time I have participated as a support captain. I was to chaperone two Recreational Solo paddle boarders and two Recreational Solo kayakers and my crew was the mother of one of the paddlers. I had never met any of these courageous women except through email and WhatsApp. Each time I have participated in the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis I have had the honor of witnessing some of the finest feats of tenacity and kindness one can imagine. Sometimes it's not just the paddling that inspires the participants to dig a little deeper.

The 2024 Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis was marked by less-than-ideal weather. My team left my home in Stuart, FL bound for Bimini, about a 100-mile passage. It was squally and pretty sporty; seas were big and a short period between crests. The weather window was not likely to improve for a couple of days so off we went. The passage was not exactly comfortable, but manageable. The crew seemed fairly resigned to the spray and sea state. About 75 miles into the passage a bilge pump indicator illuminated, but no water



Photo by: Desirae McDonald Photography



ejected from the discharge. I checked the pump and discovered that the pump was clogged with fiberglass shards and the bilges were quickly filling with water. This situation was not good. I had a serious dilemma. There was no benefit in engendering hysteria or panic, but we were sinking in the Gulfstream. It was at this moment that I discovered how truly remarkable my crew of five women were.

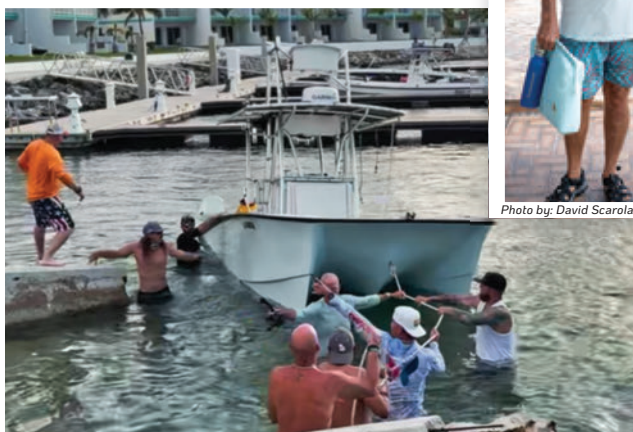
I don't think anyone on board ever accepted the idea of abandoning the vessel and spending time bobbling about waiting for rescue. Each member of the crew ably assisted in getting the boat safely to Bimini. Some crew pumped, or steered, or moved gear around. Even with a big fracture in the hull we were able to drive the boat to the dock in Bimini. At the dock we were greeted by a group of very helpful and enthusiastic members of The Crossing community and Bahamians. The boat was hauled out on a trailer and ended up at +6 foot elevation rather than at 3,000 feet down, and all crew safely but soggy ashore.

My group of Recreational Solo adventurers eventually competed in the truncated 2024 Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis event. Being with these women through this experience has taught me a great deal more about endurance, humility and coping than I had imagined. We are each capable of turning adverse circumstances into something like an adventure if we can adjust our attitude. I have had the grace and fortune to have been influenced by some truly inspirational people with CF, some survivors, one in particular, Jimmy Haft, that has passed. These people really exhibit what it means to dig deep and persevere. Thank you to all the heroes that participate in the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis.

— Jim Moir



Photo by: David Scarola



CREW JANNELLE GANT



Little did I know that one text back in 2021 would change my life forever. My best friend Ali, who was already in Bimini for The Crossing, texted me and asked if I would volunteer for the Beach Landing that weekend. I only knew of “some paddle boarding event” she did every year, but I didn’t know how special it was until I spent the whole day on Lake Worth Beach, with Denise Tims and her family. I got a crash course on CF, Piper’s Angels Foundation and The Crossing from Denise and I have been hooked ever since. That one text opened a door into the most loving and supportive community I have ever known.

Being able to crew the last two years next to Ali for our closest friends has been an incredible journey. Most people think that crewing only happens on the water, but it all starts before you even step foot on the boat. Every morning pancake flipped, impromptu karaoke and dance party, and all the hair braided before we launch, has been a way to not just fill my heart, but pour my love into the community as well.

I have always thought of the ocean as a great teacher, and man, do you learn a lot about a person and yourself when you get to spend 15 hours together in the open ocean. My favorite

moments of The Crossing have always been sitting on the stern and just talking with whoever is paddling. While I would do anything to motivate my team to keep going from handing snacks over the side of the boat to dancing with a cowbell, they don’t realize that they are motivating me too. They make me want to be better in all that I do in life and continue to fight for those with CF. With every stroke they take, they remind me of each of our whys and how special and sacred each breath we take is.

The 2024 Crossing looked different, but I believe it had the most community spirit. People who haven’t participated in The Crossing may not realize how far spread out we all become on the water. Once the sun rises, it feels like it’s just your team out there; however, with all of us meeting at set coordinates, this past year, we truly were all able to start and finish together. Ringing a cowbell and cheering for each team next to us and hearing them cheer back is a feeling I’ll always hold onto.

Thank you Ali, Tatiana, Sean, Jon, Jamie, Cat, Vanessa, and Captain Steve for trusting me in Bimini and across the Atlantic. I can’t wait to ride out in 2025.

— Jannelle Gant



Photo by: Leonard Bryant

VOLUNTEER COURTNEY McELWAIN

Photo by: David Scarola



All the emotions ran through me as I watched my best friend Tatiana Tims and her husband Sean Tims cross the finish line for the first time at the 2019 Crossing For CF.

It was my first time witnessing the Crossing For CF, however, my connection with CF did not start with The Crossing. It started with Megan Tims. I distinctly remember visiting Megan in 2016 in Raleigh, NC while she was undergoing treatment at Duke University. I stayed with the Tims family for a few days. We played games, watched movies and laughed a ton all while Megan was trying to make the best out of her current situation. I recall saying to myself, "WOW, WHAT A WARRIOR" and "HOW LUCKY AM I to be spending time with such a strong human being." "I am so lucky to have known Megan Tims, the true warrior. To know and love Megan is truly an honor. I will forever cherish our memories shared together. I saw her fight the fight, struggle, jump hurdles, beat the odds while still holding her head high and wit still intact. She taught me and everyone else she came into contact with that nothing was too hard to overcome. She will always have a special place in my heart." Reminiscing over the 2019 Crossing, I remember Tatiana texting me once they got



service and said, "We are early, we will be there in 20 minutes, are you at the beach?" I was not at the beach as I had not started volunteering yet, but I sure as heck drove like a mad woman to get there. At the same time, I had Megan texting me "I can't get there in time, GO! PLEASE GET THERE FOR ME!"

I knew that after I had experienced my first Beach Landing for the Crossing For CF in 2019 that I was compelled to be involved in some capacity. I was literally pulled

towards it with such a force. I needed to be there not only for Megan and the Tims family, but for all the CF Warriors and the amazing Crusaders. Fast forward to now, and with having volunteered for the Beach Landing for 4 years as the Sponsor Liaison, the Crossing for CF holds a piece of my heart. From set up to break down of the Beach Landing, we volunteers and all involved are a TEAM. We move together as 1 unit that flows together from start to finish. Over the years I have worked with the most amazing volunteers and sponsors who dedicate their time and energy to help put together an amazing event who all encompass the same goal – to help support those with CF. Yes, it is hard work, hot and demanding at times, but that feeling you get while watching those Crusaders cross the finish line is UNMATCHED. The number of tears of joy and happiness that I shed during the Beach Landing are immeasurable. The time, physical training, and emotional commitment that the crusaders put in is stunning and truly shows how dedicated and passionate they are to supporting those with CF. Needless to say, the Crossing For CF has changed me; I will forever be changed and connected to it. Whether you volunteer, paddle, sponsor, show up to watch and/or donate, just know that being involved with the Crossing For CF will impact you at a capacity that is beyond your reach. The Crossing community welcomes ALL with an open heart and will embrace ALL into a loving family.

*All my love,
Courtney McElwain*



Photo by: David Scarola



SCOTT AMES

TOP FUNDRAISER

\$64,277.23



Photo by: David Scarola



I am a proud girl-dad x3 (Avery, Blake & Colbie) and husband to an amazing and supportive wife, Kellie! As a family, we love to enjoy all Florida has to offer, from playing at the beach and surfing, to boating and fishing, which is what in part gave way to our team name - "Saltwater Therapy"!

Piper's Angels Foundation and the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis are particularly meaningful to our family as our oldest daughter, Avery, was diagnosed roughly one year ago with cystic fibrosis. We are fortunate that, to date, Avery remains largely symptom-free and her energetic self, yet are reminded constantly of the brutal reality of CF as a progressive disease. Despite the diagnosis, we feel grateful to live in an age where CF treatment has progressed so meaningfully, and we remain optimistic about the long-term outlook for Avery and all CF Warriors.

Shortly after Avery's diagnosis, we were introduced to Piper's Angels...we were immediately welcomed with

open arms, and will never forget our first conversation with Travis Suit, who **SHOWED UP** for us, providing information, resources, and most importantly, an open line we knew we could call any time to find a calming and reassuring voice during a time of turmoil for our family.

As we got to better know the Piper's Angels team and organization, I felt compelled to participate in The Crossing, volunteering as a Captain with my boat for the 2023 event, just weeks after Avery had been diagnosed. My first Crossing experience as a captain was incredibly inspiring and emotional (peaking with the Rose Ceremony paddle out!)...I was deeply moved by the X4CF community in 2023 and, coming out of the event, committed to participating as a solo paddler in 2024... despite training for the better part of a year, weather got the best of us in 2024, but we will be back and stronger than ever in 2025 and beyond!

Most importantly, we achieved our #1 goal in 2024, raising awareness and funds for all CF Warriors, but our fundraising success would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our wonderful friends and family, to whom we are forever grateful!

Embrace the journey!

The Ames Family & Team Saltwater Therapy, Scott Ames



Strategic Partner



At Benny's On The Beach, the ocean isn't just our view—it's our lifeblood, our inspiration, and our community. That's why partnering with the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis is more than just a collaboration; it's a deeply personal and meaningful connection to a cause that inspires us every day.

The Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis, a grueling 80-mile paddle board journey from the Bahamas to the Florida coastline, is a testament to resilience, determination, and hope. It mirrors the challenges faced by those living with cystic fibrosis, a disease that requires unwavering strength and courage. To stand beside this community, to support the families, and to celebrate the triumphs born from this event is an honor we hold close to our hearts.



As a vibrant hub for beach lovers and adventurers, Benny's understands the importance of connection—whether it's through a shared meal, a beautiful sunrise, or the unwavering spirit of the CF community. The Crossing represents everything we value: perseverance, teamwork, and the ability to turn challenges into triumphs. It inspires us to give back and be part of something bigger than ourselves.

Through this partnership, we're not just supporting an event; we're supporting a movement. We're proud to help amplify the voices of the CF community, raise awareness for this cause, and celebrate the incredible individuals who paddle to make a difference.

To everyone participating, organizing, and cheering on the Crossing for Cystic Fibrosis: thank you for allowing Benny's on the Beach to be part of your journey. Together, we're proving that no ocean is too wide when you have a community paddling beside you.

Dylan & Lee Lipton



Sponsor



In Lake Worth Beach, the ocean isn't just our backdrop; it's the heart of our vibrant community. That's why we are immensely proud to be the official home of the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis. Each year, our shores transform into the triumphant finish line for this incredible journey, where determination and hope collide with the sand.

The Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis is a celebration of the strength and resilience of the CF community and a powerful reminder that even the widest seas can be crossed with courage and teamwork. Being the place where paddlers land after such an awe-inspiring challenge fills our city with pride and purpose.



As paddlers emerge from the waves to cheers and embraces, the City of Lake Worth Beach comes alive with the spirit of connection and celebration. From our residents to our visitors, everyone is moved by the powerful stories behind each participant. This event not only raises crucial funds and awareness for cystic fibrosis but also brings our community together in a shared commitment to make a difference.

To us, being the official home of the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis is about more than geography; it's about being a partner in hope. We are honored to host the paddlers' triumphant return, to celebrate their incredible journey, and to support the families and individuals impacted by CF.

To every paddler, volunteer, and supporter: thank you for making Lake Worth Beach part of your story. Together, we are proving that with enough heart and determination, even the toughest challenges can lead to brighter tomorrows. Welcome home.

*The City of Lake Worth Beach
Teanna McKay
Dexter Smith*





PIPER'S ANGELS™
FOUNDATION FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS



From the inception of Piper's Angels Foundation in 2017 through December 2024, we have developed a variety of programs that target the social determinants of health including mental, physical, and psychosocial aspects. These programs were designed to share with as many people in the CF community as possible to help empower individuals impacted by this disease to live their best lives possible.

Because of our generous donors, Crossing Crusaders who passionately fundraise, CF advocates, and sponsors, Piper's Angels Foundation has become one of the most impactful grassroots organizations in the world for cystic fibrosis. This section provides an inside look into how we serve those living with CF, their families, our community, and other nonprofit organizations.

*The total number of program recipients and families from January 2017 through December 2024 is **1221** which includes **458** for 2024:*

Forever Stoke Scholarships: 16

Unmasking Mindfulness Program Students: 7

Community Impact Grants: 5

Care Packages: 14

Angels Abroad Recipients: 29

Urgent Financial Assistance Grants: 286

Inspire Breathworks Students: 21

Peer to Peer Connections: 59

Stanley Steemer Home Air Duct Cleaning Services: 17

Therapy & Counseling Clients: 4

LEADERSHIP TEAM

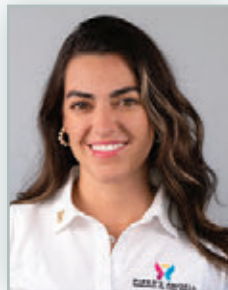
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TATIANA TIMS
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Welcome to the: PIPER'S ANGELS FAMILY



Advisors to the Board



ALEX SCHULZE
Co-Founder and Chief
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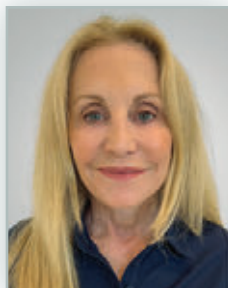
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& Foundation for Women's
Economic Literacy



In Memory of
JIMMY BUFFETT
Singer, Songwriter, Businessman
Thank you for your service
as an Advisor 2019-2023



OUR INITIATIVES



Photo courtesy of: Arbor Day Foundation



A LIVING LEGACY OF LOVE

Breath is the essential life force that we all have in common and directly connects us with trees. Through the partnership between Piper's Angels Foundation and Arbor Day Foundation, you can honor or memorialize somebody you love with CF by having a tree planted in their name. The trees that will be planted in honor of our past, present and future CF family members and friends will be a Living Legacy creating a lasting positive impact. Join us in celebration of a healthier planet and healthier lungs!

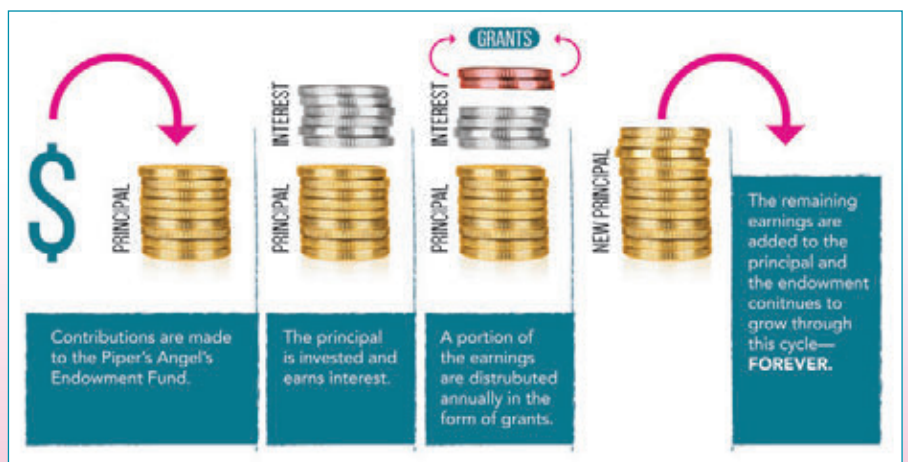


If you would like to honor or memorialize a CF Warrior you love please visit:
shop.arborday.org/commemorative/pipersangels
www.pipersangels.org/our-work



Why contribute to an endowment fund?

The CF Warrior Endowment Fund is an investment account designed to aggregate funds to create a sustainable source for providing financial support to the CF community. We will be making deposits on a semi-annual basis with a long term goal of \$10,000,000. The fund's purpose is to utilize the earned interest to make consistent and sustainable distributions to cover needs for CF patients and families through the Piper's Angels Foundation programs.



STANLEY STEEMER



“Our Stanley Steemer family is humbled by the opportunity to help our community’s most vulnerable. The positive feedback received from the cystic fibrosis community inspires us to give all that we can to ensure the cleanest and healthiest indoor environment to the families that need it the most. By partnering with Piper’s Angels Foundation we are able to achieve that.”

Tom Scalera,
CEO Stanley Steemer

Piper’s Angels Foundation is proud to be partnered with Stanley Steemer of South Florida & the Treasure Coast! This strategic partnership is a great example of the results of what leadership in grassroots advocacy and community collaboration looks like when you are sincerely focused on the needs of families. The air ducts are the lungs of the home, so partnering with indoor air cleaning specialists Stanley Steemer to provide clean & safe indoor air for CF families was an easy decision, and we are thrilled they are seeing positive results. Currently through this partnership, we have helped over 50 families in the South Florida community to improve their indoor air quality, giving them peace of mind knowing they can breathe a bit easier in their homes. If you are a CF family or know of a CF family in the South Florida area that may be interested in providing the best indoor air quality for their family, please reach out to info@pipersangels.org

***Thank you Stanley Steemer of South Florida and the Treasure Coast
for leading the charge & doing good in your community!***

Piper’s Angels Foundation is an excellent organization that benefits people with cystic fibrosis and their families. The programs that are offered have direct benefit to the patient. I am an adult living with cystic fibrosis and am grateful for this organization. They have a connection with Stanley Steemer who came to my home and cleaned my air ducts to provide better breathing.

Linda Bowman, CF Warrior

Stanley Steemer did a wonderful job cleaning our air ducts. They were on time, polite, clean and efficient! Knowing that my air ducts are clean gives me peace of mind and helps me breathe easier! Thank you so much Stanley Steemer!

Heather Hall, CF Warrior



Stanley Steemer did an incredible job at our home with mold remediation. Everyone who was involved with our project could not have been more professional and caring about our family and home. From the technicians to the service managers everyone treated us like family and ensured that we were safe and comfortable. In particular, I would like to express our appreciation to Eloy Torres. Eloy coordinated all the work and ensured that our experience went smoothly and was completed in a timely fashion. All the best.

Terry Goodman,
Father of a CF Warrior

OUR PROGRAMS



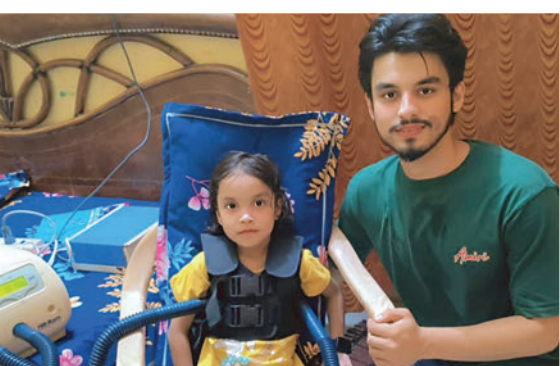
The Angels Abroad program aims to expand the reach of support for individuals with cystic fibrosis globally. This program is critical to the cystic fibrosis community because many countries do not have access to the essential medications and treatments that not only help them survive, but give them hope to one day thrive. Piper's Angels Foundation collaborates with other organizations and partners to provide vital resources, education, and advocacy that are desperately needed in underserved countries.



Adem, CF Warrior, Tunisia, Africa

I would like to thank Piper's Angels Foundation for helping me get a grant to do some tests at a private clinic. Thank you very much. I hope you will support them so they can help other patients around the world.

Adem, CF Warrior



Hafsa, CF Warrior, India

In collaboration with CF Vests Worldwide, Piper's Angels Foundation was able to supply CF Vests to 6 different children in India where they do not have access to this costly type of life improving therapy. High-frequency chest wall oscillation involves an inflatable vest that is attached to a machine and these vests are worn for hours each day to help break up the mucus in the lungs which could harbor bacteria and cause other respiratory complications.



Friends from Mexico: thanks!

Hi Travis, we just wanted to thank you again for visiting Mexico and the local association, and for giving us a voice and a platform so we can share our stories. As you know, conditions for the whole CF community in Mexico are so much more precarious and difficult than in the US, and people like you through your foundation can truly make an impact and literally save/change lives. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help you now or in the future. More than happy to contribute in any way we can. Looking forward to talking/meeting again soon. Again, thanks and a pleasure meeting you.



Best, Lucila, Cova & Jesus

P2P

PEER TO PEER

Piper's Angels Foundation "Peer To Peer" (P2P) program was established to improve the lives of people impacted by cystic fibrosis through creating connections between others with whom they can engage and find support in a variety of ways. Participants in the Peer to Peer program will find guidance through the leadership of our mentors that will empower them to enhance their lives and promote positive living with cystic fibrosis.

P2P aims to be the #1 trusted CF nonprofit program for people to turn to for inspired living and assistance in obtaining needed resources.

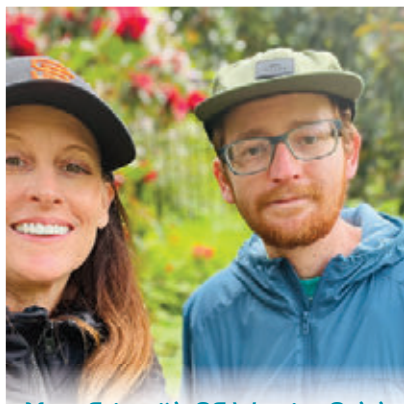
Being a mentor for Piper's Angels P2P program is a true blessing in my life. In my early years of being a cystic fibrosis mom I didn't have anyone to talk to that could relate to the stresses of having a CF child. Now I get to be that person I needed so badly. The best part of it is how therapeutic it is for me. I recently have had the privilege of talking to Erin Mathis whose son Caleb has recently gone through a lung transplant. I went through this process with my daughter Megan in 2015 and it is something you can't be prepared for. I got to help her by listening, empathizing, and sharing my experiences. This helped her be more prepared than I was. The greatest part was I have made a lifelong friend. When I am done speaking with her I realize it's good for my own mental health as well. The CF caregiver life is a hard one and Piper's Angels bringing us together has brought me so much inspiration, grace, solace and happiness.

Denise Tims, CF Warrior Mom



**Mom & Mentor Denise with
CF Warrior Megan**

In loving memory 1995-2024



Mom Erin with CF Warrior Caleb

I first heard about Piper's Angels from my Aunt who lives in Florida. She encouraged me to reach out to them when my son who has cystic fibrosis was listing for a double lung transplant in late 2022. Piper's Angels have been true angels to me and my son Caleb. They helped us get through the grueling transplant process and they set me up in the peer to peer program with my mentor Denise. I had never found another cystic fibrosis mother that understood my struggles as a full time caretaker and CF mother like Denise did. She really understood me. I got more and more comfortable calling her and sharing the up days and down days with her as a mentor and friend by my side. I am so grateful I had someone to lean on that had been through the same struggles, joys and challenges that I faced during the transplant days. She allowed me to call her day or night. We continue to talk on a regular basis and have built a friendship that is between two

women that really is peer to peer and heart to heart. We laugh, we cry, we carry hope in our hearts for our cystic fibrosis children together. Thank you Piper's Angels.

Erin Mathis, CF Warrior Mom

OUR PROGRAMS

Continued



The Piper's Angels Foundation has established the "Urgent Financial Assistance" (UFA) program to assist people battling cystic fibrosis in need of medically necessary and time-sensitive financial assistance. CF patients and their families face numerous challenges throughout a single year that can burden a family financially. These challenges include long-term hospitalizations, lung transplants, treatment not covered by insurance, funeral expenses, and more. The UFA grants are received directly by the individual or family with CF to help cover the costs associated with these challenges to alleviate some of the financial stress faced during these hard times.

We are grateful for the upper hand Piper's Angels has provided us. Our daughter is a Go-Getter. With all of her hard work and drive despite living with cystic fibrosis, she still fights everyday to be the best. Thank you for helping us stay in our home as well as avoiding homelessness. Our family is sincerely humbled. We sincerely hope that one day in the future we will be in a position to be able to give back to another family. Best Regards.



Mom Tracie, with Zoe, CF Warrior

The Nestler Family

This agency is a Godsend. We have been struggling to pay for a new generator that is needed to run our home in case of an electrical outing. When I found out that Piper's Angels could help us offset one of the payments, it was an answer to prayer. Thank you for helping us to partially pay one of our generator payments. This allowed us to use those funds to pay for medicines and doctor visits during that time instead of having to worry about how we were going to pay for both of them. Thank you again for your help. You will never know how much this means to me and my family.



Brad Johns, CF Warrior

Brad Johns, CF Warrior

Dear Casey and the Piper's Angels Foundation Team—
I cannot thank you enough for the generous financial assistance you provided to help with the funeral expenses of my husband, Matt McClorkey. Your kindness and generosity helped alleviate some of the financial challenges I was facing, and for that, I am truly grateful.

Many thanks,
Chris McClorkey



Taryn Wolf, CF Warrior

Piper's Angels has been just that, an angel. Finances are a stressor and thanks to this organization, the staff and all the incredible donors a small weight has been lifted. Being a CF patient comes with a lot of obstacles and unexpected hospital visits. Thanks to Piper's Angels this unexpected hospital admission is less stressful. Thank you to everyone who has helped make this possible.

Taryn Wolf, CF Warrior



OUR PROGRAMS

Continued

Piper's Angels Foundation recognizes the challenges and isolation that come with hospitalizations for individuals with cystic fibrosis, which is why we created the Care Packages program. When we learn of a CF Warrior being admitted to the hospital, we send a personalized care package filled with comforting and uplifting items to bring some joy during a tough time. These packages not only offer practical items for comfort and entertainment, but also serve as a reminder that the community cares, helping to brighten their spirits and foster a sense of connection during difficult times. By delivering these thoughtful gifts, Piper's Angels Foundation aims to enhance the overall well-being of those affected by cystic fibrosis, promoting resilience and hope in their journey.



Kira Taylor, CF Warrior

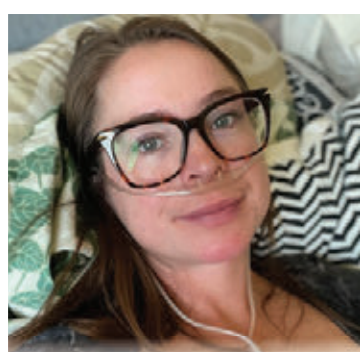
Shout out to my Piper's Angels Foundation friends/family for such a sweet care package. It made my day to receive these super thoughtful gifts! It came in perfect timing to bring tomorrow to my MRI and from not feeling the best today! I am so incredibly thankful to know such kind hearted people! The incredible sentiment to provide fuzzy socks, such a soft blanket, self care items and fun art supplies, means truly so much to me! Truly so excited for much needed items to help relax! The fuzzy socks and blanket have majorly helped as my body has been so tired from everything going on. I highly recommend them to see the amazing awareness and support they provide to CF Warriors and their families, including mine, in the past.

Kira Taylor, CF Warrior

I want to thank Piper's Angels Foundation for sending me a care package during my hospitalization. This has been such a challenging time for me and these gifts brightened my spirits. Thank you for all you do for those with cystic fibrosis.

Inspire Every Breath!

Lisa Zaccaria, CF Warrior



Rima, CF Warrior

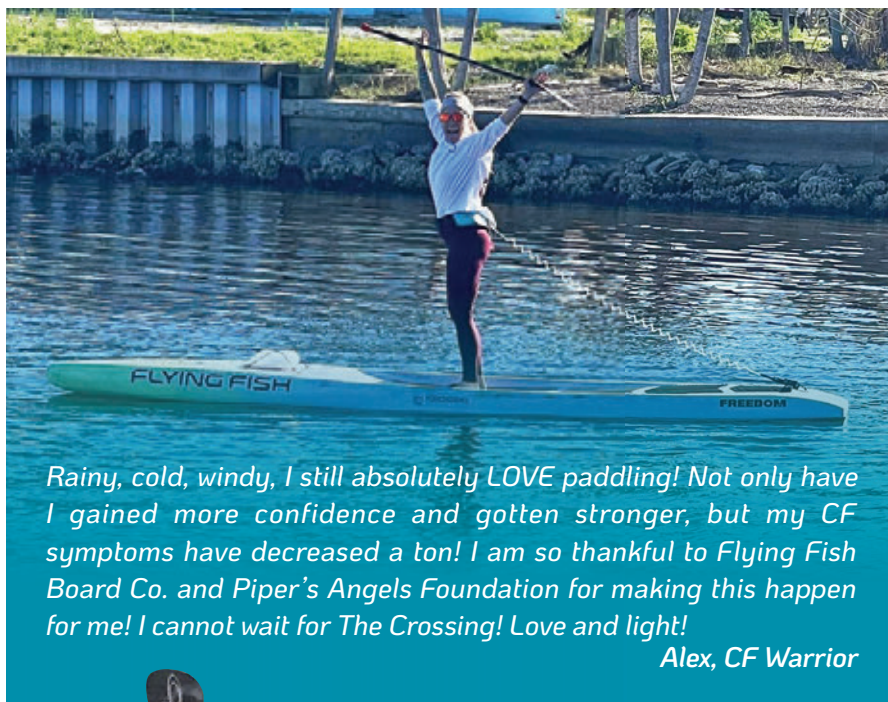
I got such a cute and thoughtful care package from Piper's Angels Foundation last night! They are a non-profit for CF and they have one of the coolest fundraising events called the Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis. You paddle board from the Bahamas to Florida! I have always wanted to do it, and maybe one day I will! So in the future, when I am healed up and strong enough, who would want to join my team?

Rima, CF Warrior

OUR PROGRAMS

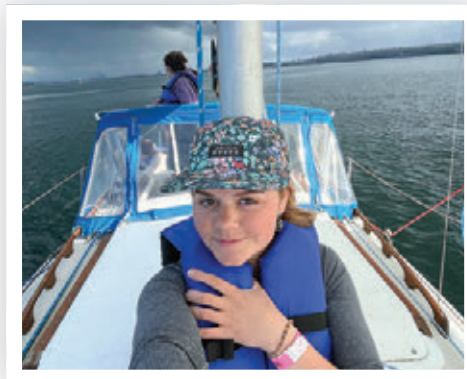
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Forever Stoke Scholarships were created to provide a lifelong sustainable path for people with cystic fibrosis to participate in saltwater activities, which has been scientifically proven to increase respiratory health and provide a natural therapy for healing in a positive environment. The Piper's Angels Foundation provides Forever Stoke Scholarship opportunities for equipment & gear, camps & coaching, ambassador sponsorship, Crossing For Cystic Fibrosis participation, and other saltwater experiences.



Rainy, cold, windy, I still absolutely LOVE paddling! Not only have I gained more confidence and gotten stronger, but my CF symptoms have decreased a ton! I am so thankful to Flying Fish Board Co. and Piper's Angels Foundation for making this happen for me! I cannot wait for The Crossing! Love and light!

Alex, CF Warrior



I am incredibly grateful to have received the Forever Stoke scholarship, which gave me the opportunity to take a sailing class during college. Learning to sail on the Puget Sound, surrounded by inspiring people and fresh air, was an amazing experience. It boosted my confidence and reminded me how important it is to embrace new challenges, both physically and mentally.

Else, CF Warrior



Ashley, CF Warrior



Nichols Family



Shannon, CF Warrior

I was fortunate enough to speak with Travis Suit who referred me to the Forever Stoke Scholarship to help me pursue my participation in the Crossing For CF event. Through the scholarship, I was able to receive a paddle board, paddle, and other equipment that I otherwise would have not been able to afford, which will give me the best opportunity to participate and become a member of the Crossing For CF community. Truly cannot thank the Pipers Angels Foundation enough for all the support in making this process so seamless and providing financial support to any CF warriors out there that may need it!



Albert, CF Warrior



UNMASKING™
Mindfulness

OUR PROGRAMS

Continued

Piper's Angels Foundation has partnered with Matt Cardone Meditation to offer Unmasking Mindfulness, a collaborative and innovative social program for the CF community. The program is designed to increase overall wellbeing, connectedness, and positive energy among the cystic fibrosis community by incorporating Eastern healing practices into their daily treatment regimen utilizing live online webinars, educational video content, and in person

one-on-one instruction providing a platform of coping tools. This program affords the opportunity to enrich the Western medical experience with time tested Eastern traditions. This style of mindfulness practice is a process that is simple to learn and open to anyone of any age or physical ability. It requires no special equipment and can be done almost anywhere making it the perfect addition to improve the wellbeing of those battling cystic fibrosis.

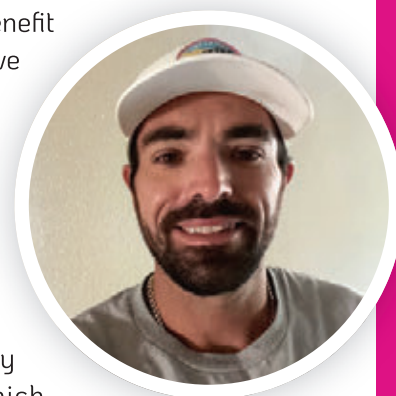


I had the privilege to be part of the Unmasking Mindfulness Program put on by Matt Cardone through the Pipers Angels Foundation. Not only did I gain another role model in my life that has made a strong impact on me, but I have gained self-confidence

that I am able to handle anything life throws at me. I am able to find peace at the darkest times and relax when overwhelmed. I am able to find peace within chaos. Thank you Matt for helping me find balance within myself and helping me find the confidence within myself that I can handle anything. Thank you PAF!!! ❤️💜💜

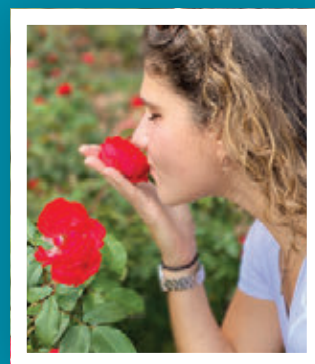
Rylee Walker, CF Warrior

The Unmasking Mindfulness program was a huge benefit for me and couldn't have come at a better time. I had a lot of things going on when I started the program and after just a few sessions I began to look forward to our weekly meetings and my daily meditations which were a huge help with daily stress. Matt Cardone was an amazing instructor and super easy to talk to so it made the program that much more enjoyable.



Tyler Engle, CF Warrior

When you think about CF in the 1990's, you automatically picture lungs. In 2023, I automatically envision my brain. Both your lungs and your brain are invisible. People don't know how you feel or what you need daily to keep both body parts healthy. Growing up with CF, you learn to maintain physical health with your physicians. Piper's Angels Foundation created a program called Unmasking Mindfulness that teaches you to implement 15 minutes of meditation daily while silencing ruminating thoughts. As I participated in this 8-week program, I saw small changes that greatly impacted my daily life. Some examples that improved over time were being less impulsive, not forgetting items when leaving the house, controlling my emotions to be more objective, being more focused on all of the tasks I needed to get done, becoming more selfless, increasing my endurance while exercising, eating with a purpose, connecting with my younger self to removing fears that held me back from living my life to the fullest and improving all relationships. This program taught me to think differently and be okay with just being. Having an accessible program like this is invaluable to the CF community. I would highly recommend this program because you get to meet other CFer's going through similar situations, learn a new skill, and observe your own self-growth over time.



Jessica Franklin, CF Warrior

OUR PROGRAMS

Continued



Piper's Angels Foundation's Inspire Breathworks program is a complementary, sustainable, holistic, and educational health solution to balance the body, mind, and emotions while improving overall well being of individuals with CF by increasing lung function. This is a live online weekly program tiered for beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels. Katia Mercado is the program's certified Breath Coach with extensive hours of training and teaching. Katia is an Integrative Holistic Bodywork, Wellness & Culinary Nutrition Practitioner; passionate about healthy living, breathwork, massage therapy, women's health and wholesome eating. Individuals in the Breathworks Program will learn the system of techniques and exercises to be empowered with the tools to breathe better.

Piper's Angels Foundation is an excellent organization that benefits people with cystic fibrosis and their families. The programs that are offered have direct benefit to the patient. I am an adult living with cystic fibrosis and am grateful for this organization. A program they offer is Breathworks to help facilitate better breath and mindfulness, which is paramount for people with CF. Whether you consider yourself a great breather or struggle with it, this program offers significant benefits to EVERYONE. You'll gain insights and practical applications into the mechanics of breathing and how it impacts your body and mind. By the end of the course, you'll have a toolkit of techniques to support you. This comprehensive 6-week course covers a variety of modalities and is designed to be flexible, as it is recorded, so if you cannot attend live you can catch up at your convenience. It was an incredible program and helped me immensely. They have many programs and I hope to be able to participate in more. I support this organization and will help spread the word of how Piper's Angels is such a valuable part of this community and is doing great things for those struggling with a progressive, devastating disease.



Linda Bowman, CF Warrior

Piper's Angels is a wonderful organization that I've grown to love. They have assisted my family and I over the years and we are grateful. I participated in their Breathworks program and was amazed at how the exercises and techniques improved my breathing. I recommend this program to anyone with cystic fibrosis.

Marnisha, CF Warrior



BECOME A GUARDIAN ANGEL

The Guardian Angels Alliance, the lifeblood of the Piper's Angels Foundation. As a Guardian Angel, your support directly sustains the operational needs of our organization, allowing us to focus our funding on what matters most: providing life-changing programs and resources for families battling cystic fibrosis.

By covering our foundational costs, you ensure that every dollar we raise continues to go directly to helping cystic fibrosis families. Your contribution empowers us to keep our programs running smoothly and our mission moving forward, creating a powerful impact in the lives of those who are in need.

Why Become a Guardian Angel?

Sustain Our Mission: Your support helps cover the operational expenses of Piper's Angels Foundation, ensuring that our funds can go where they are needed most—directly to cystic fibrosis families and the programs that support them.

Amplify Our Impact: With your help, we can continue delivering financial assistance, resources, programs and empowerment to those affected by cystic fibrosis.

Be a Cornerstone of Hope: As a Guardian Angel, you become a key part of our future success, helping us focus on improving the lives of cystic fibrosis patients and their families.

Ready to become a Guardian Angel? Scan the QR Code to find out more! Join us today and help us continue to make a difference for the cystic fibrosis community!

Thank you for your commitment to joining our Guardian Angels Alliance! This initiative is the most vital strategic platform we have moving forward to sustain the momentum and impact of the Piper's Angels Foundation. Your contribution is celebrated as a foundational building block of the future of our organization. For questions please contact: info@pipersangels.org



Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean.

— Ryunosuke Satoro





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Our Google Reviews!

THE PIPER'S ANGELS FOUNDATION 2ND ANNUAL GALA ANGELS ACROSS THE OCEAN

This page photos by: David Scarola Photography



Our 2nd Annual Gala - Angels Across the Ocean was a truly memorable evening held December 14th at the Kravis Center, filled with inspiration, community and a shared commitment to supporting our mission. We are thankful our speakers from around the globe could join us - Pratibha & Ivanya Tekwani (India), Lupita Acasuso & Guadalupe Campoy (Mexico) and Mark Tremblay (CF Vests For Life). Congratulations to this year's Honorees Matt Cardone - Community Partner Award and Nikki Stellges - Outstanding Achievement Award. Thank you to our generous sponsors, dedicated volunteers, attendees and to all who made it an extraordinary night!



2ND ANNUAL GALA ANGELS ACROSS THE OCEAN

This page photos by: David Scarola Photography





This page photos by: Leonard Bryant



NONPROFIT OF THE YEAR, MEDIUM NOMINEE

Piper's Angels Foundation

NONPROFIT VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

Heidi Kaye



The 2024 Nonprofits First Hats Off Awards honors the local community circle of nonprofit causes, leaders, and volunteers for their profound impact and performance. This year Piper's Angels Foundation was selected as one of the nominees for the Medium Sized Non-profit of the Year category. Long time volunteer and 4x Crossing paddler, Heidi Kaye, was nominated as Volunteer of the Year. This event was a beautiful night filled with inspiration because of the passion everyone in attendance showed for the various causes they support. We are

honored to be recognized among the other organizations that are doing great work in the local community!



***Congratulations,
Thank You Heidi!***



North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference



Attending the 2024 North American Cystic Fibrosis Conference was an experience I'll never forget. As I walked through the halls filled with researchers, advocates, healthcare professionals, and families, I was struck by the profound sense of unity in our shared mission: to improve the lives of those living with cystic fibrosis (CF). It was inspiring, moving, and a powerful reminder of how far we've come—and how far we have yet to go.

The conference was a showcase of progress. From groundbreaking research to innovative therapies, it was clear that the CF community is on the brink of monumental advancements. Hearing about personalized treatments and the ever-growing hope for a cure filled me with gratitude for the relentless dedication of so many. But more than the science, it was the stories that resonated most deeply—the voices of parents, caregivers, and patients who embody resilience and determination.

Amid the achievements, one theme stood out: the need to expand our reach. While we've made incredible strides in North America, I was reminded of the global disparities in CF care. In many countries, basic treatments like access to enzymes or nebulizers remain a luxury. Families face challenges that most of us can't imagine. These moments of realization were sobering, but they also ignited a sense of purpose.

The natural next phase of the CF community is clear: we must think globally. Expanding aid and support internationally isn't just a goal—it's a necessity. Collaboration across borders, sharing resources, and advocating for equitable care can transform the lives of thousands who are currently underserved.

As I reflect on this conference, I am filled with hope and determination. Together, we've achieved so much, but there's more to do. Let's take the inspiration from this gathering and channel it into a global movement. The CF community has always risen to challenges, and I know we're ready to take this next step!

Darzy Rodas Dardón, Community Manager





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