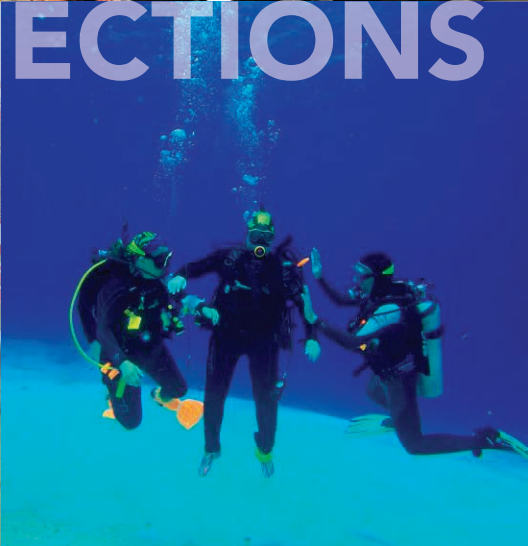




COMMUNITY



CARE



ANNUAL REPORT 2016
CHRISTOPHER & DANA REEVE FOUNDATION
TODAY'S CARE. TOMORROW'S CURE.®

CONTENTS

1	Message from the Chairman of the Board and the President & CEO
2	Research
4	Paralysis Resource Center
6	Quality of Life Grants
7	Advocacy
8	Team Reeve®
11	Team LeGrand
12	<i>A Magical Evening</i>
15	Special Events
18	Faces of Reeve
19	Donor List
22	Financials

MESSAGE

from the Chairman of the Board and the President & CEO

What does the Reeve Foundation do?

It's a question we are asked all the time. Of course, it would be easy to create a noble list of all our projects (and progress) in research, quality of life, advocacy, outreach and so much more. We are driven by the mission: Caring for people today, finding cures for tomorrow. Our focus on care, cure and community guides everything we do.

Yet, if we pull back a little from this core mission, the real essence of what the Reeve Foundation does is centered around connection, linking people, things and ideas. The most powerful connections are often ignited by a single spark. We are forever thankful to Christopher and Dana Reeve who struck the match and kindled the flame.

From their incredible vision and passion to improve the lives of people living with paralysis, hundreds of thousands of connections have followed. This year...

- **Faces of Reeve** connected powerful stories from our community with our vast network of supporters each week
- **Team Reeve**® to date has connected 3,000 participants (including Will Reeve who ran his first marathon) to our mission and raised \$5 million
- The **NeuroRecovery Network**® expanded its life-changing reach by opening its first international community fitness and wellness facility and its second pediatric site

It is the result of all these powerful forces (and many more we highlight in the following pages) coming together that has ignited our success. Every day—through our website, Paralysis Resource Center, Team Reeve®, NeuroRecovery Network® and much more—hundreds of new connections are made. And each and every one of these new connections is significant and moves us closer to a cure.

Thanks to the support of people like you, the inevitability of linking all the dots to reach the end progresses closer to a reality. Thus, therein lies the single most important connection the Reeve Foundation has made—the connection to hope. And, as Christopher said so well, "Once you choose hope, anything's possible."

Thank you.



John M. Hughes, *Chairman*



Peter Wilderotter, *President & CEO*



RESEARCH

GROWING AND EXPANDING RESEARCH AND RECOVERY ON OUR PATH TO FINDING CURES

“We live in a time when the words impossible and unsolvable are no longer part of the scientific community’s vocabulary. Each day we move closer to trials that will not just minimize the symptoms of disease and injury but eliminate them.” — Christopher Reeve

NEURORECOVERY NETWORK® (NRN)

New Pediatric Program: About five percent of the roughly 17,500 new traumatic spinal cord injuries each year occur in children under 15 years old. While rehab therapy for adults has been well-documented, pediatric rehab presents unique challenges and requires different considerations. Thanks to ground breaking neuroscience research, our understanding of neurorecovery in pediatric patients has grown by leaps and bounds in recent years. At the end of March 2016, the Frazier Rehab Institute, part of the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation’s NeuroRecovery Network® (NRN) located in Louisville, KY, expanded to include pediatric participants. In the fall, a second NRN pediatric site was added at the Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center.

First International NRN Location: Simply put, the NRN is the fastest way to move science into practice and serves as a model by which therapy can be offered. By building a network, the NRN can rapidly ‘deploy’ new therapies that are standardized for delivery across all sites and for a specific patient population. A lesson learned at one center is quickly communicated to all, immediately putting the new knowledge to work for the greater good. That’s why the Reeve Foundation was excited to add its first international NeuroRecovery Community Fitness and Wellness affiliate in 2016. Located in Gatwick, 30 miles south of London, Neurokinex provides activity-based interventions and acquires and reports outcome measures as designated by the NRN.

NORTH AMERICAN CLINICAL TRIALS NETWORK® (NACTN)

The Department of Defense (DOD) awarded a two-year \$2.5 million contract to the Reeve Foundation in support of NACTN’s participation in a Phase II/III clinical trial called RISCIS (Riluzole in Spinal Cord Injury Study). Riluzole has been demonstrated to be neuroprotective in animal models, limiting damage in the area of injury. At the close of 2016, the trial had enrolled 69 patients out of a total enrollment of 351. Part of the DOD contract supports an innovative sub-study of Riluzole’s pharmacology (PK) to pinpoint dosing by understanding how the body actually processes the drug. By the end of 2016, ten subjects out of a total enrollment of 50 consented into the PK sub-study, which is being conducted by the NACTN centers participating in RISCIS.

Part of NACTN’s mandate is to be a resource to the field of spinal cord injury. To that end, in partnership with AOSpine North America (sponsor of the RISCIS trial), NACTN also launched an ambitious publication effort based on analysis of the merged data registries of NACTN and STASCIS (Surgical Timing in Acute Spinal Cord Injury Study). The papers will tackle a broad range of clinical topics like central cord syndrome, influence of infection on neurological recovery and variations in bladder management and bladder outcomes.

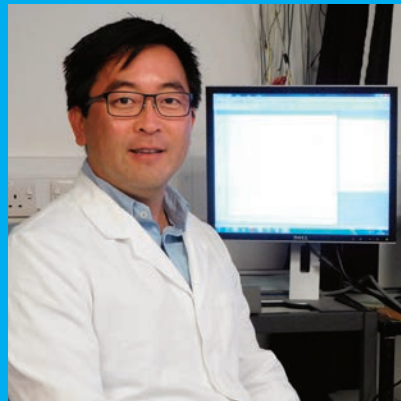
INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONSORTIUM ON SPINAL CORD INJURY

To address the challenges inherent in translating promising laboratory discovery into validation in clinical trials, a meeting in Kartause Ittingen, Switzerland, brought together scientists developing new treatments, clinician scientists working on clinical trials protocols, and other partners essential to the translational process, including funding agencies, biotech and pharma representatives and consumers. In addition to the Reeve Foundation's Research Consortium, participants included scientists funded by the International Spinal Research Trust (UK), Wings for Life (Austria), and the International Foundation for Research into Paraplegia (Switzerland). A Clinical Trials Strategy Group will write a series of papers that address the conduct of clinical trials, financing and business models, and fresh perspectives on trial design and outcomes. A Clinical Trials Implementation Group will develop an SCI Trial Toolbox, a set of documents to address the barriers and challenges to successful translation developed by people with first-hand expertise in SCI trials.



Consortium Principal Investigators at the Translational SCI-NGO Meeting in Kartause Ittingen, Switzerland (left to right: Lorne Mendell, PhD, Chet Moritz, PhD, Martin Schwab, PhD, Aileen Anderson, PhD, James Fawcett, PhD, Sam Pfaff, PhD, Reggie Edgerton, PhD) (not shown: Ben Barres, MD, PhD)

To learn more, visit ChristopherReeve.org/research



FACES OF REEVE

"One of the most exciting aspects of working in SCI research is the rapid accumulation of new knowledge, most of which completely pushes the boundaries of what was thought possible. It is no longer a question of whether or not we can encourage the injured nervous system to repair itself, but how best to achieve it."

— *Ronaldo Ichiyama, PhD, University of Leeds*



SPOTLIGHT

"She's a total goofball," says Kylee Hoelscher of her six-year-old daughter, Eden. "Rarely upset and always positive."

These are especially impressive attributes given Eden's difficult journey over the past year. In December 2015, Eden sustained a spinal cord injury at the T8/T9 level from doing a backbend in her living room. In April 2016, Eden was accepted into the pediatric program at the NRN Frazier Rehab Institute in Louisville, KY.

"Eden started to show significant improvement within the first 20 sessions of the program. Before, she couldn't sit and remain steady if she lifted her hands off the ground. Now she can move herself around, transfer to and from the couch, dress herself, bathe herself, brush her own teeth and hair, and even tie her shoes," says Hoelscher. "She wants to play and have fun just like everybody else. And now, thanks to the NRN, she can."

PARALYSIS RESOURCE CENTER (PRC)

PRC INFORMATION SPECIALISTS HAVE ASSISTED MORE THAN 80,000 PEOPLE TO DATE

BLADDER MANAGEMENT BOOKLET, WEBINAR AND VIDEO

In partnership with healthcare product manufacturer Hollister, the Reeve Foundation created a 10-page, comprehensive booklet on best practices related to bladder management and infection prevention. Promoted and distributed at conferences and on social media, the booklet and bladder management topics were also featured on Nurse Linda's September webinar. More than 100 people listened in as Nurse Linda discussed the topic with several guest panelists. For those who missed it, visit the Reeve Foundation YouTube Channel for the archived webinar and video on bladder management and for additional media on secondary conditions and health issues in the coming months. Free copies of the Bladder Management booklet are available to download at ChristopherReeve.org/bladder



NATIONAL CAREGIVER'S MONTH

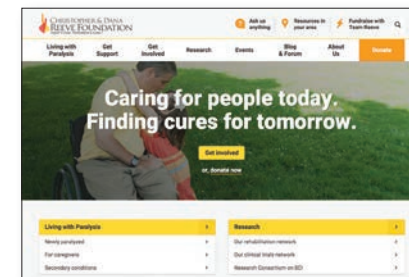
As part of National Caregiver's Month in November, we highlighted multiple perspectives from caregivers in our community. Our guest caregiver bloggers Heather Krill and Cindy Kolbe-Barnes shared stories and perspectives on the life and role of caregivers in our blog and forum.

In a special Facebook Live event, physical therapist and teacher Regina Rosenthal demonstrated acupressure techniques for stress relief.

To wrap up the month, guest speaker Jane Barton hosted a special webinar about moral distress and the emotional stress caregivers feel in both their personal and professional lives driven by the different worldview they see from those around them. The webinar and lively Q&A session covered the different practices for letting go of guilt as a caregiver and how to remain emotionally sound while not becoming overwhelmed. The webinar is available to view on the Reeve Foundation YouTube Channel at YouTube.com/ReeveFoundation

To learn more, visit ChristopherReeve.org/living-with-paralysis

"I can't even imagine how far behind the spinal cord injured community would be without the Reeve Foundation and their incredible support."
— Erin Cobb, Charlotte, NC



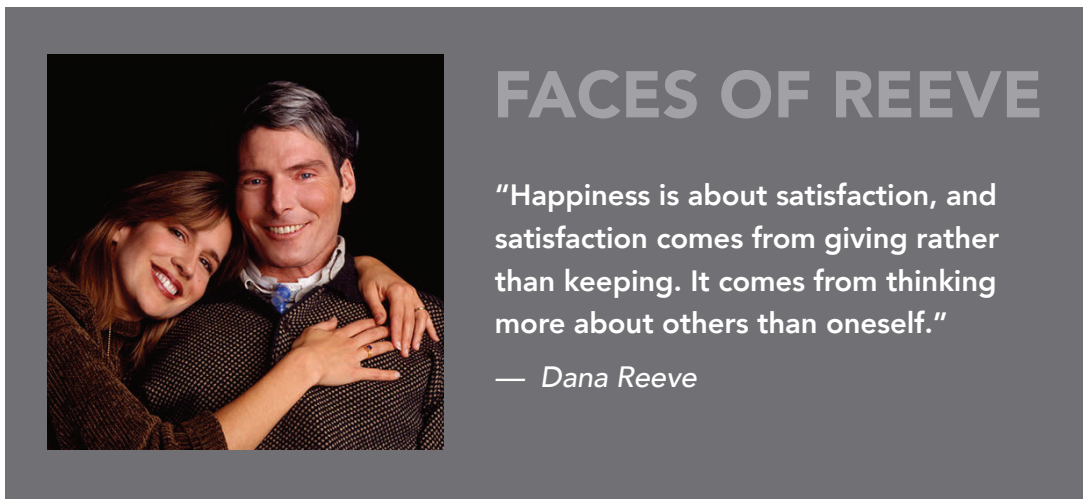
WEBSITE RELAUNCH

With accessibility to information and resources as a top priority, we wanted to be sure one of the Reeve Foundation's most important tools, our website, was easy and efficient for everyone looking for help. After a careful review of how different visitors use the site, we redesigned ChristopherReeve.org to have a sleeker look, streamlined resources and smarter navigation. The new design better reflects how individuals search for information and includes improved mobile optimization. One of the most exciting new additions is the "Resources in Your Area" interactive map which allows people to research and make connections in their local area. Over time we will continue to add new features and resources to support and inspire our entire community.

REMEMBERING DANA REEVE

When Christopher Reeve was injured in 1995, Dana Reeve was faced with a choice. She could fall apart and grieve her former life, or she could face the challenges of paralysis head on and champion their "new normal." She chose the latter and became one of the most notable caregivers in the world, as well as the cofounder of the Reeve Foundation's Paralysis Resource Center. Her relentless courage and huge heart became her hallmark.

On March 6, 2016, we marked 10 years since her passing. Few people have had such a profound and lasting legacy on the paralysis and caregiver communities as Dana Reeve. Thanks to her vision to help others, so many have benefited from Paralysis Resource Center accomplishments including:



FACES OF REEVE

"Happiness is about satisfaction, and satisfaction comes from giving rather than keeping. It comes from thinking more about others than oneself."

— Dana Reeve

Health-Related Materials

190,000 copies distributed of the Reeve Foundation's *Paralysis Resource Guide*

5,000+ publications on how to live a healthy and independent life



Quality of Life Grants

\$22 million awarded to nearly **3,000 non-profit programs**

In all **50 states**



NeuroRecovery Network®

12 rehabilitation sites

1,000+ people living with paralysis have participated in cutting-edge therapies that promote functional recovery

100% of participants have reported improvements ranging from enhanced health to standing and stepping



Peer & Family Support Program

7,000+ people have received support from mentors who are also living with paralysis

280 certified peer mentors across the United States



Information Specialists

82,000 families have received individualized support, services and information, including specialized assistance for military families and veterans, in

170

languages



QUALITY OF LIFE GRANTS

MORE THAN \$1.65 MILLION AWARDED TO MORE THAN 186 PROGRAMS IN 2016



GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Grand Forks, North Dakota | \$14,047 for Adaptive Sports

Each year, as Mother Nature transforms our northern regions into a winter wonderland, many children living with disabilities are left to observe seasonal sports from a distance. Through this grant, students with mobility impairments will be able to overcome winter outdoor barriers, allowing for increased social opportunities and inclusion with the use of specialized equipment. The project will provide opportunities to participate in outdoor recreational activities including ice skating, hockey and cross-country skiing during recess, physical education class, and in the community.



MICKEE FAUST ALTERNATIVE PERFORMANCE CLUB

Tallahassee, Florida | \$7,852 for Facility Accessibility Modifications

The Mickee Faust Club is an all-volunteer artistic troupe based in Railroad Square Art Park at the center of the Arts District in Tallahassee, FL. Founded 29 years ago, the company is primarily committed to mentoring and producing original alternative community-based performance art. To better accommodate guests with mobility impairments, the Club will use this grant to transform their backyard into a welcoming, communal space with accessible ground surfaces as well as a sturdy and ramped performance area.



CITY OF INDEPENDENCE — PARKS/RECREATION/TOURISM

Independence, Missouri | \$6,669 for Fitness and Wellness

When the Roger T. Sermon Community Center was looking to create a more inclusive community fitness and wellness center for all community members—regardless of ability level—they turned to the Reeve Foundation for help. Grant funds were used to purchase the piece of equipment that was most sought by individuals with paralysis, the NuStep T5XR. This recumbent cross-trainer is specially designed to enable individuals that use wheelchairs to work out safely and independently.

FACES OF REEVE



"I never even thought of sailing before my injury, let alone after. The Impossible Dream boat is universally designed with ramps, lifts, and extra space to get around in a wheelchair. In the past two years, we have had more than 1,000 people with disabilities and their families sailing on our trips along the east coast and to Cuba. We are making a difference and I am proud of that."

— Deborah Mellen,
Quality of Life grantee

ADVOCACY

PARENTING WITH A DISABILITY TOOLKIT

For many of the 4.1 million parents with disabilities in the United States, discrimination has not received the national attention it deserves. Knowledge is power and to better equip people living with disabilities about their rights as parents, the Reeve Foundation and the National Council of Disability (NCD) teamed up to create the *Parenting with a Disability Toolkit*. Designed to provide an overview of disability law and the safeguards that exist to protect families nationwide, the Toolkit features parent stories and information on topics like adoption, custody, visitation, family law and the child welfare system.

To learn more on how to advocate for yourself or others, download the Toolkit for free at ChristopherReeve.org/ParentingToolkit



ADVOCACY IN THE NEWS

In September, a special *USA Today* insert from *Mediaplanet* featured the Reeve Foundation's Parenting with a Disability Toolkit which was presented at the White House in May. The article traced one family's story that was featured in the toolkit and urged individuals to educate themselves on their rights.



Champions Committee co-chair, Jeff Laffond, worked with the Reeve Foundation to develop an op-ed that outlined six things people can do to increase accessibility at polling places. Originally featured in *The Hill* on November 1, the article was re-posted the day before the election and shared on social media channels.

To learn more, visit ChristopherReeve.org/advocacy



FACES OF REEVE

"After my injury 12 years ago, advocacy was a matter of survival – for treatment, for equipment, for access. I realized that I could make important changes for myself and others impacted by paralysis. That's why I give my time and energy to the Reeve Foundation. Its work gives me hope for a brighter, more accessible future for myself and my peers living with paralysis."

— Jen Longdon, Advocate for the Reeve Foundation

TEAM REEVE®

“Of all the initiatives we have at the Reeve Foundation, I am perhaps most proud of Team Reeve; the sacrifices made by Team Reeve members reflect the bond that Team Reeve forges, both among and between members and the spinal cord injury community.” — Will Reeve



Participating in the 2016 **TCS New York City Marathon** was a trip down memory lane for Reeve Foundation Board Member Chris Tagatac. With deep family roots in the area spanning generations, Tagatac’s New York City memories include pulling his two children in a bicycle trailer around Central Park and the missed opportunity to run the marathon in 2004 due to an ankle injury. Now, five years after he sustained a spinal cord injury, Tagatac completed his bucket-list marathon goal using a handcycle while raising more than \$12,000 for the Reeve Foundation.

In 2016, Will Reeve raised more than \$100,000 with his friends for Team Reeve through running his first marathon, the **TCS New York City Marathon**. “I’m running for the millions of Americans living with paralysis, almost all of whom I may never meet but for whom I will forever work to ensure the Reeve Foundation serves as a beacon of hope and guidance.”





Along with his friend Matt Farmer, Brian Schnurr was the top 2016 **TCS New York City Marathon** fundraiser, raising more than \$42,000 in honor of his father, Jim, who sustained a spinal cord injury in 2016. More than 150 donors gave to the Reeve Foundation as part of “Schnurr Steps,” a campaign crafted by Schnurr to raise \$1 for every step of the marathon.



After running the 2015 **TCS New York City Marathon** in honor of his aunt who sustained a spinal cord injury before he was born, Joe DeQuinzio decided to run again the following year. In 2016, he was the highest fundraiser for the **Bank of America Chicago Marathon**. “My Aunt Nor has always been a powerful inspiration for my family. I feel truly fortunate to be part of Team Reeve again this year and to help raise awareness and funds for the Foundation,” said DeQuinzio.



When Kelly Lamb’s boyfriend, Jon David, sustained a spinal cord injury in 2013, she wanted to find a tangible way to contribute toward a cure. Two marathons later, she raised more than \$30,000 for Team Reeve. In 2016, she upped her dedication and ran the **New York City and Chicago marathons** in the same year and raised another \$20,000. “I’ve learned nothing is impossible,” said Lamb. “The Reeve Foundation is providing immense hope with its unimaginable progress in paralysis research. I will do everything I can to help find that cure.”



SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

When **Chuck Stabenfeldt** decided to organize a golf outing to raise money for Team Reeve, he was guided by a simple philosophy.

“The number one most important thing is that everyone have a great time, everything else will fall into place, including the money,” said Stabenfeldt.

Living with a spinal cord injury since a 1973 body surfing accident at the age of 30, Stabenfeldt has been a contributor to the Reeve Foundation for many years.

“I like that the Reeve Foundation goes after multiple ways to help people,” said Stabenfeldt. “They are truly on the cutting edge of research. Their goals toward incremental cures match with what I’m looking for. It is so encouraging to see the research moving faster today than ever before.”

Although Stabenfeldt had never organized a golf outing before, he is very familiar with golf. An avid player, he started a golf merchandise business in 1984 for major breweries, including MillerCoors and Corona, and he used his many connections in organizing the July event.

Thanks to the work of many volunteers, an incredible 96 golfers came together in Big Bend, WI, as part of the 1st annual Stabenfeldt Family Charitable Foundation Golf Outing. The event, which also included a Texas BBQ dinner, auction, raffle and “beat the pro” competition, raised \$17,500 for the Reeve Foundation.

Now part of the Team Reeve All Stars, Stabenfeldt hopes to double the number of golfers and the amount raised in the 2nd annual outing. “It would be cool if out of this grew an interest in others organizing similar events across the country,” said Stabenfeldt. “I would love that to be my legacy.”



Kaitlin Munnely's family first learned about the Reeve Foundation when they reached out to the Paralysis Resource Center after her father, Joe, became paralyzed from a severe brain stem stroke in 2015. Wanting to give back for the support they received, Kaitlin ran the **Philadelphia Half Marathon** in 2016 and raised more than \$15,000 for Team Reeve.



"After my accident, I knew I wanted to help others in the same situation," said **Kathy Butler** who was paralyzed from a 2003 car accident. "I was one of the fortunate ones. My spinal cord injury affected mostly my left arm and leg in the end. I learned to snow ski with one pole, waterski on two skis and can now ride a bike."

Butler's family contacted the Reeve Foundation during her year-long recovery. About eight years after Butler's accident, a close coworker became quadriplegic.

"I immediately contacted the Reeve Foundation on her behalf," said Butler. "I saw how much they helped her, and I became even more committed to supporting the Foundation's work."

In 2010, Butler created a Roll-A-Thon event to raise money and provide a network for individuals living with spinal cord injuries and their families.

"I firmly believe that a positive attitude and family advocates are key to the best outcome with your 'new normal,'" said Butler. The event, which featured relay teams of rollers who had to negotiate a wheelchair-accessible field course, ran for three years and raised more than \$100,000.

Since then, Butler has remained involved through the support of a family caregiver class, generous donations and attending several *A Magical Evening* galas.



For the second consecutive year, **Pingry School Peer Leaders** came to the Reeve Foundation office to learn about our work as part of a school-wide day of community service tradition. During the October visit, 30 high school seniors made more than 50 motivational posters to support participants who took part in the TCS New York City Marathon on behalf of the Reeve Foundation. The alma mater of Reeve Foundation Board Member Henry Stifel, Pingry is an independent school with campuses in Basking Ridge and Short Hills, NJ.

JOIN THE TEAM! Learn more at TeamReeve.org

SINCE ITS INCEPTION, TEAM LEGRAND HAS RAISED MORE THAN \$750,000, WITH A GOAL OF REACHING \$1 MILLION BY THE END OF 2017

"I believe I will walk again. I do. When that happens, I already know what I'm going to do. I'll go to Giants Stadium and find the exact spot in the field where I went down. I'll lie there for a second. And then I'll get up on my own power and walk away." — Eric LeGrand



New England Patriots defensive back and LeGrand's former Rutgers University football teammate Devin McCourty joined more than 400 supporters for a rainy 6th annual **A Walk to Believe** at Rutgers University's High Point Solutions Stadium. The 5k run, walk and roll invites people of all ages and abilities to get involved and has raised more than \$60,000 for Team LeGrand.



Once again, more than 100 people gathered for a fun and inspiring evening at the 4th annual **An Evening with Eric LeGrand**. Started in 2013 by Rutgers Alumni Ron Garutti, Jr., Jason Newcomb, and their team at Newroads Financial Group of Clinton, NJ, this year's event raised a record-breaking \$46,000 for Team LeGrand. Emceed by Chris Carlin, sports announcer for Rutgers football and basketball, the evening included one live and two silent auctions as well as a powerful and moving presentation by LeGrand.



In December, former New York Giants defensive end and now co-host of ABC's *Good Morning America* Michael Strahan presented a show segment on LeGrand's amazing perseverance and accomplishments. Strahan told LeGrand on air, "You've helped so many people, we wanted to bring you here today to shine some light on you." As an early holiday gift, Strahan teamed up with Sears to donate \$10,000 to Team LeGrand and give both Eric and his mother, Karen, a \$1,000 Sears gift card.

To join Team LeGrand, visit TeamLeGrand.org



FACES OF REEVE

"Eric spoke at my middle school back in 2012. From that moment I knew I wanted to be involved with his foundation, Team LeGrand. I was amazed at how positive he was."

— Remy Stern, Member of Team LeGrand



SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

THE REESE FAMILY

Inspired by the 2005 movie, *Murderball*, about a team of paraplegic rugby players who overcome unimaginable obstacles to compete in the Athens, Greece, Paralympic Games, philanthropist David Reese wanted to support fitness opportunities for people living with disabilities. He joined the fundraising efforts to create Ability360 Sports & Fitness Center, a Phoenix, AZ, health and wellness facility designed specifically for people living with disabilities. It was there that he met Reeve Foundation Board Member Lisa Henry Holmes.

"What struck me most about Mr. Reese was that he had no direct connection to someone living with a spinal cord injury, he simply took a human interest in helping people who need a wheelchair," said Henry Holmes whose late father, Glen Henry, sustained a spinal cord injury in a 2004 motorcycle accident and passed away in 2015. "I first worked with David on the Ability360 capital campaign and then became friends with his wife Weezie and sons Rhett and Caleb."

For many years, the Reese family has generously donated to the Reeve Foundation as individuals and through the family trust. At this year's *A Magical Evening* CharityBuzz auction, lunch with screenwriter and producer Rhett Reese, whose credits include co-writer and executive producer of *Deadpool*, received the highest bids.

"Rhett was humbled and overwhelmed by the response to have lunch with him, and he was truly grateful to offer his support," said Henry Holmes. "I feel blessed by all the generosity and support the Reese family has offered the Reeve Foundation. Their concern and desire to help others is truly amazing."

A MAGICAL EVENING

THIS YEAR'S GALA EVENT RAISED MORE THAN \$1 MILLION



Film and television actor Jerry O'Connell entertained a crowd of more than 500 people as the lively and engaging emcee for the 26th annual *A Magical Evening* in New York City at Cipriani Wall Street®.



Singer, songwriter and musician Josh Ritter played acoustic guitar and sang three songs during the evening.



Long-time Reeve Foundation supporter and actress, Meryl Streep, with the Reeve Family.



National Hockey League commissioner Gary Bettman and Cameron "Cam" Neely, retired professional hockey player and president of the Boston Bruins, awarded the **Dana Reeve HOPE Award** to Denna Laing in honor of her tremendous determination. The 24-year-old forward for the women's National Hockey League team Boston Pride sustained a spinal cord injury after falling near the boards during the Outdoor Women's Classic at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, MA, on December 31, 2015.



Alexandra Reeve Givens presented the **Christopher Reeve Spirit of Courage Award** to the Shepherd Family, founders of the Shepherd Center in Atlanta, GA. Started as a six-bed rehabilitation center in 1975, the Shepherd Center is now a world-renowned, 152-bed facility dedicated to helping people living with a disability rebuild their lives with hope, independence and dignity.

SAVE THE DATE
 27th annual *A Magical Evening*
 Thursday, November 16, 2017
 Conrad New York Hotel



SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

One of the National Hockey League's (NHL) primary goals is to support everyone having an opportunity to play and learn the important lessons the game teaches. Comprised of 23 United States teams and seven Canadian teams, the NHL's 31st team in Las Vegas is scheduled to begin play in the 2017-18 season.

"Hockey is fun, it creates unique bonds and friendships among teammates, and it teaches important life skills including perseverance, dedication, and hard work," said Jessica Berman, NHL vice president of special projects & corporate social responsibility. "The kind of incredible characteristics we see in Denna Laing."

A former forward for the women's NHL team Boston Pride, Laing sustained a spinal cord injury during the Outdoor Women's Classic at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, MA, in December 2015.

"Denna's perseverance and hard work has been nothing short of amazing. She continues to inspire the greater hockey community," said Berman. "She has applied the skills and attitude she learned growing up playing hockey to her recovery process. Most recently she participated in the Boston Marathon along with former NHL player Bobby Carpenter. We are in awe of her."

In honor of Laing and so many others living with paralysis, the NHL plans to continue to foster growth and encourage widespread support and participation with the paralysis community.

"Sled hockey provides a way for the paralysis community to participate," said Berman. "We also support the Reeve Foundation as an innovative non-profit organization. We admire the work they do in advancing research as well as improving quality of life for individuals living with paralysis."



SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

AMERICAN AIRLINES

When Dennis Laing's daughter, Denna, sustained a spinal cord injury in a 2015 women's NHL hockey game, many in the community offered support, including Laing's long-time employer American Airlines, where he works as a fleet service clerk based in Boston. American Airlines supports many human services organizations and is dedicated to supporting organizations that matter most to their team members.

"When we learned from one of Dennis' colleagues that his daughter would be honored with the Dana Reeve Hope Award, we were so pleased to provide support," said Cynthia Barnes, director of community relations with American Airlines. "We were so impressed with Denna's story. She has handled every step with such class and grace and the love and support of her family."

American Airlines was a leading partner of the 2016 *A Magical Evening* and they have pledged their support again in 2017.

"We hope our donation helps advance the work of the Reeve Foundation to not only cure spinal cord injuries, but improve the quality of life for people living with paralysis until a cure can be found," said Barnes. "The work of the Reeve Foundation is tremendous."

A MAGICAL EVENING



Kelly Heneghan accepted the **Arnold H. Snider Visionary Leadership Award** on behalf of her family who have continued to honor her brother Jon O'Connor's vision as founder of NextSteps Chicago. An entrepreneur and philanthropist, Jon passed away in 2013 but his legacy lives on through the cutting-edge, innovative, and aggressive state-of-the-art treatments NextSteps Chicago offers for people living with spinal cord injuries.



Actor and Tony Award nominee Andy Karl with his wife, singer Orfeh.



ESPN on-air personality and paralympic gold medalist Victoria Arlen

SPECIAL EVENTS



The Reeve Foundation Champions Committee came together with long-time event organizer Wendy Hansen, the sister of Reeve Foundation Vice Chairman Henry Stifel, to host the **6th Annual Spring Wine Tasting Benefit** at City Winery in New York City. Featuring live music and wine tasting, the April event brought a diverse group of nearly 200 supporters together and raised more than \$46,000.

Will Reeve invoked his father's dream, a world of empty wheelchairs, when he presented to a packed room at the annual **SkyBridge Alternatives (SALT) Conference** in Las Vegas last summer. Drawing more than 1,800 business professionals and investors, the conference provides an unmatched opportunity to connect with global leaders from around the world. Reeve spoke about the power of technology in finding cures for paralysis and was joined on stage by Dustin Shillcox who shared his experience as the fourth participant in the epidural stimulation study which sparked The Big Idea campaign.



FACES OF REEVE

"While I still encounter many accessibility challenges living in New York City, I don't let it stop me from going on with my everyday life. In fact, it prompted me to become an advocate with the Reeve Foundation so I can take action and make changes that will not only improve my life but all those living with paralysis."

— Jeff Laffond, co-chair, Reeve Foundation Champions Committee



SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

LPGA World Golf Hall of Famer **Karrie Webb** credits much of her success to her long-time coach and mentor, Kelvin Haller. Twenty-five years ago, Haller became spinal cord injured due to an accident and he now lives with quadriplegia. Although Haller is unable to travel with Webb to coach her full-time, the two remain close.

"My life has been deeply affected by a spinal cord injury to someone I love," said Webb. "I saw how life changed for him and everyone around him. He is a true inspiration to me in his positive outlook about what life has given him."

After Haller's injury, Webb decided to make paralysis her cause. In 1999, Webb met Christopher and Dana Reeve. For several years, the Karrie Webb Celebrity Pro-Am Golf Tournament raised more than \$575,000 for the Reeve Foundation. Today Webb remains a long-time supporter of the Reeve Foundation and is proud to serve as an ambassador, spreading awareness throughout her travels across the globe.

"I am passionate about both sides of the Foundation's mission — research and quality of life," said Webb. "I would love to hear one day that someone is up and walking from a spinal cord injury because of a cure, but in the meantime, it is important that people have access to a better quality of life."

At the 2011 *A Magical Evening*, Webb was awarded the Christopher Reeve Spirit of Courage Award for her steadfast commitment to improving the lives of those living with paralysis.

"Paralysis will always be part of my life and I want to support the community," said Webb. "I love that the Reeve kids are continuing the legacy. I do believe that at some point we will see Chris' dream to eradicate paralysis become a reality."

"It's not the life I chose. But it's the one that I was given, and I'm making it work. I understand the importance of also spreading the word and getting attention for spinal cord injury." — *Mike Nichols*



For the second consecutive year, the **Mike Nichols Charity Hockey Game** at the Ice World Sports Complex in Middletown, NJ, filled to capacity as more than 2,000 people came out to support Mike Nichols who sustained a spinal cord injury during a 2014 hockey game. Sponsored by New York's WFAN, the March event raised more than \$60,000 for the Nichols family and the Reeve Foundation. Will Reeve participated in this year's game alongside former players from the Devils, Rangers and Islanders. A callout stick tap honored Matt Olsen and Denna Laing who also sustained spinal cord injuries playing hockey.



In August, 119 golfers turned out for the **3rd annual Golf Outing for Mike Nichols** at Royce Brook Country Club in Hillsborough, NJ. Created by family friend Joe Isola, the event honored Nichols and a portion of the more than \$16,000 raised was donated to the Reeve Foundation.

To learn more, visit ChristopherReeve.org/events



As well-known for his philanthropy as he was for his acting, Robin Williams was devoted to a number of charitable causes including the Reeve Foundation. Christopher Reeve's college roommate and lifelong friend, Williams joined the Reeve Foundation Board of Directors and continued to support the organization following Reeve's passing in 2004. In October, Williams' family donated 87 bicycles from the avid cyclist's personal collection to be sold in a benefit auction. The **Robin Williams Bicycle Collection benefit auction** shattered all expectations, raising more than \$600,000 to be shared by the Challenged Athletes Foundation and the Reeve Foundation.



"He would love the fact that his bikes will be used and appreciated by new owners and, at the same time, allow thousands of people to live more active and fulfilled lives," said Williams' children, Zak, Zelda and Cody Williams.

FACES OF REEVE



#FacesOfReeve

"We live in an era of innovation. Breakthroughs and improvements in all areas of life are common, if not expected. Why should spinal cord research be any different? It's not. The only limits to these innovations and breakthroughs are the funds to pursue them. My dad often spoke of his dream for a world of empty wheelchairs. I wonder if he could have dreamed this: that it's no longer a question of if cures for spinal cord injuries exist, it's when. It's not will we be able to get cures out there, but rather how fast."

— Will Reeve, son of Christopher & Dana Reeve



In August, the Reeve Foundation lit up New York City's Times Square as part of **Morgan Stanley's "Lights on Broadway" Billboard**. Featured three times an hour on the façade of Morgan Stanley's worldwide headquarters at 48th and Broadway, the Reeve Foundation's "Be a Hero" campaign included images and quotes from everyday heroes and changemakers who are living with paralysis. The dynamic display was seen by thousands of people each day. In addition, Reeve Foundation board member Henry Stifel and Eric LeGrand participated in a Q&A with employees at a Morgan Stanley Lunch and Learn in their New York City office.

"What is truly unique about Morgan Stanley is how the company embodies the word philanthropy," said Peter Wilderotter, Reeve Foundation President and CEO. "It's more than writing a check; it is about having a direct impact on a cause and becoming a hero by investing time, skills and support."

FACES OF REEVE

In September, to coincide with Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month, the Reeve Foundation launched a new storytelling vehicle on Facebook and Instagram called "Faces of Reeve." Designed to celebrate and inspire those in our vast community, each photo and brief caption highlights and honors one of our many supporters, researchers, advocates, volunteers, ambassadors, and others who keep our mission moving forward. The successful campaign has received thousands of likes, hundreds of shares and dozens of positive comments of encouragement and support. We look forward to sharing more faces and stories in 2017.


Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
September 16 · 🌐

"Back in 2011, I sustained a spinal cord injury when an out-of-control SUV struck my bicycle head-on. Since my injury I have created my own company LeanOnWe, to help families easily find caregivers. I also started actively fundraising with Team LeGrand, as I hope raising funds and bringing awareness will help solve the many challenges faced by people living with a spinal cord injury and their families' everyday lives." - Ron Gold, founder of LeanOnWe #FacesOfReeve



Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
October 21 at 5:00pm · 🌐

"I don't look at the acting roles that I work on exclusively in terms of my disability or what it says about disability in our society. I look at roles in terms of how good the part is, how challenging the work will be, and the ways in which it explores the human condition. I didn't choose to be an actor for the purpose of being a representation of my disability or to serve as a subject of inspiration. I'm an actor because it's the most fun way I have found to explore and express what it means to be human." - Zack Weinstein, Actor and proud supporter of the Reeve Foundation #FacesOfReeve




Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
Published by Sprout Social (7) · December 23, 2016 at 6:00pm · 🌐

"Christopher Reeve changed what the scientific community thought of spinal cord injury and with that he personified hope. His resolve gave me strength. Now I waste no time in taking action toward achieving my goals both in business and in my personal life. And, while I've been physically changed, I know that I'm the same person with the same values and determination at my core." - Fran Clark, Advocate of the Reeve Foundation #FacesOfReeve




Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
September 28 · 🌐

"I always felt that spinal cord research did not get enough attention and needs to be pushed forward, that's what made me want to study it more. Whenever I observe a neuron that becomes capable to regenerate due to manipulation, I get excited and hope that this will be a step closer to defeating paralysis. These are some of the best moments of my research. It raises the hope in me that one day they will be able to functionally regenerate; we just need to understand them a bit more. I feel there are several areas in the field where we've made considerable progress, and my hope is to bring together the individual advances, and combine them to see the larger effects that are going to change people's lives." - Dr. Barbara Haenzi, PhD, Cambridge University - Consortium Associate #FacesOfReeve



Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
Published by Sprout Social (7) · November 18, 2016 · 🌐

"Ten years ago, we took a road trip after we got engaged because we were curious about national park accessibility. We learned a lot about each other. I learned I was marrying more of a Grizzly Adams type, more comfortable with animals and the wilderness than with unknown humans. He learned I was open with his quests for spontaneity, to change directions in any moment, and I found comfort and strength within him – even if I am the primary tent assembler and gas station filler-upper for the rest of our lives." - Heather Krill, Caregiver & Supporter of the Reeve Foundation #FacesOfReeve



Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
September 23 · 🌐

"Whether or not you realize it right now, the education you've received here has prepared you to pursue your own ambitions without losing sight of the invaluable difference that you can make in this world. And, as you go forward, I really hope you won't forget that. It may be difficult because you'll encounter corruption and chaos. You'll have to bring your personal integrity with you on this journey, because you may not find anyone to guide you. But, don't be afraid, and never give up. Just listen to the voice inside you. The voice of honesty that we all have within us that will tell you, if you let it, that you're heading in the right direction." - Christopher Reeve, Middlebury College Commencement 2004 #FacesOfReeve



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We are deeply grateful for the vital support of all Reeve Foundation donors and are pleased to recognize here the many generous contributors whose cumulative giving in 2016 totaled \$1,000 or more. Please accept our apology in advance for any inadvertent errors or omissions, and please contact us with any corrections for future listings at (973) 379-2690. Thank you for your continued commitment to our mission and community members.

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FINANCIALS

	DECEMBER 31,	
	2016	2015
ASSETS		
Cash and equivalents		
Unrestricted	\$ 592,711	\$ 676,639
Restricted	992,371	1,061,977
Investments	144,061	1,722,554
Equity Investment	984,051	
Grants receivable	2,381,334	2,356,895
Contributions receivable, net	2,207,876	2,505,356
Split-interest agreement	18,992	31,990
Prepaid expenses	88,346	180,504
Security deposits and other	20,495	20,495
Intangible assets, net	120,123	141,318
Fixed assets, net	55,345	21,303
Total Assets	\$ 7,605,705	\$ 8,719,031
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 268,077	\$ 196,430
Accrued expenses	272,938	110,348
Quality of Life and other grants payable	721,425	735,482
Deferred revenue	287,970	641,529
Research contracts payable	1,589,550	2,110,991
Total Liabilities	3,139,960	3,794,780
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	1,571,111	1,824,166
Temporarily restricted	2,894,634	3,100,085
Total Net Assets	4,465,745	4,924,251
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$7,605,705	\$8,719,031

All figures are based on our 2016 and 2015 financial statements and auditor's report by Wiss & Company, LLP. To view a copy of this report and our IRS Form 990, visit our website at ChristopherReeve.org. Christopher Reeve Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, established in 1988. Federal ID Number 22-2939536.

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS— YEAR END DECEMBER 31

	Unrestricted	2016 Temporarily Restricted	Total	Unrestricted	2015 Temporarily Restricted	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUES						
Contributions	\$ 4,001,533	\$ 638,672	\$ 4,640,205	\$ 3,807,277	\$ 1,554,548	\$ 5,361,825
Grant revenue	7,674,496	–	7,674,496	7,715,600	–	7,715,600
Special events, net	1,721,403	–	1,721,403	1,488,548	–	1,488,548
Contributed services	95,298	–	95,298			
Investment income	(4,758)	–	(4,758)	10,814	–	10,814
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	121,764	–	121,764	(96,974)	–	(96,974)
Net assets released from restrictions	844,123	(844,123)	–	787,970	(787,970)	–
Total support and revenues	\$ 14,453,859	\$ (205,451)	\$ 14,248,408	\$ 13,713,235	\$ 766,578	\$ 14,479,813
EXPENSES						
Program services						
Research program	5,416,163	–	5,416,163	4,893,063	–	4,893,063
Public education	881,126	–	881,126	930,645	–	930,645
Quality of life	5,572,602	–	5,572,602	6,147,937	–	6,147,937
	11,869,891	–	11,869,891	11,971,645	–	11,971,645
Supporting services						
Management and general	1,309,973	–	1,309,973	887,775	–	887,775
Fundraising	1,527,050	–	1,527,050	1,605,722	–	1,605,722
	2,837,023	–	2,837,023	2,493,497	–	2,493,497
Total expenses	14,706,914	–	14,706,914	14,465,142	–	14,465,142
Loss on deconsolidation of subsidiary	–	–	–	–	–	–
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(253,055)	(205,451)	(458,506)	(751,907)	766,578	14,671
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,824,166	3,100,085	4,924,251	2,576,073	2,333,507	4,909,580
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,571,111	\$ 2,894,634	\$ 4,465,745	\$ 1,824,166	\$ 3,100,085	\$ 4,924,251

All figures are based on our 2016 and 2015 financial statements and auditor's report by Wiss & Company, LLP. To view a copy of this report and our IRS Form 990, visit our website at ChristopherReeve.org. Christopher Reeve Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, established in 1988. Federal ID Number 22-2939536.

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636 Morris Turnpike, Suite 3A
Short Hills, NJ 07078
(973) 379-2690
(800) 225-0292

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