



## Introducing Cam the Man!

We are so excited to introduce you to our 2017 KEYS Kids Ambassador - Cameron! Cameron aka "Cam the Man" is a 6 year hepatoblastoma cancer survivor, organ donor recipient and true superhero from Kentucky!

Along with raising awareness of the amazing superheroes battling cancer this year, it is Cam's family's hope that his story will help encourage others to consider signing up to be an organ donor too!

We are SO thrilled for Cam to be the handsome face of our KEYS kids representing superheroes like him across the country this year! ♥



## Save the Date ~ Smile Experience August 6th!



At this writing, there is over a foot of snow on the race track, but the calendar says it's officially Spring and time to start counting down the days, hours, minutes and seconds to our annual Smile Experience family respite day being held for kids impacted by cancer on August 6th from Noon till 4pm at the Oswego County Quarter Midget track in Fulton, NY!

The cars are being tuned-up, the safety gear is getting checked and our sponsorship team is out gathering sponsors so we can provide this AMAZING day for FREE for kids impacted by cancer here in Central NY! This year sponsors can "Adopt-a-Family" and provide a family a much needed break from cancer treatment to enjoy a fun-filled

family experience together. We have limited sponsorship spots available so contact Mike, the Director of the Smile Experience, at 315-723-3261 or by email at [mike@thekeysprogram.org](mailto:mike@thekeysprogram.org) to learn how you can "Adopt-a-Family"!

In the meantime, swing by our website at [www.theKEYSprogram.org](http://www.theKEYSprogram.org) to see the awesome video put together by our wonderful sponsors, the Utica Comet's Save of the Day Foundation, from last year's Smile Experience!



## Summer Music Camp!

July 10th thru July 14th ~ 1:30pm to 2:30pm at the Sherrill-Kenwood Library



*Come join Mrs. B Flat for lots of movin' and groovin' musical fun! Kids will have a blast singing, dancing and playing instruments while learning musical notation, rhythms & dynamics! Appropriate for kids ages pre-k through 2nd grade.*

Cost is just \$35 per child for the entire 5 day session. Class size is limited so be sure to register early! To register contact KEYS at 315-363-6446!

## Join us for KEYS Day at the Sherrill Farmer's Market ~ June 6th

The City of Sherrill has kindly invited us to have a special day at their Farmer's Market on June 6th from 3pm till 7pm! We have lots of family fun planned for the whole afternoon! The awesome duo, **Donna & Mike** will be performing songs in the gazebo that both young and young-at-heart will enjoy all afternoon! Special guest, Mrs. B Flat will join them for some special songs here and there for the kiddos to enjoy too!

Our "Smile Experience" Race Car will be on display for kids to get their picture taken in the race car and get a checkered flag too! Our *KEYS Smile Station* will be set up for kids (and adults) to make a get well card or videotape a positive and encouraging message that will be broadcast to kids battling cancer on our KEYS Kids Network! We will have a 50/50 raffle and info on how people can get involved in KEYS too! So bring the family and enjoy some good food and good fun with the KEYS Program!



## Music Toolkits, KEYS Kids Network and Hospitals Visits on Tap for 2017!

There are over 10,000 children under the age of 15 who are diagnosed with cancer each year in the US. While survival rates have improved significantly, cancer remains the leading cause of death by disease in children. Current treatments for cancer are harsh and extensive, requiring long periods of time spent in the hospital, significantly impacting a child's quality of life. At a time when kids shouldn't have a worry or care in the world, these kids are fighting to survive. Our wish is for a cure, but until then, we are on a mission to support these brave superheroes throughout this difficult time, enriching and improving their quality of life and creating memorable moments.



Thanks to the dedicated support of the Tony Stewart Foundation and the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, we are expanding our music outreach program this year to reach 250 children's hospitals in 2017! We will be delivering Music Toolkits to each site for parents, broadcasting music to kids via our new KEYS Kids Network channel and visiting kids in hospitals bringing music, hope and joy to the bedside of our KEYS kids near and far! We have selected a wonderful line-up of award-winning children's authors, musicians, therapists and counselors to facilitate our broadcasts which will be broadcast on a regular basis with re-runs available for the kids to watch again and again 24/7. Our first broadcast is planned for August 4, 2017! "Stay tuned" for more info coming this summer! #itsallaboutthesmiles

Visit our website at [www.theKEYSprogram.org](http://www.theKEYSprogram.org)!

Spring Newsletter ~ 2017

## What's Happening at KEYS!

- ◆ **March 1 through May 31** ~Whitesboro Music Boosters Shoe Drive to benefit the KEYS Program
- ◆ **April 10th** ~KEYS presentation to the Madison-Oneida BOCES Nursing Class
- ◆ **April 11th** ~KEYS booth at the Ronald McDonald House of CNY Fashion Show event
- ◆ **June 6th** ~KEYS Day at the Sherrill Farmer's Market 3pm-7pm
- ◆ **June 9th** ~KEYS presents Music Heals workshop at the Good News Center's Bereavement Conference 2:30pm

\*\*\*\*\***Save the Date!**\*\*\*\*\*

**July 1st** ~KEYS Music Toolkits Launch

**July 10th through 14th** ~KEYS Summer Music Camp 1:30pm-2:30pm at the Sherrill-Kenwood Free Library

**August 4th** ~Launch of the KEYS Kids Network

**August 6th** ~KEYS *Smile Experience Family Respite Day* 12-4pm @ Oswego County Quarter Midget Track, Fulton

**1,231 Hearts + 9 State = BIG Smiles! ♥**

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's "Wear Your Heart on Your Sleeve Day"!

1,231 people in 9 states wore their hearts on their sleeves for our KEYS kids and their loved ones who have been impacted by cancer...now that's a LOT of smiles!

Swing by our website to see the awesome video we made with photos of hearts and smiles like these!



## We Need YOU for *Paulie's Super Siblings* Crew!



We are seeking volunteers who would like to help develop and grow Paulie's Super Siblings program at KEYS in 2017!

July 17, 2014, superhero Paul "Paulie" Morley earned his angel wings after a valiant fight against ALL T-Cell Leukemia just a few months before his 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday. The KEYS Program and Paulie's parents partnered to create *Paulie's Super Siblings* to provide assistance to the behind-the-scenes heroes, the siblings of kids battling cancer, who often feel lonely, left out and are in need of extra love, support and smiles.

Over the past few years, we have provided over-the-top Christmases and a fun day at the Pumpkin Farm for siblings...but we want to do more! We are looking for volunteers in the Central NY area who have a passion for creating smiles to help grow this part of our program in memory of Paulie.

If you are interested in getting involved, contact us at 315-363-6446 or [keysprogram@msn.com](mailto:keysprogram@msn.com). ♥

## Donate a Smile or Two!

All of our music outreach, family respite days and sibling support programs are provided at no cost to the families we serve. We depend on wonderful donors like YOU to make smiles possible throughout the year. Every \$25 you donate helps us to create another SMILE! If you'd like to help create smiles just once this year, or all year long, simply fill out the form below to make a tax-deductible donation today!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Business/Foundation Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

**I Want to Create a Smile Today!** ~ Number of smiles you would like to donate: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**I Want to Create Smiles All Year Long** ~ I'd like to create smiles all year long with a monthly pledge of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Check One:**    I have enclosed a check for my donation    Please charge my credit card below for my donation

Credit Card Payment Card Type: \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ CSC Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: **KEYS** and mail to: **308 Sherrill Road, Suite 100, Sherrill, NY 13461**

Phone: 315-363-6446   Email: [keysprogram@msn.com](mailto:keysprogram@msn.com)   website: [www.theKEYSprogram.org](http://www.theKEYSprogram.org)

*The KEYS Program is a 501c3 nonprofit children's music charity federal ID # 16-1609790 registered with the IRS and NYS Division of Charities. Donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Please consult your tax preparer.*

**Visit our website at [www.theKEYSprogram.org](http://www.theKEYSprogram.org)!**