## Skye's the Limit! Foundation



#### Dear Friends.

Wow! It has been one year since announcing the creation of Skye's the Limit Foundation with our kickoff T-shirt campaign! It was a great success! Thanks to our supporters we are on our way in promoting awareness of the adverse effects of trauma and how to support the children and parents affected. THANK YOU!!

Skye's the Limit Foundation was founded upon the traumarelated passing of my daughter, Skye Gina Pilato, on September 30, 2014. Our organization consists of an all-volunteer Board of Directors. We were incorporated and recognized as a Non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization on January 14, 2019. We are reminded through Skye's spirit to reach for the best in us all, and to care for and love others with compassion.

With your support, in our first year of operations we have already reached and impacted many lives. Spreading our wings from Arizona across to North Carolina, Skye's the Limit Foundation has impacted approximately 500+ youth, families, and community members. We are looking forward to 2020, when we will award our first round of scholarships for students majoring in Nursing and launch our Trauma-Informed Care Awareness Program to continue broadening our reach in empowering lives!

We sincerely hope you enjoy the pictures and descriptions of how this past year has been impactful, aided by your generous donations and support.



As a National-based organization, OUR MISSION is to prevent Trauma Related Loss by building resiliency and empowering our youth, families and communities, through trauma informed care,

Skye Gina Pilato 03/07/2018

education and enrichment activities and to provide scholarships to students majoring in nursing.

OUR ACTIVITIES include coordinating and advocating for Trauma Informed Care Awareness and Education for parents, individuals and organizations, Kayaking Empowerment Outings, Self-healing Initiatives and Retreats, Collaborative Art Projects and Awarding Scholarships.

"Unconditional love gives human beings the security that allows them to move forward and to take chances. That's the bottom line of being able to handle anything. 'I am loved. I am valued and people know who I am inside.' That allows people to thrive through good and bad times and that is what resilience is." -- Kenneth Ginsburg, MD, Adolescent Medicine Specialist



We have conducted three kayaking empowerment outings. Our kayaking program is focused on relationship building, empowerment, resiliency, and self-reflection.

#### Kayaking Lake Day with Sueños Youth Center

Trauma-Informed and Youth Empowerment Kayak Day with High School students ... Telling my story of loosing Skye, finding Hope and living with her Love in my heart.

#### Mother's Day on the River - Roses for Skye with LOVE

Celebrating Life and Relationships, Building Peace within Ourselves and Appreciating the Beauty around us ... a Family and Mother / Daughter event ending in a family-style picnic.

#### Lake Day fun! Kayaking exposure and empowerment

Providing exposure and opportunity for the kids to find joy, peace and self-reflection while exploring Canyon Lake in AZ. Building resilience, hope and empowerment! Skye's the Limit!

#### "Ride for Skye, a New Day, Building Strength, Hope and Peace"

September 28, 2019 Sunset Beach, NC - September 30th is the passing anniversary of Skye Gina Pilato in Sunset Beach, NC. (March 7, 1995 - September 30, 2014)

**2019** *marks our inaugural Ride for Skye, A New Day* event held on September 28th. It was a public kayaking event to bring awareness on trauma, sexual violence, and drug addiction / overdose. Every September we will host a Skye's the Limit Foundation "Ride for Skye, a New Day, Building Strength, Hope and Peace" event at Sunset Beach, NC, in honor of Skye and in support of our mission to prevent Trauma Related Loss by building resilience and empowering our youth, families and communities. I hope you all will join us in 2020!



#### **Skye's the Limit! with the National Nursing Scholarship**



Skye's dream was to become a nurse. She wished to help others, in her words, "so that no one would have to feel the pain that I feel." She believed that no one deserves to have his or her life taken away, as she sometimes felt her life was. She understood the healing power of love. It was her desire to help others in this way, through love.

We are thankful for our volunteer committee in developing our scholarship program. Our first round of scholarships for students majoring in nursing will be awarded in April of 2020.

Volunteer Scholarship Comparison of Sharon Dunkin Shriver, Br

Volunteer Scholarship Committee: Sharon Dunkin Shriver, Brenda Hunter-Horace and Keiko Ratcliffe

Get Your HeART On! Every year on March 7th you are cordially invited ...

... To celebrate Skye's birthday, Create your own Masterpiece, Collaborate with Others and Gift someone with a Smile! Get your heART on!

March 7th is and always will be a day to celebrate her creation into this world, her smile and her everlasting creative spirit. We have been creating a social media gallery from individual artists of all ages from across the globe of pieces created in the spirit of Skye and love.

Please stay tuned: A Healing MASTERPIECE – A collaborative art project with schools from across the Nation. Please contact us if you and your school are interested in collaborating IDEAS to begin our journey together.keiko@skyesthelimit.org



"If you combine all your ideas into one, what can you create? A master piece. Let the journeys begin." -Skye Pilato, Summer 2014



### **Community Outreach, Mental Health Development and Building Partnerships**

Skye's the Limit Foundation has been busy building partnerships, extending our network, participating in community events, developing web and social media platforms, attending training on mental health and trauma informed care, developing our grant program, and spreading our mission.

Year two: As we continue our outreach (growth and broadening our Kayaking and Scholarship programs), we are excited to delve into the development of our Trauma awareness program for adults. Using my own experience as a parent, I wish to help other parents understand and recognize trauma and how they can be supportive to children suffering from trauma. I often think to myself, "Had I known more, maybe things would be different today." It is my hope to use my experience to help save lives.

Always in Skye's Love and Spirit, Keiko Ratcliffe

A big THANK YOU goes out to all of our Donors, Redline Kayak Rentals, Summer Tide Adventure Tours, Neighborhood Ministries, Urban Strategies Child and Family Academy, Display America and to all the support from individual Volunteers. Thank you for bringing the vision and mission to life. Skye's the Limit!



# Skye's the Limit! Foundation

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In celebration of our first year of operations as Skye's the Limit Foundation and to help continue our momentum towards preventing trauma-related loss, we decided to bring back our T-Shirt sale with a slightly different layout of Skye's bird design.

Please visit: https://customink.com/fundraising/anniversary-celebration-shirts-skye-bird-spreading-our-wings-skyes-the-limit-foundation

Order your Skye-Bird shirts today!

Your support is very important in helping us to spread our wings and broaden our audience to new awareness and horizons of understanding trauma. It will enable us to further develop our trauma informed care awareness programming and activities, reaching more youth and families in need and building a stronger, trauma-informed community.



We rely on donor's contributions to continue this important work of saving lives. We need your help as we enter our second year of operations.

Please consider purchasing a t-shirt, donating or volunteering.

### Thank you! Skye's the Limit! Foundation:

Keiko Ratcliffe, Mother of Skye, Founder/President, Phoenix, AZ

**Quinten Brooks, Vice-President, Phoenix AZ** 

Amber Lewis, State College, PA

Brenda Hunter-Horace, Atlanta, GA

Howard B. Ratcliffe Jr., Sunset Beach, NC

**Scholarship Committee:** 

Sharon Dunkin Shriver, Brenda Hunter-Horace and Keiko Ratcliffe