## DreamCatchers Foundation

## Corporate Volunteer and Investment Opportunities







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"Working with DreamCatchers is like working with angles. DreamCatchers not only makes Dreams come true, but they go above and beyond to make Dreams into something amazing!... Summit Hospice is so blessed to be associated with DreamCatchers!" - Ena Barrise, Volunteer Coordinator, Summit Hospice

## ABOUT DREAMCATCHERS FOUNDATION

DreamCatchers Foundation's mission is to empower students and their local communities to fulfill the end-of-life Dreams of hospice patients and create powerful connections for younger and older generations.

We work with hundreds of hospices across the nation and thousands of student volunteers to develop youth, build community, and connect generations.

I founded DreamCatchers in 2010 with a simple vision--bring joy and dignity to those at the end of their lives. I could have never imagined then that DreamCatchers would grow into a national organization with over 40 chapters in 20 states.

DreamCatchers has aspirations to expand to all 50 states and we are eager to work with corporate partners who can help us meet our ambitious goals. Please read on to learn more about how your company can fulfill its CSR goals and be part of a movement to break intergenerational down silos, cultivate compassionate youth leaders, and bring happiness to others in their final days.

Sincerely,

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**Caitlin Crommett** Founder & President DreamCatchers Foundation

## WHY CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY?

#### **1. IT BUILDS PUBLIC TRUST**

88% of consumers said they were more likely to spend money for a company that supports and engages in activities to improve society. By helping society, by either through donating money or volunteering, the company gains trust from its consumers. CSR builds a good reputation for the company.

#### 2. IT ENHANCES POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS

As the company builds public trust, it also builds a sense of community among its consumers. Even though communities aren't directly connected to the company by its CSR, they may end up being proud of it. Thus, CSR can lead to a much healthier company-consumer relationship. Meanwhile, internally, it also attracts and retains the employees. When corporations exhibit philanthropic behaviors or are doing good for society, they are more likely to provide employees with a positive workplace environment. As a result, they feel engaged and productive when they walk into work each day. Many people, especially Millennials, prefer to work for a company that has a high level of CSR. Hence, having a high CSR not only attracts consumers externally, but also make its employers prouder internally.

#### **3. IT INCREASES PROFITS**

Many people may think they have to make sacrifices to increase their company's CSR. In fact, there are many ways to maximize profits while increasing CSR. As companies work to improve their CSR, there are many additional benefits that come with that. According to top CSR statistics, 55% of consumers are willing to pay more for products from socially responsible companies. As a result, profits will increase because higher CSR will attract more customers.

#### 4. IT ENCOURAGES PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL GROWTH

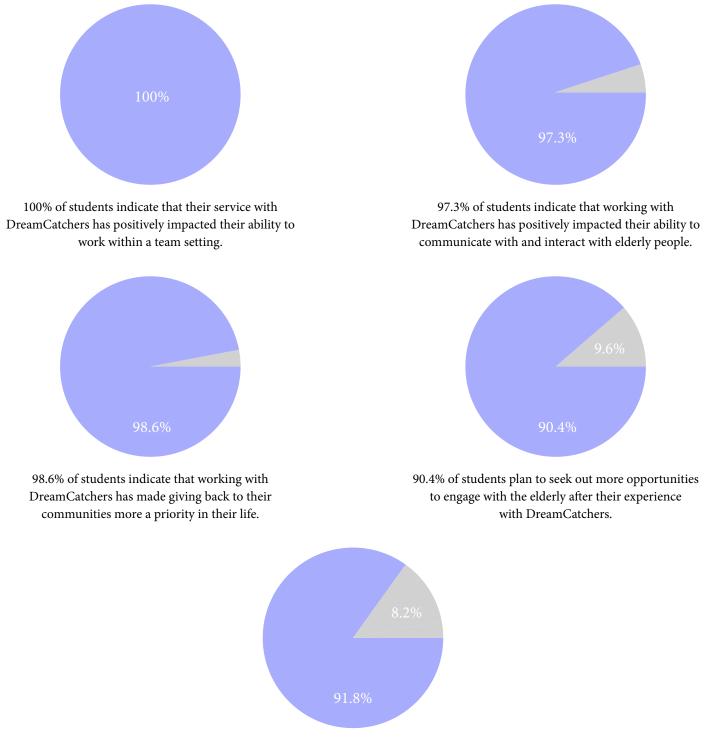
When companies have a culture of corporate social responsibility, they can easily promote volunteerism to their employees and encourage them to donate to nonprofits. Employees are more likely to become individually, philanthropically minded if their company encourages that behavior. Meanwhile, employees know that their employer is committed to bettering their local and global communities. They will then feel more inclined to be productive and creative on their own. Consequently, employees can professionally and personally develop because of corporate social responsibility.

extracted from: https://goenergylink.com/blog/5-benefits-of-corporate-social-responsibility/



## IMPACT ON STUDENTS

#### WHAT DO DREAMCATCHERS STUDENT VOLUNTEERS SAY ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH DREAMCATCHERS?



91.8% of students understand more about how nonprofits operate after working with DreamCatchers

## IN THE WORDS OF DREAMCATCHERS STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

"It has forced me to go out of my comfort zone and become a better communicator."

"Before DreamCatchers, public speaking was really hard for me. I would get so nervous, start stuttering, and the idea would never be passed on. DreamCatchers has expanded my leadership skills because it motivates me to speak in front of my peers, drawing them to this program, and making each feel special as they all play a special role in something big, fulfilling dreams."

"It has given me the gift of initiative and of standing up for others. A leader guides the way for those behind, working together and growing together without anyone being left behind. I have also learned to fight! In a good way, fear not! I have learned that there are things worth fighting for and we should never give up on creating smiles in our world!"

"It gave me a jump start to my future."

"It has put me in a place of stepping out of my comfort zone in helping the elderly and putting a smile on their faces. It has made me a more open-minded volunteer who is willing to do more and more to the best of my ability."

"It has shown me how to learn from seniors and apply things from their lives to mine."

"Working with Dreamcatchers helped me realize that being a leader means listening to everyone's ideas and making sure everyone has a voice. I also realized the importance of being organized and prepared."

"I have become more confident in leading others and have realized that leadership is about trust and encouragement."

"I have learned to step outside my comfort zone."

"I have been put in positions where I was forced to step out of my comfort zone, and it has increased my confidence in social settings."

"I feel a stronger sense of community and purpose."

"I now intern for Sonder Hospice because of DreamCatchers. I would love to continue it wherever I go to college next fall and give others the amazing opportunity I've been given."

"Dreamcatchers really allowed my team and I to realize how some people in this country are not as fortunate as us. Not every patient has a family, and some are not financially stable. These dreams helped us develop humility and the act to give back to our community."

"Dreamcatchers has made my hopes/dreams come true of being able to make a change of someone's life by simply being there! The fact that I can be a light in the dark and work with others to shine brighter is just wonderful! Thank you so much!"

"It's hard to put into words what being a part of DreamCatchers has meant to me. It is just so incredibly special and I am forever grateful to be a part of it."

## CORPORATE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



## **REGIONAL CHAPTER ADVISOR**

Our student-run DreamCatchers Chapters thrive when they benefit from an adult advisor guiding and supporting them. The role of a regional chapter advisor can include:

- Encouraging school Chapters to plan regular meetings to discuss Dreams, fundraising, and other relevant activities, and attending meetings when possible!
- Supporting Chapters in their efforts to plan Dreams and helping to secure contacts in the community to support the creation of Dreams (i.e., the Chapter is planning a hot air balloon Dream, and you happen to know a hot air balloon company owner to connect them to for the Dream!)
- Assisting Chapters with fundraising in the community by supporting their fundraising events and/or helping them get connected to, for example, Rotary / Kiwanis clubs for potential donations
- Ensuring a strong relationship with the Chapter's hospice/agency partner in the community

## **CHAPTER CREATOR**

DreamCatchers is eager to expand nationally and deliver more Dreams! Here are a few ways you can help:

- Form a committee / team to assist in starting a Chapter in your community or where you have contacts and connections
- Connect DreamCatchers to a high school or college where you know someone who can help identify interested students
- Connect DreamCatchers to a hospice agency where you know someone who can help form a partnership
- Connect DreamCatchers to a student who may be interested in starting or supporting a new Chapter

#### DREAM DEPUTY

Dreams often benefit from additional volunteers and support. Let us know if you are interested in being onsite for a Dream to help with logistics, taking photos and/or videos and ensuring a seamless Dream experience for all!

## **FUNDRAISING AMBASSADOR**

No matter where you are located, there is an opportunity to help elevate DreamCatchers' visibility and raise money to make more Dreams come true. These include:

- Host a kickball / tennis / cornhole tournament where participants pay a 'registration fee' and donate the funds raised to DreamCatchers
- Create a Facebook Fundraiser for DreamCatchers. Share our message and an opportunity to donate with your connections!
- Host friends and family for a casual dinner or happy hour and encourage donations to DreamCatchers

#### **EVENT COMMITTEE MEMBER OR ATTENDEE**

Our largest fundraiser is on April 23rd, 2022 in Scottsdale, Arizona. There are many ways to get involved:

- Join our Event Committee and help us plan and secure important resources for our big night
- Attend and invite your friends and family too ticket info coming soon
- Sponsor the event

### JOIN OUR EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

The DreamCatchers Executive Leadership Team is comprised mostly of volunteers who contribute their time and skills to spreading the DreamCatchers mission. We currently have openings on our team for a:

- Director of Public Relations
- Director of Chapter Engagement

### **CREATE YOUR OWN VOLUNTEER ROLE!**

DreamCatchers is a mostly volunteer-run organization. If you have a special talent (e.g., operations, social media, marketing, photography, videography, fundraising, IT, accounting, event planning, etc.), we have a role for you! Please reach out and let's discuss the most meaningful way for you to get involved and help make Dreams come true!

## **INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

DreamCatchers recognizes that each corporation's interests regarding its philanthropic investments are unique. For this reason, listed below are investment opportunities for your consideration. DreamCatchers would welcome the opportunity to discuss which opportunity/opportunities are of interest and create, in collaboration with you, associated benefits that align with your CSR goals.

#### **HUMAN CAPITAL**

DreamCatchers is an almost entirely volunteer-run organization. To grow its footprint across the nation, DreamCatchers is seeking investment from corporate partners to acquire essential staff, including much needed administrative support staff for its Executive Leadership Team.

#### **CRITICAL OPERATIONS**

Beyond human capital, DreamCatchers has expenses associated with running its day-to-day operations. These expenses include shipping and printing materials for its student Chapters, hosting its on-line donation platform, contractual expenses related to copywriting, photography, and videography.

#### **MARKETING/EXPANSION EFFORTS**

DreamCatchers has ambitious plans to expand its operations across the nation in 2021. This expansion will require additional resources for marketing, staff, and attendance at conferences, wherein our organization can make connections with potential partners.

#### **STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS**

DreamCatchers has a history of providing scholarships to reward its student volunteers for a job well done. To support DreamCatchers' marketing efforts, students are invited to participate in an essay writing competition to earn a scholarship. Additional funding for student scholarships will ensure our organization is able to continue to support our students in this important way.

#### DREAMS

DreamCatchers student Chapters are responsible for fundraising to fulfill the Dreams their Chapters plan, however, DreamCatchers recognizes that student Chapters initially need seed funding to fuel their beginnings. For this reason, the organization provides funding to Student Chapters for their first Dream. The cost of each Dream is, on average, \$500, after donated services for the Dream have been secured.



## Mission

DreamCatchers creates powerful connections for younger and older generations by empowering students and their local communities to fulfill the end-of-life dreams of hospice patients.



#### Sue's Dream Come True

Sue was a two-time breast cancer warrior, but that was not her story. From my first encounter with her, she made it very clear to me that although she had cancer, it would never define her. During her lifetime, Sue was an adventurer and an avid writer, often chronicling her adventures. She always dreamt of the opportunity to have her writing published and the chance to finally share her story. This was a dream she knew she could not complete alone. As a member of DreamCatchers – a club committed to granting final dreams for hospice patients – I knew we could help.

Having met with Sue's social worker, my team and I quickly became invested in granting her Dream. Gathering every detail we could about Sue's vision, we decided to host a red carpet book signing to introduce her story to the world. Through weeks of editing chapters, scouting bookstores, calling limousine companies, and scheduling with Sue's family, it was clear that this Dream would never leave our hearts.

Piecing together the final touches, we finally published her book. We printed copies and made the book available for purchase on Amazon. A local bookstore agreed to host the signing and a limousine company graciously offered their services. At once, after much planning, all the details fell into place. Throughout the day of granting Sue's dream, my sense of time completely vanished. This 6-hour day felt as though only minutes had passed. Arriving to deliver Sue's Dream that day, tears waterfalled down her cheeks as she watched the limousine pull up to her house. While driving to the bookstore, she never seemed to let go of my hand, telling me that if she never let go, maybe the feeling would stay forever. My frequent glances to see Sue's reaction only reassured me that this Dream was the culmination of her life's work. Upon reaching the bookstore, she was surprised by family, balloons, a red carpet, and an abundance of community members all anxious to learn about her humility and sincerity.

Being Vice President of DreamCatchers, and more specifically, granting Sue's dream, are constant reminders to me that being in service to others will empower people. Servitude allows an individual to climb their final step, reach their highest goal, and erase their limitations. With the contributions my team and I made to grant Sue's dream, we empowered Sue, and we facilitated her capacity to step into her power by giving her the tools she needed to realize her Dream.

Wherever my pathway in life may carry me, I hope it will grant me moments like this one—ones that are passionate, impactful, and memorable. Through this experience, and in DreamCatchers overall, I have found my personal calling for helping others. My heart and its strength to love and care extended beyond my comfort zone and only continues to grow. As I move forward in my life, as an aspiring medical student, I will carry the motto of a physician I have shadowed: "You should not seek to only save lives but emphasize on prolonging them." In many circumstances, lives cannot always be saved, but it is how we help someone prolong their lives and fill them with joy that can make life more meaningful. Granting Sue's dream helped me live this motto because there was no preventing her illness from ending her life, but, I, along with my DreamCatchers team, certainly brought hope, and perhaps days, to her life. I will never forget Sue.

#### **Gina Hoskin**

DreamCatchers Student Leader



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