



# Brave Young Hearts

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2025

<http://braveyounghearts.net/>

Brave Young Hearts  
18816 W 84<sup>th</sup> Pl  
Arvada, CO 80007  
Tel: 303-518-6420  
Email: [braveyounghearts@gmail.com](mailto:braveyounghearts@gmail.com)

## Message from Papa Bear – President



Dear Friends,

One of the joys of preparing an annual report is that it gives us the opportunity to look back and be thankful for all that has been accomplished. The past fiscal year was filled with wonderful opportunities and many challenges. Some of the highlights were:  
6 Adventures provided and 3 fund-raising events.

Brave Young Hearts grants Outdoor Adventures to children with terminal or life-threatening diseases to provide a Chance at Normal!!!

Brave Young Hearts was incorporated on March 12, 2015, and was granted 501(c)(3) status May 3, 2016.

Brave Young Hearts offers a caring, fun, and positive environment for children fighting their battle with a terminal or life-threatening disease, away from the medical facilities, which fosters a sense of accomplishment and hope, gratification, builds memories, thankfulness, and promotes/reinforces self-respect and self-esteem.

Children with terminal or life-threatening diseases, spend so much time in hospitals and clinics. As a general rule, they miss out on what other children get to do as “normal”. For instance, wheelchairs, feeding tubes, suctioning machines, dialysis, and ventilators are these kiddos’ normal. Have you ever dreamed of taking a trip to somewhere really special? You plan and dream, and dream and plan, and as the day draws near, your excitement and anticipation make you feel like you’re going to burst! Then it happens,... and it’s everything you ever hoped it would be!!! The roller coaster effect: once you start the ride, you anticipate that first really big hill...and then... You’re off in a swoosh!!!! Excitement abounds!!!! As soon as the ride is over, you want to do that again!!

So it is with children that are enduring the fight against terminal or life-threatening diseases. Maybe, just maybe...they dream and plan and plan and dream of doing something special. This is the reason Brave Young Hearts exists, to grant an adventure, a chance at normal for these kiddos. What if, a child can receive that one opportunity to do that Adventure they have dreamed of?

Thank you!  
Papa Bear (Kerry Slaven/President)



# MISSION

***Focusing on Outdoor experiences, Brave Young Hearts provides Adventures to children with terminal or life-threatening diseases....for a "Chance at Normal"***



# VALUES

## **Brave Young Hearts Values:**

The values of Brave Young Hearts include the pursuit of the following principles:

**Possibility:** A chance at normal...offering our kiddos help, hope, and believing in them that they have the ability to accomplish their envisioned Outdoor Adventure.

**Commitment:** Build relationships and partnerships. Accommodate for the special needs of the child.

**Responsibility:** Brave Young Hearts will provide the best, safest Outdoor Adventure and will always go the extra mile for the smile.



# DEDICATION

*Brave Young Hearts is dedicated  
to the memory of .....*

***Bethany (Princess Buttercup) Slaven***



*Bethany Elaine Slaven*

*December 30, 2000 - August 31, 2005*

# BOARD MEMBERS



**Papa Bear/Kerry Slaven**  
President



**Chris DeArment**  
Vice President



**Diane Slaven**  
Treasurer



**Jen DeArment**  
Secretary



**Keith Gardner**  
Trustee  
Emeritus



**Kevin Lester**  
Adjunct Trustee



**BRAVE YOUNG HEARTS**

All Board Members are volunteers.  
No one is paid a salary in Brave Young Hearts

# BOARD MEMBERS



**Kristin Lockwood**  
Trustee



**Katie Arpin**  
Trustee



**Gideon Slaven**  
Trustee

**Greg Arpin**  
Trustee



All Board Members are volunteers.  
No one is paid a salary in Brave Young Hearts

# Adventure Impact - Harper

24 March- 28 March, 2025

Florida Keys/Crystal River, FL

6 year old Harper is in a Trichechidae engagement with Epilepsy with Myoclonic Absences.

Harper and her family went on an Adventure to the Florida Keys to kayak with and swim with dolphins! Then up to Crystal River to swim with the manatees also known as sea cows!!



# Adventure Impact Klohe

5 June - 8 June, 2025  
Grand Lake, CO

11 year old Klohe, is angling against Lennox Gastaut Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, and SPATA 5L Neurodevelopmental Disorder.

Klohe originally wanted to go on an elk hunt for her Brave Young Hearts Adventure. So she took some shooting lessons!!!

Unfortunately, she had a hard time pulling the trigger on a .22 rifle, and she needed to be able to advance to a larger caliber for elk.

Change of plans!!! Fishing instead!!!



# Adventure Impact Arisha

13 October - 18 October 2025

Royal Gorge/Canyon City, CO

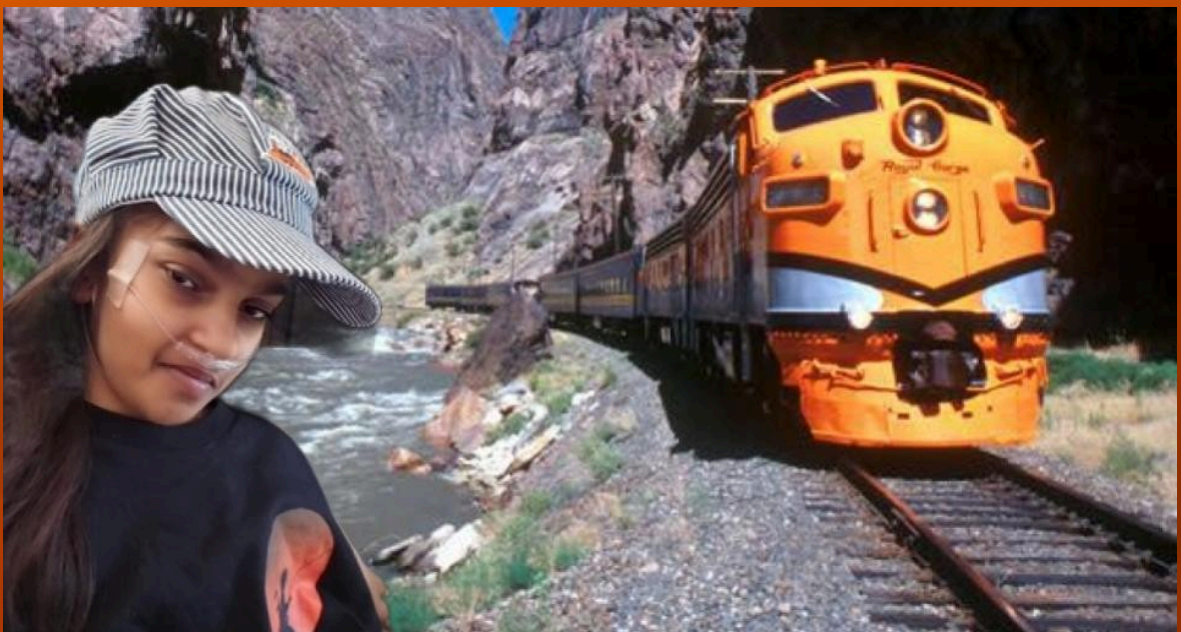
12 year old Arisha is in a reduced ejection fractional confrontational rivalry with Last Stage Heart Failure

Arisha, although in hospice care, desired to see that Royal Gorge via first class locomotive.

You guessed it!

The Royal Gorge Train!!

She and her family were VIP guests and enjoyed haute cuisine (ok, fine dining)! Then off to the Royal Gorge Bridge and Park.



# 2025 FUNDRAISING

August 10, 2025 **Side By Side Sporting Clays Shoot & Silent Auction**

Great Guns – Nunn, CO

The 10th Annual Sporting Clays Shoot & Silent Auction was held August 11th, 2024 at Great Guns Sporting Clays, in Nunn, CO.

It was a great day for beginners and expert shooters alike!!! We had 170 shooters, with their families, and plenty of door prizes for everyone, shooting prizes, BBQ, and silent auction!!!



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The following is an overview of Brave Young Hearts income and expenses for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024.

**2024 Contributions, Gifts - \$18,457.00**

**2024 Fundraising Income - \$45,922.00**

**2024 Fundraising Expenses - (\$23,000.00)**

**2024 Total Revenue - \$41,379.00**

**2024 Adventure Expenses - \$25,587.00**

**2024 Operating Expenses - \$10,571.00**

**2024 Total Expenses - \$36,158.00**

**2024 Net Income - \$5,221**

# Funding Request

“When we honestly ask ourselves which person in our lives means the most to us, we often find that it is those who, instead of giving advice, solutions, or cures, have chosen rather to share our pain and touch our wounds with a warm and tender hand.”

-Henri Nouwen

Would you please consider partnering as a sponsorship or making a donation?

Donations, sponsorships and grants help sustain our organization and benefit the community which we serve!!!

Brave Young Hearts will continue to strive to expand its programs and offerings to the community of children with terminal or life-threatening diseases. We hope that you will be able to take part in one or more of the many exciting events that we are offering this year and experience firsthand the pride we take in supporting our cause.

In order to meet our mission and provide services in our community, we rely on the generosity of individuals and businesses for support. Without the assistance of community-minded individuals just like you, we wouldn't be able to serve those in our community each year.

Brave Young Hearts is seeking \$10,000 as a sponsorship or any portion underwritten for the 8th Annual Sporting Clays Shoot & Silent Auction to be held on August 13th, 2023.

Brave Young Hearts is seeking grants that will help sustain us from \$25,000 - \$100,000.

Brave Young Hearts is also in need of quality in-kind items for the silent auction, door prizes, and of course....cash donations are always accepted!!!!

All funds will be used to provide Adventures, and donors will receive branding/positioning opportunities, recognition and the perception as a brand that gives back!!!!

**Is there an adventure that will be.... because of you?**

**Will there be a smile on a child's face and a memory created because of your partnering with Brave Young Hearts?**

It is with the greatest of gratitude, that I thank you in advance for joining with Brave Young Hearts!!!!

Sincerely,  
Papa Bear (Kerry Slaven/President, Brave Young Hearts)



**Brave Young Hearts is tax-exempt under section  
501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.  
EIN: 47-3383321**



*Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.*