

# A Note From Our Founder

Fall is always a great time of year because of the weather and there are SO MANY THINGS TO DO! Our staff has put together another great FALL season for September, October, and November.

So, if you are a member who comes to all of our events, or if you are taking the FIRST STEP to engage in an activity, make the RWJBH Field of Dreams your home for accessible events!

-Christian Kane, co-founder

#### Save-the-Dates!

We have so many exciting events and sports planned for this year! Here are just a few:

#### September:

Sept. 6: Game Night Sept. 13: AC Teen Night Sept. 18: What's Growing On Sept. 20: Sing-A-Long Sept. 22: Cars & Concerts Sept. 28: Bands, Beer & Blackjack

#### October

#### Oct. 4: Game Night Oct. 6: Car Show Oct. 16: What's Growing On Oct. 25: AC Halloween Party Oct. 26: Trunk or Treat

#### November

Nov. 1: Game Night Nov. 20: What's Growing On Nov. 22: AC Teen Night Nov. 29: Santa Visits Nov. 30: LAST DAY!

We are always adding new events, so be sure to check out our website: <u>https://rwjbhfieldofdreams.com/events/category/community-events/list/</u>

# Halloweekend

Halloweekend will be here before you know it! We have been working hard to put together a great weekend for you, and we also took your feedback into consideration.

This year, the Trunk or Treat will be for Field of Dreams members and their families, and will NOT be open to the public. In addition, the first hour will be sensory friendly, designed in mind for our friends who have sensitivity to music/loud noises, lights, and/or crowds. The first hour will have a limited capacity to ensure that all of our families feel comfortable participating!





# **Familiar Faces!**

Sports are at the core of the Field of Dreams project. Before there was a playground or mini golf course or snack shack... there was a baseball field. Christian's dream was to create a place where his son could participate in sports just like every other kid his age, but in a way that was adapted to his abilities. Over the past 3 years, the Field of Dreams has hosted and run a variety of sports for kids and adults of all ages and abilities to participate in. Behind each practice and game is a team of dedicated staff and volunteers who want to bring the joy of sports and team to a whole new generation of athletes. Meet the coaches behind football, cheer, and baseball below!

#### Steve Geiger (Football) and Lindsey Geiger (Cheer)

Coach Steve is a retired United States Marine and an avid fan of sports, especially football! When he's not on the field, he enjoys spending time with his family and fishing. Coach Steve has been coaching since 2021 and has a long list of coaching certifications including Special Olympics!

Coach Lindsey is an ABA therapist and also enjoys spending time with her family. She has been coaching cheerleading on and off for 7 years and was a cheerleader herself. Lindsey has been certified as a Special Olympics coach and loves to spend her free time at the beach!

Steve and Lindsey have three daughters who have inspired them to pursue coaching. Together, they have a strong passion for helping the special needs community recognize their athletic strengths and full potential. They love seeing athletes achieve their goals on and off the field.











#### Michael and Anthony Auriemma (Baseball)

Coach Michael (left) is currently a student studying physical education at Kean University and is going into his senior year. He loves being active, going outside, and playing/coaching all sports. Coach Michael grew up playing and loving baseball, and he is honored to now co-run the Todd Frazier baseball program alongside his brother, Anthony. Michael can't wait to see you all and get started this fall!

Coach Anthony (right) is a physical education major at Kean Ocean going into his last semester. For the last 2 years, he has been volunteering at the Field of Dreams, and this year he began co-running the Todd Frazier baseball program alongside his brother Michael. It has been a very rewarding experience for him and he cannot wait to get started with all of you this fall!

# **Community Garden Update!** PRODUCE TYPE POUNDS (YTD) WHERE PEPPERS OUTDOOR BEDS 35 HERBS OUTDOOR BEDS 17 LETTUCE 44 OUTDOOR BEDS BEANS OUTDOOR BEDS LETTUCE **GROW SPACE** 127.7 Drop The Beet







SUMMER RECAP



2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament: Saturday, July 13

The 2nd Annual Cornhole Tournament, sponsored by Mobility Works, was a BLAST! Over 40 teams competed in the tournament, run by Fun Bags Cornhole Lounge. After 3 hours of tough competition, three teams came out on top:

- 1st Place: Boro Boys (Brian & Rob)
- 2nd Place: Gabagool (Robert & Scanz)
- 3rd Place: Dirty Sneaks (Brian & Bryant)

It was a great night, and we already can't wait for next year!

# Inaugural Golf Outing: Wednesday, July 31

The Toms River Field of Dreams Board of Directors hosted the inaugural Field of Dreams Colf Outing on July 31 at Bey Lea Park, and it was a HUGE SUCCESS! The event had 144 players participate, and over 20 sponsors contributed to the event. The Citta Foundation sponsored the entire event, Riv's Hub of Toms River sponsored the post-golf dinner, and Farro's Tees sponsored beautiful Nike golf polos for every player! In addition to the Hole-in-One specials on the course, we had more than a dozen donated prizes that were raffled off during dinner. This event raised nearly \$25,000, all due to the generosity of the people and businesses in our community. THANK YOU!

Check out the video/photo recap of the event is on our website:

https://rwjbhfieldofdreams.com/golf-2024/

# Camp Abilities: August 21-August 23

We hosted Camp Ability Kean University's second year of camp this August and it was so much fun! 12 campers with visual impairment participated every day in a variety of sports adapted to their abilities. Campers and coaches tried blind soccer, kickball, basketball, tennis, mini golf, and various track and field events! They ended the week with a talent show and award ceremony, recognizing campers and coaches for their achievements. To see pictures from this year, learn more about Camp Abilites, or to donate, please visit their tab on our website:

https://rwjbhfieldofdreams.com/camp-abilities/