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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kids Join The Fight Welcomes Rainer Madigan as Managing Director

NEW ORLEANS | FEBRUARY 7, 2024 – Kids Join The Fight (KJTF), a national nonprofit focused on helping patients and their families in the battle against pediatric cancer, proudly names Rainer Madigan as the organization’s first Managing Director.

Rainer brings years of healthcare and nonprofit experience to this new role. Her leadership will continue KJTF’s momentum in advancing the mission to find a cure for and to provide care support for families in their fight against pediatric cancer.

KJTF was founded by the late Walker Beery, a joyful boy who in 2019 was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive pediatric brain cancer, Medulloblastoma. Inspired by a random act of kindness from a patient during a hospital visit, Walker wanted to help other children going through the battle against cancer. In 2020, Walker and his family began KJTF with the inspiring goal to help other children in their fight against childhood cancer. Walker lost his battle with cancer in 2021, but his determination to help others through KJTF sparked a movement across all 50 states to invigorate the superpowers of children to lead the fundraising efforts to defeat pediatric cancer.

“Walker left us with the instructions to make sure other kids don’t share the tragedy of his experience. I know he is smiling watching over the nationwide impact of his inspiration and instructions. We are so pleased that Rainer has ‘joined the fight’ to lead us into the next chapter of KJTF. Rainer embodies Walker’s ‘get after it’ spirit and her experience, commitment to our mission, and tenacity will continue our organizational objective to play a leading role in curing pediatric brain cancer and to support families fighting this tragically underfunded and devastating pediatric disease,” said Taylor Beery, Co-founder of Kids Join the Fight and COO and Co-Founder of Imagine Pediatrics.

Speaking about her new role, Rainer Madigan said, “I am honored and excited to be chosen to lead the Kids Join the Fight team. I look forward to continuing to make Walker’s dream a reality by improving the CARE pediatric cancer patients and their families receive and raising funds to help find a CURE for childhood cancer.”

The money raised by KJTF supports global research for pediatric cancer and provides the local care services care for pediatric cancer patients and their families – all while teaching the next generation of fundraisers the feeling of gratitude associated with giving back to their communities. Since 2020, KJTF’s youth fundraisers in all 50 states have found joy in raising a total of \$4 million dollars. The 501c3 nonprofit organization has paid this forward with co-funded grants providing \$1 million towards pediatric cancer research and hand delivered personal care packages for more than 700 patients in pediatric hospitals.

Through a partnership with Children’s Hospital New Orleans, the organization has also raised \$2 million to help build Walker’s Imaginarium, a healing and engaging 12,000 square feet of space for patients and their families to thrive and find joy. Named in honor of Walker Beery, the project will boast an indoor and outdoor space on

the hospital's campus that, upon completion, will be one of the largest and most comprehensive hospital-based child enrichment spaces in the country.

Walker's infectious courage, and gratefulness always amazed all who encountered him during his two-year battle with cancer. His legacy lives on in the great work that KJTF does today. During the nonprofit foundation's first year in existence, children in all 50 states raised more than \$1 million dollars to support Walker's vision and wish.

As the organization moves into the next chapter with new leadership, KJTF continues to support the most promising and innovative research to CURE pediatric cancer and seek ways to expand CARE projects across the country to provide children and their families opportunities to find moments of joy during pediatric cancer battles.

About Kids Join The Fight (KJTF)

KJTF (<https://www.kidsjointhefight.org/>) began in 2019 with a magnificent idea from a brave boy, Walker Beery, who was battling an aggressive pediatric brain cancer. He and his family began this nonprofit organization in 2020 with a simple goal, to help other kids and their families battling against pediatric cancer. KJTF is now a 501C3 nonprofit foundation that is focused on carrying out Walker's wishes by empowering kids in communities around the country to raise money to help find a CURE for pediatric cancer and to provide CARE to patients and their families during their battles against cancer.