

WWW.TEXAS4000.ORG







# **TEXAS 4000 MISSION**

Our mission is to cultivate student leaders and engage communities in the fight against cancer. Students from The University of Texas at Austin are competitively selected to participate in an 18-month leadership development and training program prior to departing for a more than 4,000-mile bicycle ride from Austin, Texas, to Anchorage, Alaska. Putting on the longest annual charity bike ride in the world, Texas 4000 has raised more than \$7 million in the fight against cancer since our inception in 2003. Texas 4000 is dedicated to fighting cancer by sharing hope, knowledge, and charity.

#### HOPE

We share hope by letting those touched by cancer know that we are riding for them and fighting for a world without cancer.

#### **KNOWLEDGE**

We share knowledge by bringing life–saving information about cancer prevention to communities and providing leadership development training to tomorrow's leaders.

### **CHARITY**

We share charity by contributing to cancer research and cancer support services while developing the next generation of volunteers and philanthropists.

# **TEXAS 4000 OVERVIEW**

Texas 4000 is a unique organization that combines leadership development, physical training, cancer awareness outreach, volunteer opportunities, and philanthropic commitment. Each year, approximately 90 students are competitively selected for participation based on the following:

- Passion to fight cancer including previous involvement & future goals
- Leadership and communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to be a team player

The Texas 4000 executes the longest annual charity bike ride in the world extending from Austin, Texas to Anchorage, Alaska. The ride takes the students 70 days, averaging 70+ cycling miles per day. The team splits into three groups of 24–30 riders to travel separate routes until they meet again for the last 10 days to ride together into Anchorage. The routes are called Sierra, Rockies, and Ozarks.

Note: Cycling experience is not a requirement. Some participants have never been on a bike before!

Wherever they are along the journey, the riders begin their day by gathering in a circle to reflect on their mission to fight cancer. Often joined by their hosts, everyone shares ride dedications for the day – usually made in honor or in memory of someone they know or have met along the way who is fighting cancer.



One word comes to mind when I think of the Texas 4000 riders: inspired. These young people make mental, physical and emotional sacrifices in service of something much greater than themselves – the fight against cancer. They inspire everyone with whom they interact through their selflessness, energy and motivation. They inspire me to dig deeper, give greater and be more compassionate."

> — Jenifer Sarver Chairman of the Board, Texas 4000

### **TEXAS 4000 OVERVIEW**

Each team member participates in our 18–month program that includes the following commitments:

- Raise \$4,500
- Ride 2,000 training miles with his/her team
- Volunteer more than 50 hours in the community

While the cornerstone event of Texas 4000 is the Summer Ride from Austin to Anchorage, the Texas 4000 program encompasses so much more from a leadership development standpoint. The program empowers riders to plan all logistical aspects of the ride. This includes securing lodging, obtaining food donations, providing riding support, and identifying speaking engagements to promote cancer prevention and awareness along the routes.

The Texas 4000 program is based around our Eight Foundational Skills, which include areas such as self-awareness, communication, and peer respect. Guest speakers and workshops throughout the year help the riders build mastery in each area. Riders also receive physical training through group workouts, skills and mechanical clinics, and organized training camps. In the spring semester before the ride, the team receives intensive safety and crisis management training, wilderness safety, and first aid training. For those selected as leaders, training and experience in areas such as project management, conflict resolution, and team building are available through weekly meetings and progress updates with Texas 4000 staff.

The skills that the riders develop prepare them not only for the Summer Ride but also to be leaders and contributors in their communities long after their participation in Texas 4000.



"The Texas 4000 riders have given our community so much more than we have provided to them. Through hosting Texas 4000, neighbors and casual acquaintances have developed into friendships as together we've shared the hosting experience and personal stories of how deeply cancer has impacted each of our lives. There is never a shortage of fun, laughter and intelligent conversations as hosting this highly accomplished group of riders is nothing short of AMAZING and we highly recommend it to others."

> — Jim & "B" Gorman, Team Host South Lake Tahoe, CA



"Texas 4000 is a journey of personal growth. I've overcome challenges and pushed myself to levels I never thought I could reach. My teammates and the many people who shared their stories with me along the way were my inspiration. This organization is so much bigger than me."

— Elaine Posluszny, 2014 Sierra



"I'm really excited that Texas 4000 has given me purpose. It doesn't end today and it doesn't end after I drive the vans back. It doesn't end. We've known what it means to do something every day for other people and that sense of purpose doesn't end."

- Barron Peper, 2013 Ozarks



"At the end of the ride, we began to understand the capital T Truth: Texas 4000 is not only a 70-day bike ride from Austin to Anchorage but also a 70-day preamble to a lifetime of purpose. The ride taught us many lessons, but above all, it showed us that every day is special."

- Sai Gourisankar, 2015 Rockies

### SIGNATURE ANNUAL EVENTS



### RIDER CUP MARCH 7, 2016

The Rider Cup Classic Golf Tournament is an annual 18-hole charity golf tournament hosted by Texas 4000 with support from our sponsors in an effort to share hope, knowledge, and charity in the fight against cancer. The tournament includes the ability for participants to play a top-rated Austin-area course with a current Texas 4000 rider accompanying them by bicycle, a post-tournament buffet dinner, and a presentation from Texas 4000 staff and riders.



#### HOPE DAY APRIL 10, 2016

Hope Day is an annual event in April that allows us to share our mission with the Austin community through family-friendly activities, cancer support resources, and interactive games. Held at an outdoor farmer's market, the event features booths from local cancer organizations, a Texas 4000 information booth, a Hope Wall where individuals can write for whom they ride, and a photo booth, as well as activities for all ages.



#### **DAY ZERO** JUNE 3, 2016

The day prior to the ATLAS Ride and the first day of the Summer Ride is referred to as "Day Zero." The Texas 4000 team receives a first–class salute as they ride through Austin for their unofficial send– off before departing for Alaska. Dignitaries such as Austin's Mayor, Chief of Police, civic leaders, philanthropists and volunteers participate and applaud the riders on this day. Pictured here is rider Dylan Guzy, 2015, with friends who came to cheer her on as she departed.

### SIGNATURE ANNUAL EVENTS





#### ATLAS RIDE JUNE 4, 2016

The Texas 4000 ATLAS Ride is an 800+ person cycling event in central Texas where supporters can register and ride the first 25, 50, or 70 miles with the Texas 4000 team as they start their 70–day journey. ATLAS is an opportunity to raise awareness and funds for our cause while surrounding the team with support and encouragement. The fun starts early with a kick-off party the night before the ride at Builder Homesite Inc.'s headquarters with dinner, live music, and recognition for our top ATLAS Ride fundraisers. Post ride activities include Texas barbecue, music, sponsor booths, and a presentation by the Texas 4000 team.

#### **SUMMER RIDE** JUNE 4, 2016 TO AUGUST 12, 2016

Approximately 75 students ride from Austin to Anchorage, holding cancer prevention, awareness and fundraising events in cities along the three routes: Sierra, Rockies, and Ozarks. For all three routes, riders wear the Texas 4000 jerseys every day and are accompanied by the branded team trailer as they cycle an average of 70+ miles per day. Riders stay with host families whenever possible and rely on the generosity of hosts and local businesses for meals and accomodations.



#### **TRIBUTE GALA** AUGUST 27, 2016

The annual Tribute Gala honors and celebrates the riders' homecoming and accomplishments by sharing their experiences with friends, family members, and the broader Austin community. This unforgettable evening for more than 500 guests includes a VIP reception, dinner, dancing, silent and live auctions, and multiple ways to support Texas 4000 in the continued fight against cancer. Guests say year after year that this is "not your typical fundraising gala." The energy and hope that fills the air is guaranteed to inspire.

# **GIVING BACK TO THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER**

Each year, Texas 4000 awards grants to organizations with a focus on cancer research or cancer support services. Grants are awarded to organizations based on established requirements, which include a focus on research, involvement and investment in the Texas 4000 program, and the ability of the grant to make a significant relative impact. The grant review committee each year consists of a group of current year riders, alumni riders, and Board members. A few examples of previous grants we've made:



### **M.D. ANDERSON CANCER CENTER**

- Distinguished Professorship Endowment
- Center for Molecular Markers
- Center for Targeted Therapy

On behalf of The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, please accept my heartfelt gratitude for the support of Texas 4000 for our patient care, research, education and prevention efforts. We are encouraged by your partnership and inspired by the selflessness of the outstanding riders who share our determination to eliminate cancer in Texas, the nation and the world."

> — William Alexander M.D. Anderson Cancer Center



### THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, DEPARTMENT OF BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

• Pedi Clinical & Translational Research Center

The seed funding we received from Texas 4000 basically let us enter a new direction in our cancer research. We were interested in how cancer cells interact with the vascular system. This project basically would not have happened without the funding from Texas 4000. It gives us an opportunity to do things that are a little more on the cutting edge and which may be harder to get traditional funding for."

> — Aaron Baker, Ph.D., Assistant Professor UT Department of Biomedical Engineering



### **BRENT'S PLACE**

 Safe-Clean Accomodations for Pediatric Patients and Family Memebers

The incredible group of Texas 4000 riders who visited us this summer once again blew us away. They brought so much love, care, and hope into our building. Just like last year, it was such a joy speaking to each one, watching them engage with our families, and being part of such an important ride. Last year's Texas 4000 grant covered the cost of one family's stay at Brent's Place and we are so grateful for this incredible gift."

> - Rachel Bernstein Brent's Place

### **INDIVIDUAL GIVING OPPORTUNITIES**

#### FUNDRAISE FOR ATLAS RIDE OR JOIN OUR SUPPORT TEAM

We can't all ride our bikes from Austin to Anchorage, but that doesn't mean we can't support the fight against cancer in our own way. Fundraise for the ATLAS Ride or join the Texas 4000 Support Team and choose your own goal. Train 4,000 miles in a year, pick an endurance event that seems like a stretch, climb a mountain...whatever pushes you to reach beyond your own limitations. There is no minimum fundraising requirement or strict goal guideline, although we encourage you to choose fitness and fundraising goals that are challenging for you to reach! Give your friends and family the opportunity to support your efforts with a donation to Texas 4000. You will be earning incentives and together we will be fueling the Texas 4000 riders in their fight against cancer, funding cancer research and support services, and sharing hope, knowledge and charity in our own communities. Visit www.texas4000.org/support\_team for more information.

#### JOIN THE 4000 CIRCLE

Become a member of our 4000 Circle by pledging to donate \$4,000 over the course of a year through a one-time payment or monthly installments. The riders and their donors change every year, but we rely on this core group of individual supporters to ensure sustainability for our organization year after year. Visit www.texas4000.org/4000circle for more information on how to join the 4000 Circle today.

#### **SPONSOR A BIKE**

Texas 4000 riders who complete our program get to keep the bicycle that carried them through their journey. Individuals who donate \$1,000 to our Sponsor a Bike initiative will help provide an integral element of our program for one participant. This bike takes them through training and across the continent. Visit www.texas4000.org/sponsorabike to donate today.



SUPPORT TEAM



4000 CIRCLE





"Texas 4000 has been a part of my life since 2011 and the familial effects of cancer are some of my earliest memories. My dad passed away from melanoma in 2003 and my cousin and best friend have also battled skin cancer. My first interaction with Texas 4000 was when my family got the opportunity to host two riders as they passed through our town of Clovis, NM. In 2013, I was able to expand my involvement to fulfilling a position as a host coordinator with two friends and military spouses.

In preparation for the 2014 riders, I came across some information on joining the support team and fundraising. Since learning about Texas 4000 just a few years ago, I have stood by while several friends and family members fought

cancer. I was to the point where I was feeling helpless and wanted to do something, anything, and knew that raising money in support of Texas 4000 was another way to join the fight. I shared my fundraising website through social media and e-mail. I also coordinated a fundraiser at a local pizza restaurant. I created some informational flyers and anyone who turned in the flyer to the cashier had a percentage of their order total donated to Texas 4000. This was great community outreach as I stood outside the restaurant and was able to share the message of hope, knowledge, and charity. Between all of my efforts, I was able to exceed my fundraising goal and now can proudly wear a Texas 4000 jersey and promote this amazing organization. Cancer affects us all — old/young, rich/poor, military/civilian, and having Texas 4000 travel through Clovis has allowed all those groups to come together to support an event and a cause that we can all care deeply about."

#### - Megan Smith

Team Host and Support Team Member

# **TEXAS 4000 SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM**

Texas 4000 seeks to partner with companies and organizations that share our:

- Passion to be involved in the fight against cancer in a meaningful way
- · Commitment to cultivate and invest in the development of the next generation of young leaders

Corporate sponsors are a key part of the Texas 4000 program. Corporate sponsorship allows us to expand the awareness of our mission to new supporters while also providing unique and tangible opportunities for your employees to get involved with Texas 4000 as the riders traverse the three routes across the country sharing hope, knowledge, and charity.

The Texas 4000 sponsorship program requests a minimum 2–year commitment and offers a variety of levels of investment (Presenting, Gold, Silver and Bronze) with comprehensive benefits associated with each. In addition to the branding and promotional opportunities associated with sponsorship, sponsors will also receive community exposure and goodwill as the Summer Ride passes through communities across the country. We welcome creative collaboration with our sponsors to identify opportunities to maximize and highlight sponsorship dollars and involvement.



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### **TEXAS 4000 SPONSORSHIP LEVELS**

Annual Amount for Two Years	PRESENTING \$50,000	<b>GOLD</b> \$25,000	<b>SILVER</b> \$10,000	<b>BRONZE</b> \$5,000
GENERAL				
Named Presenting Sponsor	•			
Company logo and feature on website*	•	•	•	•
Sponsorship featured in social media	•	•	•	
Press release announcing sponsorship	•	•		
RIDE PROGRAM (TRAINING AND SUMMER RIDE)				
Logo included on rider jersey and team trailers*	•	•	•	
Logo on sponsorship banner*	٠	•	•	•
Activation opportunities in major cities	•	•		
TRIBUTE GALA				
Recognition in Tribute Gala program and presentation*	•	•	•	•
Logo featured across digital and print assets*	•	•	•	•
Tribute and VIP Reception Tickets	10	10	6	4
ATLAS RIDE AND KICK-OFF PARTY				
Logo featured across digital and print assets*	•	•	•	•
Registrations to ATLAS Ride and Kick-off Party	10	8	6	4
Booth space at Post–Ride Party	•	•	•	•
RIDER CUP GOLF TOURNAMENT				
Hole sponsorship and signage	•	•	•	
Registrations for Golf Tournament and Dinner	4	2		

\* Sizing and placement of sponsor logo vary by sponsorship level





**RIDER JERSEY** 



Instantion Balanter

SPONSORSHIP BANNER www.texas4000.org

### **IN-KIND SPONSORSHIPS**

Many products are necessary to support the Texas 4000 program through training, our signature events (Summer Ride, ATLAS Ride, and Tribute Gala), and the numerous events we have in communities across the country. We rely on and need in–kind donations to support these activities throughout the year. Associated benefit levels of in–kind sponsorship will be determined based on donation type and dollar value. We welcome the opportunity to collaborate on options for in–kind sponsorship with your company or organization. The following illustrates some of our needs:

# 5,700 GALLONS

Amount of gas six 12–passenger support vans and three support cars will use. They will drive 9,500+ miles each.



Average number of flat tires the team changes each day



Number of rest stops along the routes where riders need to replenish food and water and repair bikes

The team rides for 70 days through rain, sleet, wind, snow, heat and any other weather imaginable. On average, they will encounter:

**15** THUNDERSTORMS

**3** HAIL STORMS

### WIND GUSTS OF UP TO 40 MPH

### TEMPERATURES RANGING FROM BELOW ZERO TO 115°

ENERG



The team will spend approximately 30 nights camping, 16 nights in a gymnasium, 14 nights with host families, 9 nights in churches and only **ONE** night in a donated hotel room.



Number of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches the team will eat

**35** GALLONS Amount of sunscreen

the team will use



The team will consume **10,000** ENERGY BARS and drink more than **700** GALLONS of sport drink mix.

#### www.texas4000.org



### TESTIMONIALS



### PARYSA GHANIMI, 2016 RIDER

Route: Rockies Hometown: Friendswood, Texas College: Senior, Communication Science Disorders

### WHY I RIDE

I ride for my mother, Mitra Ghanimi. Mothers are our voice when we babble as babies, our first best friend, and our role model. Unfortunately, when I was twelve my mother lost her seven year battle to Adenocarcinoma Unknown Primary cancer. From the moment my mom turned 30 till she reached 37 she went in and out of hospitals, constantly battling for her life. Although the cancer kept spreading—she kept going.

Even though each night she went to bed thinking it could have been her last, she still lived every single hour, minute and second glorifying life, making sure to tell my sister and me how much she loved us. Losing her was my biggest fear; however, I am fearless in life today because I faced and survived that tragedy.

I need to terminate cancer and I know I cannot do it alone. That is why I ride for my mom.



### LEVI JOSEPH, 2015 RIDER

Texas 4000 Role: Ozarks Route, Assistant Ride Director Hometown: Dunwoody, Georgia College: Senior, Plan II Honors

### **WHY I RIDE**

Cancer is a mountain, not an ocean. Both are dangerous. Both push humans to their limits. The main difference is that an ocean can never be conquered, while a mountain can. We will hopefully one day reach cancer's summit, look down from it with new perspective, and say, "wow, look at all that we have accomplished. Look at the hope we have brought into the world."

We must remember that cancer is but a blemish upon the human condition. We are making serious strides towards curing cancer as a species, primarily through the work done by compassionate individuals. Not all of these people are scientists with PhDs and resumes four feet long. Many are individuals volunteering at their local "walk for a cure" events. Most are average citizens, making calls to or waiting at the bedsides of their loved ones. We can all be cancer fighters. We can all challenge cancer's mountain, clip into a rope of support, love and hope, and push for the peak.







### **COURTNEY SCHUTZE, 2014 RIDER**

Texas 4000 Role: Rockies Route, Ride Director Hometown: Flower Mound, Texas Degree: BS, Communication Studies

#### WHY I RIDE

I ride for my dad, Tom Schutze.

I came into Texas 4000 with a Dad who was diagnosed with Prostate Cancer in 2010 and Multiple Myeloma (an incurable blood cancer) in 2011. He was currently in remission and I had the idea that I would go on this ride to fight his cancer with him. Unfortunately, in the summer of 2013, my whole perspective on this experience changed. My father passed away of Multiple Myeloma on June 10th. In just a few short months, I went from riding to help my Dad fight cancer to riding in memory of my Dad. I continue to ride for him because his strength and courage in his last few months is the most inspiring thing I have ever experienced. I have never met someone stronger in my entire life, other than my mother who was by his side every step of the way. I never want another daddy's girl to lose her dad, or a wife to lose her husband or a caregiver to watch their loved one die. I want to do all I can to find a cure for this disease.

In my last conversation with my dad before he passed away I begged him to keep fighting, I told him I couldn't do this without him. As a little girl the last thing you want is to live a life without your dad. He won't see me graduate, he won't see me get my first big girl job, or walk me down the aisle. But what he said to me in that last conversation made all of this suffering I will endure in the loss of my dad have purpose, it gives me the strength to keep fighting every day. He said, "Courtney we are going to make a difference in the fight against cancer. I will be with you every step of this way. Every time you climb a hill and you feel out of breath I will give you more, when you feel like you can't bike anymore, I will help keep you going and we will make it all the way to Alaska, together." I will continue to fight for my dad and with my dad. I will fight for all those currently suffering and those whose beautiful lives have been cut short due to this disease. The passion burning inside me to make a difference in finding a cure for cancer is stronger than anything I have ever felt. I encourage you to join Texas 4000 in this fight. I have yet to meet a person who has not been affected by cancer in one way or another. I want this to change, I NEED this to change. My dad said we would make a difference in this fight, and I will honor those words until the day I die. To Alaska and beyond.

### DAY 4, SUMMER RIDE

Being able to visit UT Southwestern on the summer ride was a very special and rewarding experience for me. Because my father received treatment at UT Southwestern, I know first-hand how deserving this institution is of the Texas 4000 grant we presented that day. It was wonderful to hear about the amazing strides they are making in cancer research and incredibly powerful to feel so directly connected to the past, present, and future of their impact.

#### **AFTER THE SUMMER RIDE**

From Texas 4000 I gained the ability and grow and heal through the grief of losing my father. Texas 4000 gives you a sense of purpose that really makes you feel like you are making a difference for those you love who have been affected by cancer. From this experience I have learned that the fight doesn't stop here for me and I want to continue making a difference in the fight against cancer.

# TEXAS 4000

### A WORD FROM OUR FOUNDER







### **CHRIS CONDIT**

The month after my 11th birthday, I was diagnosed with Stage III Hodgkin's Lymphoma. I had been feeling weak and easily fatigued for months before, but no one would have guessed it was cancer. Having cancer is tough for anyone, but facing mortality as a child is especially frightening. Seeing your parents cry is scary. Seeing children your age with heads shiny bald and patch-worked with scars from surgeries is heartbreaking.

Throughout my cancer experience I met a lot of kids who, like me, were being treated for cancer. I also saw a lot of kids who were not responding well – who were getting sicker as I was getting better. That's when I knew, at age 11, that I had to do something.

I founded Texas 4000 for Cancer with my now wife, Mandy, as a student at The University of Texas at Austin where I studied electrical and biomedical engineering. We started Texas 4000 to make a difference in the lives of those who struggle with this terrible disease by raising money for cancer research, providing hope to those people and their families by showing them that there is life after cancer, and educating communities across the continent about how they can detect and prevent cancer.

I am truly grateful for all of the people who have volunteered to take part in this endeavor since our inaugural ride in 2004. People from different backgrounds and walks of life - riders, staff, alumni, volunteers, and board members – work together and strive for a common goal. We seek to cultivate student leaders and engage communities in the fight against cancer. We want to show the world our dedication to this cause and inspire all who meet us.







www.texas4000.org



### **OUR THANKS**

Through the generous support of sponsors, volunteers, riders and community leaders, Texas 4000 has impacted thousands of individuals by sharing our message of hope, knowledge and charity over the past decade. We are proud to have raised more than \$7 million in the fight against cancer, but we know there is so much more work left for us to do in order to overcome cancer. We are enthused about Texas 4000's future growth and impact and thankful for your sponsorship consideration. We are excited about the opportunity to partner with you in the fight against cancer.

It doesn't take just one / It takes all of us / Let's fight cancer together



For more information on becoming a sponsor, please contact:

#### **Texas 4000** P. O. Box 6459 Austin, TX 78762

#### info@texas4000.org, 737-300-2318

For a list of current organization needs, please visit www.texas4000.org/get-involved/donate

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