## random acts FLOWERS



# **IMPACT REPORT** 2023

Random Acts of Flowers improves the emotional health and wellbeing of individuals in healthcare facilities by delivering recycled flowers, encouragement, and personal moments of kindness.

**RAFKnoxville.org** 

KNOXVILLE INDIANAPOLIS TAMPA BAY

## Blossoming Kindness: Reflecting on a Year of Compassion and New Blooms



As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible journey we've undertaken together. 2023 was marked by a year of exciting growth and impact. We've witnessed countless lives brightened, spirits lifted, and communities united by the power of kindness.

Through partnerships with local organizations, health care facilities and volunteers, our outreach efforts have strengthened community bonds, creating a network of compassion extending far beyond the flowers we deliver.

In 2023, we delivered close to 1,500 floral arrangements per month. These moments of kindness were felt far and wide across Knoxville and the surrounding East Tennessee counties. The positive impact of these gestures is immeasurable, reminding us that even in challenging times, the simple act of sharing beauty can make a profound difference in healthcare facilities and can continue to be a source of comfort and joy for patients and staff alike. One recipient shared, "I am trying to imagine all the wonderful folks who work so hard to make such beautiful vases of flowers to give so many people. I can only imagine the smiles on the faces of the precious folks who receive and enjoy these lovely gifts. Thank you so much for the gorgeous flowers I received today. I will enjoy them for many days to come. What a blessing you are to so many. Thanks once again."

None of this would be possible without the generosity of our supporters. Your donations, volunteer hours, and enthusiasm have fueled our mission, allowing Random Acts of Flowers to reach new heights and touch more lives than ever before. With your support this past year, 23,334 vases were kept out of our landfills and repurposed to transport moments of hope and encouragement.

As we enter a new year, our commitment to cultivating kindness and sustainable efforts remains steadfast. We envision a future where the seeds of compassion we plant today will continue to bloom, creating a world filled with moments of joy, hope, and healing.

Thank you for being a vital part of our community and for making 2023 a year of growth, compassion, and shared joy. Your belief in the mission of Random Acts of Flowers is the heartbeat of our organization. Together, we have sown seeds of kindness that have blossomed into moments of beauty for countless individuals.

Allson Manck

Ally Slavick Executive Director Random Acts of Flowers

#### **OUR IMPACT**

\*

#### New Year, New Leadership

At the start of 2023, we welcomed Ally Slavick as our new Executive Director. Ally comes from seven years of experience in the nonprofit sector and looks forward to making lasting impact with Random Acts of Flowers.

#### Expanding our Mission with New Partnerships

This year, R.A.F. joined forces with Mobile Meals for Nourish the Soul Week. By providing beautiful, repurposed bouquets, our team aimed to help encourage nutritional intake and lessen the effects of isolation by brightening spirits.





## 2023 in Numbers

Random Acts of Flowers has served nearly 200 healthcare facility partners in Knoxville and the surrounding East TN counties and composted thousands of pounds of green waste.

#### As of January 2024, Random Acts of Flowers has achieved:



**Deliveries of Hope** more than **179,188** locally more than **643,374** nationally



Vases Recycled more than 229, 336 locally more than 688,124 nationally





and thousands of pounds of waste composted!

#### **STAY CONNECTED**

\*



#### DONATE

Financial contributions enable R.A.F. to continue our mission through the support of our operational costs. Your support ensures more people experiencing hardships can receive the emotional upliftment that our flower arrangements bring. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a meaningful difference in brightening someone's day. Learn more at https://rafknoxville.org/donate/.

#### COLLABORATE

Teambuilding groups provide a large impact to our mission. Consider experiencing the impact of flowers while enhancing employee engagement. Your group can prune, prep, and arrange donated flowers then deliver your creations first-hand, seeing the healing power of flowers on individuals in healhtcare facilities.



#### CELEBRATE

Flowers After Hours is a fun-filled private event celebrating food, friendship, and of course-flowers! Take part in a hands-on floral design demonstration by a local florist then let your creativity guide you in creating memorable pieces that will brighten the day for those in local healthcare facilities, while also creating one to take home.





#### VOLUNTEER

Volunteers drive the mission of Random Acts of Flowers and offer a profound impact into the lives of many facing health-related adversity. By donating time and energy, our volunteers help will aspects of our mission from delivering and arranging flowers to participating in outreach events and administrative duties.

\*

To get involved, you can visit RAFKnoxville.org to learn more about volunteer opportunities in your area, sign up for volunteer orientations or training sessions, and join a community of individuals dedicated to making a difference, one bouquet at a time.





#### **TESTIMONIALS**



"Today was just another long day- one where we spent the morning at the surgery center with our 2-year-old who has CP and is Autistic. We came home and our Developmental Therapist was up the driveway with the most beautiful purple flowers. She told us that we were receiving them courtesy of RAF Knoxville. To say that these were amazingly uplifting after a very rough day is an understatement. Thank you from the very bottom of my heart!! A special thank you for the beautiful bouquet you created and for lifting this momma's spirts!" - Jennifer

"I want to express my great gratitude for your gift of Random Acts of Flowers for our Dhoology Radiation Patients... It was the best day ever for me to be part of... my heart was overwhelmed with love and joy. Some patients were confused by the concept and were shy about taking the flowers as token of hope and love from strangers who never met them, and others were in tears at the level of kindness that was extended to them... It truly was the best day I have ever had at work. That is saying a lot seeing as I have a varied career spanning over 4D years. Thank you for allowing me to be part of an absolutely amazing ministry where you are blessing hearts with the finest gifts of unconditional love." - Cheryl "To the entire RAF family, thank you all for the love and support through such a difficult time. Your flowers brought light into a very challenging time and brightened our day." - laura

"I wanted to share a quick story of how the flowers brightened a day. I took them Friday to my visit with (a patient), and her entire face fit up when I gave them to her. She carried them with her to the couch, and then was incorporating that into her play with her Disney princesses. She was taking individual baby's breath and placing it into their hair. It was the sweetest thing ever! This particular little girl has been through so much lately and I know her mom really needed to see this kind of joy again - What RAF does is such a beautiful gift, thank you! - Gassie

"What a beautiful and colorful organization you are! We were introduced to your work and mission twice while my mom was hospitalized in April. The flowers brought joy and smiles. Sadly, mom passed away on May 15th, but we were so happy to return the love you showed us by donating about 40 vases mom had and we had all flower from her service donated to you, as well. We paid it forward." - Amy

# random acts

# Delivering flowers, encouragement, and moments of kindness.

## www.RAFKnoxville.org 2936 Middlebrook Pike, Knoxville, TN 37917







