



In January of 2010, 22 year old Christine Gianacaci of Hopewell Township and several of her classmates from Lynn University, traveled to Haiti on a mission of hope; to help children and to feed the poor. When a massive earthquake struck on January 12th, the Hotel Montana in Port-Au-Prince collapsed and Christine, along with 3 other students and two professors, were killed. Our hearts and prayers go out to the families of all those who died that day. They each represented the qualities of kindness, caring, giving and compassion that are so desperately needed in our world today. While these six wonderful people are gone, the love and energy they created in their lives is still very much alive. The Christine's Hope for Kids Foundation was created to continue the legacy and generous spirit of Christine Gianacaci, and her desire to help underprivileged children have an opportunity for a better life. The mission of our Foundation is to continue Christine's spirit and loving qualities; to help less fortunate children and to support local community agencies that work with and benefit children. We not only want to raise money to support our mission, but also teach and communicate the idea that every person can make a difference each day by helping others and being kind.

Yes, Christine's death was a terrible tragedy. It was a terrible loss for her family and friends. But the truth is, in her short life, Christine achieved something that many of us never achieve; she found a purpose and a calling that gave her true happiness and purpose. She died doing what she was meant to do. She died doing what she loved. We cannot change the past, but we can work together to turn this tragedy into triumph. Christine started something of real substance and meaning. The real tragedy would be if those who knew her and loved her didn't follow through.

Because of Christine's kindness, compassion, determination and generosity, thousands of children in New Jersey will have an opportunity for a better life. That is the commitment of this foundation and our promise to Christine. We look forward to working with NJASC and the student leaders of our home state in the coming year to continue our work and promise.

Website: [www.christineshope.org](http://www.christineshope.org)

**Student Council would like to thank all of the Logan staff members who helped to make this night a success.**



Logan Township  
Student Council  
presents  
The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual  
March Madness  
Basketball Tournament



## The Times

7:00: National Anthem

(sung by )

7:05: First round

7:15: Second Round

7:30: Championship

7:45: Half-time

\*staff and students from non-championship team play for fun

\*half-court shots

8:20: Staff & Students Final  
Championship

## The Teams

**Team Swoosh**

**Backstreet Ballerz**

**Annihilators**

**Nuggets**

**The Fantastic 6**

**Raisins?**

**The Backyardigans**



## The Trophy

# **Attention, Faculty!**

## **We need your help!**

**On Thursday, March 31**, Student Council will be hosting its annual March Madness Basketball Tournament. In each of the past five years, Student Council has raised over \$1,000 for the NJASC state charities. One of the ways in which we are able to accomplish this is by asking **student players to contribute \$5 each**. If you would also **like to contribute \$5** to our charity, **Hope Loves Company**, which seeks to assist children whose family members are struggling with ALS, we would welcome it. In addition, we are once again looking for faculty members to help with various tasks for this worthwhile cause. If you are able to help in any way, please email as soon as possible. The event runs from **7:00—9:00**. Please plan to **arrive by 6:30**.

There are **two options for participating**: joining other staff members to **play against the students** or **helping out with concessions, scoring, reffing, ticket collecting, crowd control, etc.**

**p.s. If you are interested in playing on the staff team, please see \_\_\_\_\_. He is eager to start practicing in an effort to bring home the gold trophy once again!**

Thanks for your help-

# ***March Madness***

## ***Basketball Tournament***

**Date: Thursday, March 31, 2016**

**Time: 7:00-9:00**

**Place: Logan Gym**

**Cost: \$5 per player and \$3 for spectators**

All players must wear their own team shirts.

**All players must return this permission slip, \$5, and attend seedings after school on Thursday, March 17.**

My child, \_\_\_\_\_, has my permission to play in the March Madness Basketball Tournament. I am aware that the winning team will play against the staff team and that the **\$5 participation fee** will be donated to the NJASC state charity, Christine's Hope for Kids, which seeks to assist underprivileged children.

Parent signature:

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March Madness

Thursday, March 31, 2016

7:00-9:00

Team Sign-Up Sheet

You may sign up as an individual or as a full team of 7.



Individual sign-up: \_\_\_\_\_

Team sign-up:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Forms are due back to **Mrs. Bigley by Thursday, March 10. Seeding will take place after school on March 17.**

## **Logan Township Middle School Student Council (grades 6-8)**

### **March Madness Project**

The name “March Madness” immediately brings to mind exciting basketball games, intense rivalries, and broken brackets- and this is exactly what Logan Township’s Student Council March Madness event signifies. Although Student Council engages in numerous beneficial events during the course of the year- community clean-ups, the senior citizens’ holiday luncheon, and the food drive, for example- nothing rivals March Madness for school participation and enthusiasm. For several weeks, our 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students are involved in forming teams (with each player contributing a \$5 entry fee), practicing their skills, designing t-shirts, and competing in one night of frenzied athleticism that culminates with the top student team squaring off against the staff team for the ultimate championship. Meanwhile, Student Council members and advisors create our program for the big night and solicit teacher volunteers to keep score, run the scoreboard, DJ during breaks, and sell snacks and tickets. Two P.E. teachers referee the game, and staff members practice feverishly in order to not embarrass themselves during the championship game. Finally, when the night in March arrives, students and community members (often parents and siblings of players or former students) pay their \$3 admission fee at the door. Snacks and drinks are sold throughout the night. To begin the evening, several students sing “The Star-Spangled Banner,” and then the first round of playoffs begins with the lower-ranked teams playing the higher-ranked ones, just as in the actual NCAA event. At halftime, with music blaring, students pay \$1 in order to be able to attempt two half-court shots, for which we award small prizes. After that, the top two student teams compete for the championship with the ultimate game following, as the student champions face off against the staff team. Once the winner has been declared, we present the trophy to the winning team and photos are taken. All of the money raised from sales and snacks, which usually approximates \$1000, goes to the New Jersey Association of Student Councils’ state charity. Due to the large amount of money raised and the great excitement and participation from our students and community, March Madness has easily become the most anticipated event of the year and is one that could easily be duplicated by other schools. Although this activity requires strong organization on the part of Student Council members and participation from a good number of teachers, the large charity donation it engenders coupled with the robust turnout of participants make it one of our most worthwhile and exciting projects of the year.

