



## *Greetings from Christopher 2X*



At the start of this New Year, I feel blessed and full of hope about the future of kids in need who benefit from our Future Healers, Zoo Buddies, and Planet Savers programs.

I'm excited about 2023 because we have big plans to expand and help more kids whose lives have been upended by senseless gun violence.

Future Healers, in partnership with the University of Louisville Medical School, medical students, doctors, and staff, started in 2021 with 25 kids and now has more than 100 enrolled. We've touched the lives of more than 1,000 other kids through Zoo Buddies and Planet Savers in partnership with The Louisville Zoo and its donors.

In this final 2022 newsletter, we're highlighting how these programs have engaged our kids in recent months with volunteers including role models in law enforcement, entrepreneurial business ventures and the entertainment world.

I've seen the joy and growing compassion in our kids as they have fun experiencing nature and learning from medical professionals about human care in a hospital setting, animal care at The Zoo, and how they can be good stewards for our environment.

Most importantly, opening their eyes to these new experiences with inspiring successful mentors helps them realize they too can have a bright future free of violence.

I'm so grateful for your support which makes our work possible. Thank you and Happy New Year!

Christopher 2X • Executive Director • Christopher 2X Game Changers

## WORLD FAMOUS ARTISTS MASTER P AND SNOOP DOGG JOIN OUR BOARD IN HONORARY LEADERSHIP ROLES AND PROMOTE A BOOK ABOUT A FUTURE HEALER



**Percy "Master P" Miller**



**Snoop Dogg**

We are overjoyed for the volunteer leadership and inspiring good deeds of our new honorary board members Percy "Master P" Miller and Calvin Cordozar Broadus Jr., known professionally as Snoop Dogg.

Master P is honorary board chair, and Snoop Dogg, is honorary vice chair.

Chris said the involvement of the two award winning artists will strengthen our ability to help kids overcome challenges.

Master P said he and Snoop Dogg are excited to help 2X Game Changers bring even more awareness of, and advocacy for, safe and healthy learning environments for kids through creative programming ideas.



The two co-signed a children's book, "Adventures with Malakai," about Malakai Roberts, seven, a Future Healer member who was blinded by random gunfire when he was five.

The book, available on Amazon and other online bookstores, shows how Malakai overcomes adversity with a goal of inspiring children who are blind or face other life challenges.

Master P and Snoop Dogg commend Malakai and promote the book in this [YOUTUBE VIDEO](#).

Master P said Malakai inspires them, and he noted that Malakai, although blind, learned to ride a bike.

"This is who I want to be when I grow up," Snoop Dogg said. "I want to grow up to be like Malakai."





## MAKING THE HOLIDAYS BRIGHT FOR HUNDREDS OF KIDS



For the 13th year, Master P and Chris partnered to provide a fun time and toys to children in need to brighten their holiday season. This year's celebration was the biggest yet, with 300 children touched by Master P's generosity.

The party at the Chestnut Street YMCA featured a bounce house, a pop-a-shot basketball goal, food, and a Santa and Grinch in attendance. UofL Basketball Coach Kenny Payne also visited and spoke with the kids.

Master P's son, Hercy Miller, a UofL basketball player and Christopher 2X Game Changers youth ambassador, donated some of his NIL money for the event along with sponsorships by Delta Dental and Adidas.

Thanks to our federal partners in Louisville from the U.S. Attorney's office, the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms who brought toys to a holiday lunch for our Future Healers Got Zoo Buddies.



At left, FBI Special Agent in Charge Jodi Cohen with happy kids displaying their new toys.



"My family and I, we've been really just kind of working to heal, working to create a new life, and this program has helped us," parent Deedra Latham told WDRB news. "We, too, have suffered a tremendous loss, and the program has positively impacted us, helps the kids on a mental, emotional and then, of course, physical level."

## A KEY TO THE CITY FOR MASTER P



In recognition of his philanthropic work and contributions in Louisville, Chris nominated Master P for a Key to the City from Mayor Greg Fischer. The mayor presented the honor to Master P at a ceremony at Metro Hall. Master P, who has called Louisville his “second home,” spent time here after his family relocated temporarily from New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

## OUR KIDS RALLY FOR “TRICK OR TRASH” TO RECYCLE CANDY WRAPPERS



Many thanks to Nate Morris, the entrepreneurial founder of Morris Industries and Rubicon Technologies, for giving our Planet Savers kids the opportunity to collect Halloween candy that he had recycled into doggie bags.

The kids collected hundreds of candy wrappers for the “Trick or Trash” program.

Chris, left, with Nate at a Christmas holiday gathering with the kids at the Chestnut Street YMCA. Nate spoke to them about waste recycling and environmental conservation. The kids are excited about more waste recycling activities ahead with Nate to help the environment.



## ZOO BUDDIES GET INSPIRED AND LEARN FROM ANIMAL EXPERTS



Jordan Veasley, known as Jungle Jordan, engaged our Zoo Buddies at The Louisville Zoo with his knowledge and enthusiasm for wildlife.

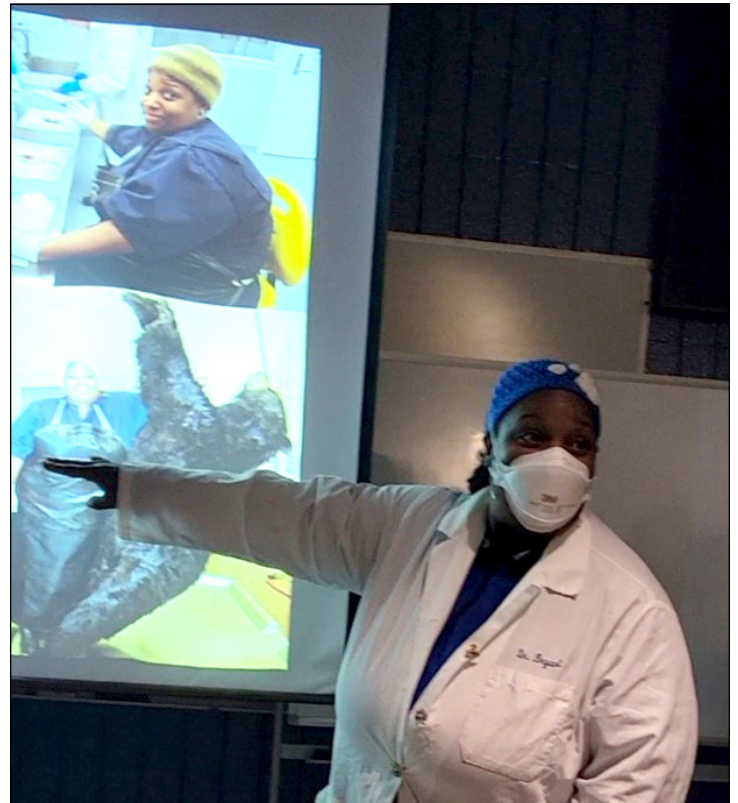
Jordan, from Seattle, Wash., a wildlife educator, also inspired our Zoo Buddies with his own story of struggling as a kid and how his passion for animals and the zoo provided a focus and ultimately a career.

Jordan, who graduated from the University of Washington in 2012 with a degree in Environmental Science and Resource Management: Wildlife Conservation, advocates for the conservation of wildlife and for more diverse audiences to get involved. He spreads his messages through social media, a podcast, in classrooms and visits to zoos around the country.

We were also honored for Zoo Buddies to hear from Dr. Uneeda Bryant, a renowned veterinarian pathologist with the University of Kentucky Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.

Dr. Bryant, who mentors and encourages young people to enter science-related fields, explained the role of veterinary pathologists in safeguarding animal populations, determining causes of death and protecting human-animal bonds.

The Louisville Zoo session also gave the kids a chance to see and learn about real animal organs.



## FUTURE HEALERS FOCUS ON THE BRAIN AND RESPIRATORY SYSTEM



Future Healers learned about how the brain functions and how the respiratory system works in recent sessions.

At left, a UofL medical student helps Future Healers label the lobes of the brain on baseball caps, carefully placing them to correspond with their location in an actual brain.

## UOFL LINEBACKER MONTY MONTGOMERY JOINS OUR YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

Monty Montgomery, a defensive linebacker for the UofL football program, is joining our Youth Advisory Board and will work with UofL basketball guard Hercy Miller who joined as a youth ambassador in July 2022.

"As a student-athlete and as someone who believes that education saves lives, I am thrilled to be a part of an organization that is impacting the lives of the youngest citizens among us and cannot wait until the rest of my Cardinal family can feel the impact of what we do when we engage the community," Montgomery said.

Montgomery and Miller will work to support early childhood education and victims of gun violence, advocating for peace and justice.

"This is fantastic, and we now have a second UofL Cardinal student-athlete join the community impact efforts of 2X Game Changers," Chris said.

