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## Annual Appeal

The Covid-19 crisis and the political spectacle during the past year has created a lot of stress and been the source of numerous tragic circumstances and events. One of the issues that has not received adequate attention is the high levels of individual mental anguish and despair.

That issue speaks directly to the primary mission of the Flyin Ryan Foundation to which you have so generously given in the past. The core of our mission is focused on giving students, athletes, and adventurers the opportunity to establish self-identity and awareness which is based on tapping into each person's unique core energy. Our **Decisions Program** provides each participant with a mechanism to empower a sense of ownership by connecting their heart and core spirit with their mind to identify and compose core values which are authentic. Thus armed, they are equipped with a compass which is always focused on true North as a means of navigating the hazards and distractions of living in today's world. This is a critical life lesson which we offer to anyone who is willing to undertake our Core Values Challenge or Decisions Program. What we are really asking here is for people to shed the core values that have been imposed upon them by various sources of authority: parents, teachers, coaches, clergy, peer pressure and numerous other sources and to replace them with self-composed core values which are authentic. Engaging in this exercise in self-identity produces a platform of self-awareness which is likely to lead to higher quality decisions and success in life.

We are continuing to penetrate the **Vermont secondary school system** although our progress has been impacted by issues associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. Our primary initiative involves turning our core values challenge and Decisions Program into digital curriculum which will be housed on our website. Although we are making progress, there is still work to be done before we can launch it and have it reflect well on the foundation. Much of our focus and energy has been devoted to this project over the course of the last five or six months. It is our belief that curriculum tutorials will significantly extend the opportunities for us to expand our outreach.

Our **Adventure Scholarship Program** continues to attract high quality applicants. We've made about 120 awards over the six-year existence of this program. Our intern, Everett Tillett, has done an excellent job reaching out to the awardees and stimulating them to share with us what is happening in their lives.

**The Flyin Ryan crew** is in good shape. Christine Golden of Golden Consulting LLC handles administrative and operational affairs. She continues to do a superb job and provides us with a solid operational platform to execute responsibilities and opportunities. Annie Martin, our intern last year, is coordinating our social media outreach. David Punia continues to help us with our IT issues and has been instrumental in creating content for the curriculum apps which we are developing for the website. Sparky Millikin serves as our bookkeeper. Robert Miller is our pro bono attorney who weighs in as needed. I am incredibly grateful for their service and commitment to our mission.

Please continue to support our journey by making a contribution with which you are comfortable and which will enable us to grow and enrich the lives of the people we touch.

Onward and upward,

Peter Hawks  
Executive Director  
Flyin Ryan Hawks Foundation

**Core Values Matter**