

## "For The Kids, Through The Kids, By The Kids"

**"Who are your Life Teammates® and do they know?"**

This is a question that the kids of the Will To Live Foundation hear every day. Raising Awareness and Increasing Education is a major part of the mission of Will To Live. The most important part of the mission, however, is quite simply - **Delivering Hope to Teens.**

When the foundation was formed by the friends of Will Trautwein, who took his life in October of 2010. Will's friends gathered and decided they were going to create a foundation to help raise the awareness of teen suicide and mental illness, but more importantly, they wanted to create a foundation that embodied the spirit of their friend who's suicide death had devastated them. Will was known as a true friend to so many, thus the concept of truly "being there" for your friends, the Life Teammates concept, was founded in Will's honor.

Today, the Life Teammates program is our flagship message designed to "Deliver Hope" to teens everywhere. Teen volunteers have created fun activities, fundraisers, and events where they have the opportunity to work and play together, which facilitates building those Life Teammate® bonds in the process. The program's goal is to teach the importance of being able to say not only "love ya man" but also, "hey, I need to talk - I could use some help."



**Our Mission Statement:**

**"We are dedicated to preventing teen suicide by improving the lives and the 'Will To Live' of teenagers everywhere through education about mental health and encouraging them to recognize the love and hope that exists in each other."**

**The Will To Live Foundation**  
a 501(c)(3) public charity

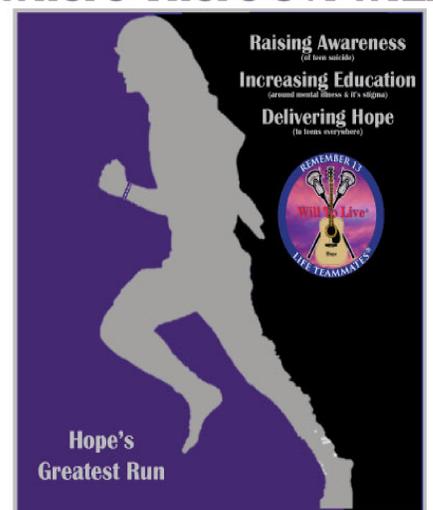
**5805 State Bridge Rd #G212**  
**Johns Creek, GA 30097**  
**friends@will-to-live.org**

**Learn more on line at:**  
**www.@will-to-live.org**

## The Life Teammates® Program

Each year, the Foundation works with teenagers to put on the two major fundraisers of Will To Live. The **"Where There's a Will There's A Way 5k"** in late January/early February and the **"WILLSTOCK" Teen music Festival** during Suicide Prevention and Awareness Week each September. These two major events are created, designed, implemented and owned by the teenagers themselves and are the 2 signature events that generate not only an incredible amount of awareness around teen suicide, depression, and the stigma surrounding mental illnesses, but are a huge source of "Delivering Hope" to each other. Through these events, these teens and young adults learn first hand the power of being with their Life Teammates.

### Where There's A WILL



### There's A Way 5K

**In 2018 The 5K raised over \$100,000 with over 1700 participants. Owned, organized and implemented by the kids of Will To Live! Delivering Hope Together**



[www.Will-To-Live.org](http://www.Will-To-Live.org)

**The Will To Live Foundation, Inc. - a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit organization**  
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# Delivering Hope

To Teens Everywhere

## The Will To Live Life Teammates® Scholarship Program

The final of the three programs supported by Will To Live is the **Life Teammates Scholarship** program, where multiple scholarships (typically \$1k/each) are given to senior students at Northview high school and others in the greater North Atlanta suburbs each year.

Since the program began in 2011, over \$100,000 in scholarships have been awarded to high school seniors from various teams, groups and clubs. Each winner is voted on by the students themselves. What makes this so special is the fact that the entire program, freshman through seniors, vote for that one senior who best represents what it is to be a Life Teammate®.

Thus, not only do we have over 1000 kids voting each year, and thinking about what it means to be a Life Teammate, but by the time they are seniors, these students would have voted four times. This program continually drives the life teammate message home! Thinking about it – talking about it. Every year, the LT Scholarship from WTL is considered the “highlight” of the awards season.

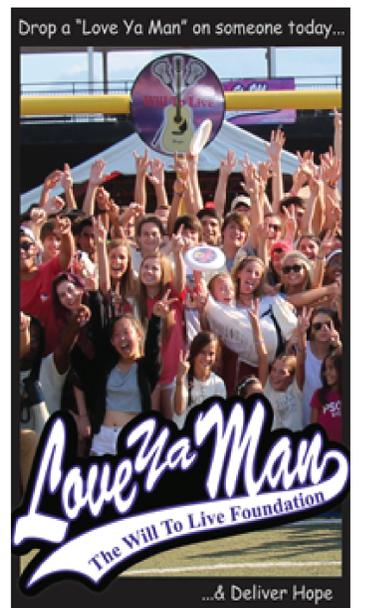


*The WILLSTOCK® teen music festival was held once again in September 2018 to kick off National Suicide Prevention Week”. As with the 5K, his fabulous event was created, organized and implemented by the kids of Will To Live and raised over \$40,000 with over 700 participants . The community enjoyed 20 teenage bands fulfilling a dream by playing live on a professional stage in front of their Life Teammates!*

## Club Will To Live

Over the past few years, we also saw the creation of over 15 “**Club Will To Live**” organizations in high schools and middle schools in the Atlanta area, as well as several major universities, such as University of GA, University of FL, and GA Southern University to name a few.

The foundation has also sponsored events and activities at Northwestern University, Illinois State University, University of GA, University of Alabama, GA Tech and several fraternities and sororities at Universities across the South East. These clubs are a source of strength and a ‘place to go’ for these students who are faced with the challenges of today’s crazy and competitive world .



## Wake Forest & The Will To Live

In 2018, The Foundation worked closely with Wake Forest University and gave four presentations on campus and helped create a Mental Health Awareness initiative throughout Wake Forest and the Winston Salem community that will continue each year!

*“One thing that I have not only seen over and over again since the Will To Live Foundation was formed, but also have experienced personally so many times is the fact that nowhere is Hope more prevalent than in the eyes of friend”  
- John Trautwein*

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