

The Piper’s Angels Foundation held its 2018 Crossing For A Cure charity event, a long distance endurance paddle challenge that raises funds and awareness for cystic fibrosis. The 75-mile adventure from Bimini, Bahamas to Florida’s East Coast took place on Saturday and

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Lake Worth Mayor Pam Triolo and City Commissioner Herman Robinson with three Lake Worth Lifeguards Lex, Frank and Gabriel on the podium after paddling across the Gulfstream from Bimini to Lake Worth Beach.

featured 100 paddlers and 30 boats with a combined mission of raising \$250,000.

The flagship event of Piper’s Angels, a non-profit organization, started at the Bimini Sands Resort and finished at South Florida’s Lake Worth Pier. This year’s event featured its first three paddlers with cystic fibrosis. Proceeds help ensure improved quality of life for local patients and their families through Piper’s Angels Foundation programs.

“From paddlers to volunteers to boat captains, this is a monumental effort and it’s amazing to see so many people come together to challenge themselves and each other,” said Piper’s Angels Foundation Executive Director Travis Suit. “I love watching people get

Travis Suit, founder of Piper's Angels Foundation and his daughter Piper greet paddlers at Lake Worth Beach.

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excited about this and spreading the positive message of making the most out of circumstances we face.”

This year’s event featured an online auction to help with fundraising, and a landing party at Lake Worth Pier. The landing party at the pier concluded with an awards ceremony and a boat raffle. The Mayor Pam Triolo of Lake Worth spoke as a dignitary at the awards ceremony.

Piper’s Angels trek across the Gulf Stream was launched in celebration of Suit’s daughter, Piper. Diagnosed with cystic fibrosis at the age of 4, Suit found hope and inspiration in learning of the healing benefits of saltwater for cystic fibrosis patients. After learning to paddle and surf as a natural and fun way of healing for Piper, his mission expanded in 2013 when he completed his first 75-mile paddle as a personal challenge to raise awareness.

This endurance paddle, which also served as a demonstration to Piper of how one can overcome life challenges and face fear, has now evolved into a movement that encompasses the entire cystic fibrosis community.

This year’s Crossing For A Cure was made possible by generous title sponsors the Palm Beach Sports Club, Next Level Fitness Water, Lifeguard, and Legacy Marine, as well as supporting sponsors Power Design, Tealixir Kombucha, Jupiter Pointe Club & Marina, Endless Summer Rum, Tito’s Handmade Vodka, Tropic Sport, Med Lab, Ed Morse Automotive Group, C3 Gardens, Life Hearing & Tinnitus Health Centers.

This year, the goal of \$250,000 was exceeded.