

Dunks for Diabetes: The Next Chapter

By Olivia Scheffler

The non-profit organization, Dunks for Diabetes turns over a new leaf with management changes as founder Jordan Yaffe steps down to take a role as advisor. Yaffe founded the organization in 2012 and successfully raised over \$30,000 from the Baltimore tournaments. Yaffe expanded the organization to seven different locations across the country in less than ten years.

The new leaders are internal promotions as the Heads of Miami, Washington DC and New York are taking the co-president of the organization roles. They have a combined 19 years of experience with Dunks for Diabetes and have raised over \$10,000 as a team. One of the new presidents is Devin Posen, the former head of the New York chapter and a senior at the Ethical Cultural Fieldston School. Posen brings a modern approach to the organization as he spearheaded the change from just 3 v 3 tournaments into a more holistic approach where other basketball-related events were included into the New York program. He helped Dunks for Diabetes partner with the Fieldston basketball team to hold a four-day basketball camp for local kids aging from kindergarten to 8th grade. Posen said, "I want to continue to innovate the New York programming as well as expanding Dunks for Diabetes to the west coast. We are really close to expanding to Los Angeles and Phoenix locations in the upcoming year and we have a lot of fun stuff planned for that."

The next new president is Mason Berk, the former head of the Washington D.C chapter and a senior at Wootton High School. Berk been an active member of the organization for five years and has raised thousands of dollars through 3 v 3 tournaments and club events. He was the first member of Dunks for Diabetes to make it a school club and still heads the club with executive board member Spencer Becker. Berk said, "I think that we still need to expand along the east coast and with our Boston and Philadelphia locations to operate soon we can raise even more money and do more evens on a national level."

Finally, the last presidents are Zach and Tyler Marcus, the former heads of the Miami chapter and a freshman at Middlebury University and Ransom High School. The Miami tournament was the first ever tournament outside of Baltimore and has attracted celebrities such as Ray Allen and has been played at the University of Miami courts. The Marcus family has created an annual tournament in Maine and continues to try and push for expansion across the nation.