

## TRANSITIONS KIDS TIMES

### Meeting Families as They Are, Where They Are

In November, we recognize Pediatric Grief Awareness month.

### Integrative and Holistic

[Meditation for Kids: Grief and Coping with Loss](#)

### Welcome New Staff



**Lauren Cunningham, RN  
Pediatric Palliative Care  
Specialist**

- Lauren started at TK at the beginning of September this year
- Lauren has been

a nurse for a little more than five years and has experience in surgical oncology, LTAC, pediatric ICU, and surgery trauma.

- In her free time, Lauren enjoys spending time with her dog Remmy and her friends.
- Fun Fact: Lauren is from West Virginia!



**Macayla Wall, RN  
Pediatric Palliative Care  
Specialist**

- Macayla started at TK at the beginning of October this year.
- Macayla has been

a nurse for four years and has experience in a pediatric cardiac intensive care unit, organ donation, and procedure-based nursing.

- In her free time, Macayla enjoys being outside, traveling, and yoga.
- Fun Fact: Macayla danced for 17 years!

### Welcome our Interns



**Allyson Mattingly,  
MSW Intern**

- Advanced Standing MSW student at NC State University
- Allyson completed her BSW internship with

Transitions Kids earlier this year and was on the team from January – May. Allyson is coming back to TK and will be with us until May 2025 for her MSW internship.

- Fun Fact: I love to travel and have been to eight European countries so far!



**Ashley Telli,  
MSW Intern**

- School: Columbia University School of Social Work
- Degree Program:

Master of Science in Social Work

- Track: Advanced Clinical Practice
- With TK: September 2024–May 2025 (and hopefully longer!)
- Fun Fact: I'm left-handed!



**Maddy Van Husen,  
MSW Intern**

- School: UNC School of Social Work and UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health

- Degree Program: Dual MSW and MPH
- Maddy has been interning with Transitions Kids since May of this year and is finishing up her internship at the beginning of December
- Fun Fact: In my free time I teach barre at Barre3 in Chapel Hill!



**Kendall Wesson,  
MSW Intern**

- School: Baylor University's Diana R. Garland School of Social Work
- Advanced Standing MSW student at Baylor

University's Online MSW program

- Kendall is specializing in Clinical Practice with a Trauma-Informed Concentration within her MSW program.
- Kendall started at Transitions Kids in September of this year and will be joining our team until May 2025.
- Fun Fact: I love to travel, visit new places, and experience and learn about new cultures. The longest distance I've travelled was in April of this year to Southeast Asia!

## Creative and Innovative

### TK Parent Facebook Group

**Looking for a way to connect with other TK parents and families?** We have created a private Facebook group that invites families to connect with each other, support each other, and build a community. Please

feel free to use this group in ways that feel supportive to you and your family! To become a member of this group, please use this [link](#) to submit your email address that is connected to your Facebook account. An invitation to join the group will be sent to your email.

### Follow TK on Social Media

Post a picture of you, your child, or your family engaging in some silliness or play and tag Transitions Kids!



TK Parent Group



## Accountability and Advancement

[Childhood Bereavement Estimation Model \(CBEM\) - Judi's House \(judishouse.org\)](#)

[Activities for bereaved children and young people | Download for free | Winston's Wish \(winstonswish.org\)](#)

## Engagement and Collaboration

On October 20, TK families enjoyed a beautiful fall day at Fall Fest! We painted pumpkins, watched movies, played bingo and outdoor games, and ate yummy fall snacks. A big thanks to all of our TK families and volunteers for a great event to kick off fall and the holiday season. We are so thankful for all of you!

[How to Participate in Children's Grief Awareness Day \(childrensgriefawarenessday.org\)](#)

## Bereavement Groups

### Bereavement Groups

KidsZone and She Shed

Please see our [Events Calendar](#) for registration and details.

## Wonder and Whimsy

[Children's Grief Awareness Day – Activity Ideas](#)