

# Hanley Foundation's Boca Raton Expansion Efforts



## A Letter from John and Michelle Makris

March 12<sup>th</sup> marks one year since our beloved son Brice passed away, inspiring the work we do to prevent substance use disorders, provide treatment for those in need and advocate for supportive policies and programs. Brice's desire to save 100 men and women from the grip of substance use disorder has become his legacy and our pledge. Thanks to so many of you who have supported our efforts, we have made great headway towards Brice's goal, and we hope to far exceed it.

One of the most rewarding aspects of our efforts has been the ability to be available to parents of loss, families in distress over loved ones and individuals suffering from substance use disorders. We have had the privilege of befriending so many caring and, sometimes, desperate people from all over the country. Sometimes, these friends just need someone to talk to, but most often they are seeking advice on how to help their loved ones, or where they can personally get the treatment they need. Thanks to the work and support of Hanley Foundation and so many of you, we have been able to share our experiences, offer some counsel, provide referrals and sometimes even help save a life.

Still, there are thousands of individuals suffering from substance use disorders right here in our community, and millions are suffering throughout the country. This last year was particularly devastating to the recovery community. Covid-19's effects of isolation, economic distress and loss of life has brought with it a sharp increase in fatal overdoses and suicide. So, we pledge to double down on our efforts in 2021, and we hope to enlist your continued support when our collective voices need to be heard.

We will never forget the shout-back we received at Brice's service to our plea for help fighting the epidemic of substance use disorders. Since then, so many have turned that shout-back into action that has made a great impact. There are no words that can adequately express our deepest gratitude for the support, friendship and love so many have given. If Brice were here today, he would be proud of all of us!

With our warmest regards,

**John A. Makris**  
PARENT OF LOSS  
HANLEY FOUNDATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Michelle F. Makris**  
PARENT OF LOSS

# Saving Lives through the Brice Makris Endowment Fund



The Brice Makris Endowment Fund exists to support individuals in their journeys of recovery by providing essential treatment scholarships for those whose healing is a significant financial hardship.

After losing their son to an accidental overdose in March of 2020, John and Michelle Makris partnered with Hanley Foundation to create a memorial endowment fund honoring their son Brice and his wish for others to receive the treatment and care needed. Through the generosity of Brice's friends and family and the Foundation's community partners, the Endowment is well on its way to meeting and exceeding Brice's goal of saving 100 individuals from substance use disorders.

## Expanding Prevention Programming to Boca Raton

In addition to raising Endowment funds set aside for scholarships, Hanley Foundation is expanding its reach throughout Southern Palm Beach County and the Boca Raton region. With tremendous support from the Makris Family, the Foundation is partnering with local organizations in the Boca area to change stigma to empathy and create increased awareness, advocacy and prevention efforts in unreached communities.

### Our Boca Partners:



Furthering its expansion in prevention programming, Hanley Foundation has established a new partnership with Grandview Preparatory School in Boca Raton to implement an evidence-based, comprehensive drug and alcohol prevention program for grades 7 through 12, which launched at the beginning of the 2020/2021 school year. The expansion also includes the creation of new Boca events geared toward connecting families and individuals with educational resources, advocacy tools and opportunities for fun family gatherings.

### Our Boca Events:

➔ Brice Makris Memorial Picnic ➔ Rotary Club of Boca Raton Sunrise/Hanley Foundation Golf Tournament ➔ Cultivation Events

## Thank You John and Michelle Makris

Together, Hanley Foundation and the Makris Family are dedicated to expanding quality prevention programs, treatment scholarships, advocacy efforts, empathy and public knowledge surrounding substance use disorders to the Boca region and throughout Palm Beach County and Florida. Through the cultivation of relationships, essential partnerships and the tireless work of creating a better, healthier future for individuals and families, Hanley Foundation gratefully recognizes the efforts of John and Michelle Makris and their ever-expanding Boca community.