

'THE WHOLE THING GOT CRAZIER AND CRAZIER'

ONLINE BEER PONG TOURNAMENT RAISES THOUSANDS FOR HOSPITAL WORKERS

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Beer pong and social responsibility are not words you will find linked very often.

But two Georgetown brothers made the odd combination work, raising more than \$3,000 for front-line workers at the hospital.

Inspired by online tournaments between pro athletes and other celebrities, Brett and Eric Bertrand organized an online tournament with 14 friends and set out with a goal to raise \$500.

"Our friends were all talking about these online tournaments and we thought it would be a good way to pass the time and avoid the bore-

dom," said Brett Bertrand. "Then we thought maybe we could raise some money for the hospital."

The brothers made a video to promote the tournament "just to show that we weren't stupid teenagers, that we were trying to raise some funds," posted it in on Facebook, LinkedIn and an Instagram account (@averagejoesballinacup) they created for the event.

They set up a GoFundMe account at 8 p.m. and before they went to bed that night,

they had already reached their goal, so they doubled it. They reached their new goal the next day, so they increased it again. By the time the tournament ended — about 100 people watched each game live on Instagram — they had raised \$3,180 for the Georgetown Hospital.

"The whole thing got crazier and crazier. I still can't believe how well it did," Bertrand said. "I thought, 'Wow, this could really make a difference.' We've got front-line heroes risking their lives to help keep the rest of us safe, so it was great to be able to do something for them and lift their spirits."

With the success of the tournament, the brothers are now looking to host another tournament, expanding the field to 32 players, and hopefully raising more money for the hospital.



By Cory Soal
R.H.A.D.

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