



CANCER

Because of research, Myla can dance.

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A LETTER FROM THE CEO

We can make great strides for children fighting cancer.

We are pleased to present this impact report for our fiscal year, which was January 1 to December 31, 2021.

The year 2021 marked 40 years of Children's Cancer Research Fund. Our incredible growth over these past 40 years is due in no small part to the supporters who have been with us from the beginning – and those who have joined us along the way. You never stopped dreaming about what was possible for children fighting cancer – safer treatments, shorter hospital stays, and ultimately, much higher survival rates.

Because of you, we can celebrate:

- + Bringing the overall survival rate from less than 60% when we began to over 80% today.
- + Kids like Myla, who can dance again after months of difficult treatment for leukemia limited her mobility.
- + Advancements in medical research and care leading to higher success rates and fewer side effects from the treatments we use to fight childhood cancer.

But there's so much more we can do together.

As we move into a new era for our organization, we set our sights on creating more impact in the childhood cancer ecosystem. We are actively exploring new fundraising models, program development and partnerships that will allow us to disrupt the status quo in the ecosystem, driving positive change more quickly for families experiencing pediatric cancer. We will also work to ensure a child's background does not determine if they survive or thrive after a cancer diagnosis. I'm grateful for every supporter who has been with us on this 40-year journey, and I look forward to seeing what more we CAN accomplish for children and families in the bright new era that awaits us.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Daniel Gumnit". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Daniel Gumnit, CEO
Children's Cancer Research Fund

MYLA'S STORY

Myla **can** dance again – thanks to research.



Seven-year-old Myla has always been a kind-hearted, active kid. She enjoys being silly, care-free and playing with her friends. So, when her mom, Katie, noticed lumps on her daughter's neck at a birthday party, she rushed her to urgent care as soon as she could.

Doctors ruled out strep throat and mono and sent Myla home while they investigated further. Katie and Myla didn't even make it home from the clinic before they received a call from their nurse saying Myla needed to go to the hospital immediately.

Myla spent over five hours in the emergency room before being admitted. The very next morning, just before her sixth birthday, Myla was diagnosed with standard risk, pre-B cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

Three weeks into treatment, Myla began losing movement in her hands and even having trouble breathing. She was admitted three times in a 12-

day span due to complications with fevers and severe neuropathy. After several tests, the doctors confirmed that Myla had Charcot Marie Tooth, a neurological disease that should not "activate" until much later in life, but chemo sometimes unmasks these kinds of underlying issues.

Myla's two-week intense rehab process was anything but easy. At the beginning of rehab, Katie noticed that Myla's arm was severely irritated and that began the three-month process of discovering what Myla was allergic to. She was airlifted after showing signs of seizures and it was revealed that the cause was her spinal tap.

Myla is currently in the maintenance portion of treatment and is set to finish treatment in September 2022. Last school year, Myla had an in-home teacher aide to assist her with online learning – she also had in-home physical, occupational and speech therapy and a tutor. Myla also enjoys dance.

Myla, cancer survivor



“Myla’s ballet recital was canceled due to COVID-19 in May 2020,” Katie said. “So, we dressed her up the day of her would-be recital and she danced away in the yard.”

Through it all, Myla has always found a way to make those around her smile with her infectious laugh. Myla enjoys watching Ryan’s World on YouTube and is a big fan of unicorns, minions and mermaids. In her free time, she loves making art projects, enjoys listening to music, and has dance parties with her little brother often.

“Myla has always kept a positive spirit, a smile on her face, making everyone laugh, has powered through every test, poke, prod and everything in-between.”

- Katie, Myla’s mom

“She has worked very hard in all of her therapies and is making great strides in her mobility. She has been so incredibly positive, upbeat and a shining light after all she has been through and simply amazes me with her resilience.”

The impact of one story

Myla’s story helped further the cause of childhood cancer research throughout 2021.

- + During our Childhood Cancer Awareness Month Campaign, Myla’s story helped raise \$317,540.
- + Myla’s story inspired thousands of participants in Great Cycle Challenge, who raised over \$13.5 million.
- + Myla’s story was also featured during the year-end campaign, which inspired \$309,501 in donations to research.

Myla, with her family



RESEARCH WINS

Because of you, we **can** move groundbreaking research forward and focus our efforts in the places where they are poised to make the greatest difference.



FOUR TYPES OF RESEARCH WE FOCUS ON FUNDING



Researchers early in their careers often struggle to receive funding, meaning their great ideas go unexplored. Because of your support, we're funding the next generation of leaders in cancer research.



We aim to bring more and better options to the table for cancers where the survival rates remain low or haven't improved in decades by supporting researchers who are working on the most difficult-to-treat cancers, like brain tumors, sarcomas and acute myeloid leukemia.

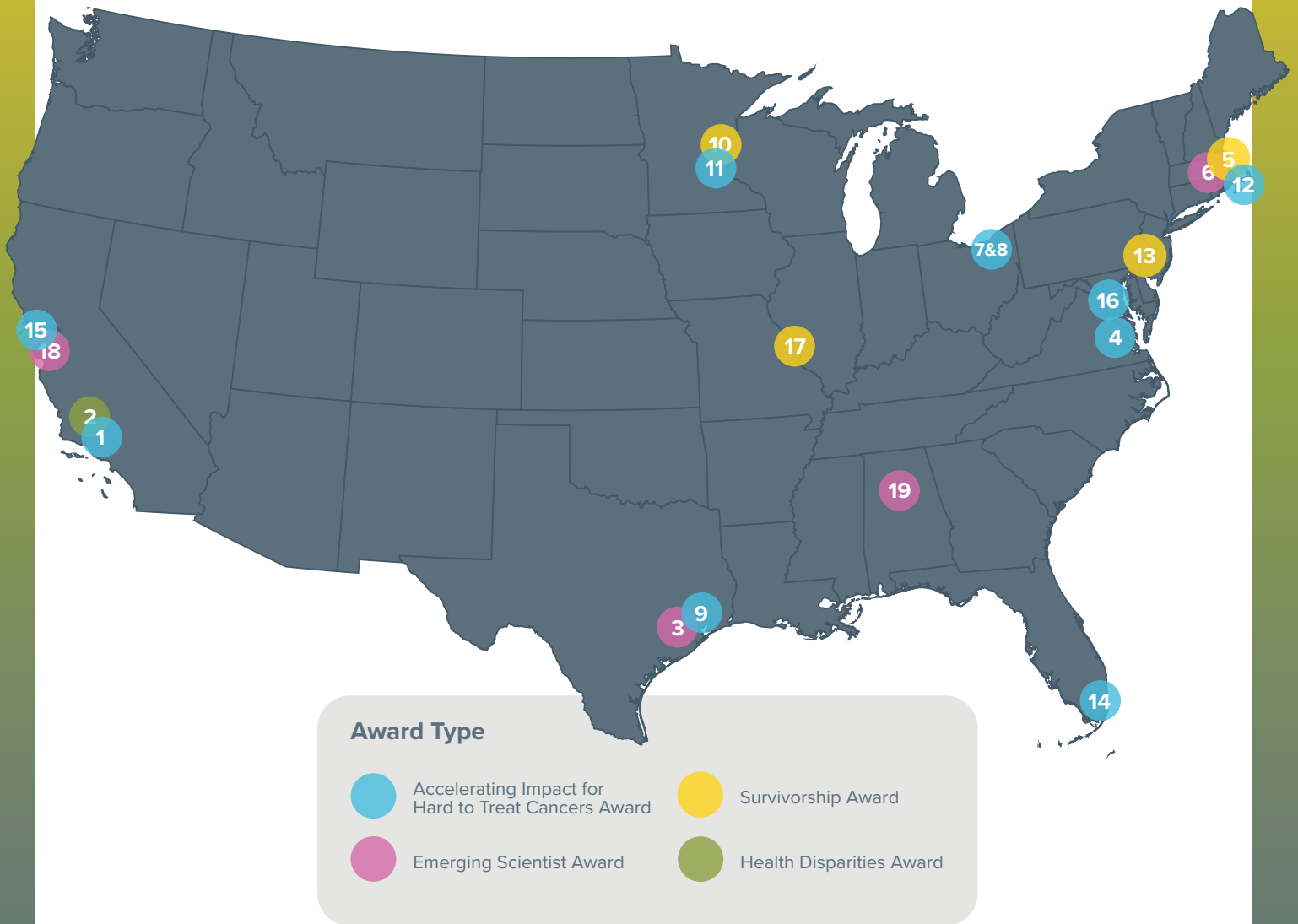


Nearly all childhood cancer survivors will have a significant health-related issue by the time they are 45 years of age. With your help, we're funding research and resources that aim to leave every child with cancer a happy, healthy survivor after treatment.



Research shows that children from racial and ethnic minority groups are less likely to survive cancer compared to white children. We're funding research that identifies the root causes of these disparities and builds interventions to eliminate them, so every child can survive and thrive.

OUR 2021 GRANT RECIPIENTS



EACH NUMBER REPRESENTS ONE GRANT

1. Dr. Peter Chiarelli, Children's Hospital Los Angeles
2. Children's Oncology Group
3. Dr. Shannon Conneely, Baylor College of Medicine
4. Dr. Anthony Faber, Virginia Commonwealth University
5. Dr. Katie Greenzang, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
6. Dr. Volker Hovestadt, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- 7&8. Dr. Alex Huang, Case Western Reserve University
9. Dr. Eugenie Kleinerman, University of Texas – M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
10. Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota
11. Dr. Jaime Modiano, University of Minnesota
12. Oncoheroes Biosciences*
13. OS Therapies*
14. Dr. Asha Pillai, University of Miami
15. Dr. Amit Sabnis, University of California – San Francisco
16. Dr. Lisa Schwartz, The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
17. Dr. Bryan Sisk, Washington University in St. Louis
18. Dr. Capucine Van Rechem, Stanford University
19. Dr. Aman Wadhwa, University of Alabama at Birmingham

*Impact investments: investments made with the intention to generate social or environmental impact alongside a financial return

PROGRAM WINS

We can improve the lives of kids with cancer –
during and after treatment.

Treatment

Survivorship



August 2021 marked the inaugural year of Camp Norden

Camp Norden was created specifically for kids who have or have had cancer. Camp Norden took place both in person at the Camp Knutson campgrounds in Crosslake, Minnesota and virtually with the help of virtual reality whiz and entertainer James Orrigo.



“It’s just easier to make friends with people here, especially because they have the same things going on that you do.” - Camp Norden in-person camper

“I can’t believe you guys actually found a way to make Zoom fun!” - Camp Norden virtual camper



Zach Sobiech Osteosarcoma Fund reaches \$3 million for osteosarcoma research

Before Zach passed away from osteosarcoma in 2013, he started the Zach Sobiech Osteosarcoma Fund, in the hopes that his legacy would make cancer treatment safer and more effective for kids diagnosed after him. Because of Zach, his family, friends and those of you who continue to help us in his mission, researchers are making groundbreaking new discoveries about how to more effectively treat osteosarcoma.

In August 2020, Children’s Cancer Research Fund collaborated with the Sobiech family to create Zach’s Movement with a goal of raising awareness and continuing Zach’s legacy to defeat osteosarcoma. By the end of 2021, Zach’s Movement helped the Zach Sobiech Osteosarcoma Fund (est. 2012) reach an incredible \$3 million for osteosarcoma

research. A special thank you to the Sobiech family, Hubbard Broadcasting/KS95, SPIRE Credit Union, Wayfarer Foundation, Kendra Scott and the countless fundraisers and donors for their steadfast support and dedication to continue Zach’s legacy.

“I often think about a moment during Zach’s fight where he was sharing a hospital room with a young boy, who also had osteosarcoma,” Laura said. “He said to me, ‘Mom, if I had to die so that little boy could live, I would.’ Ever since, that’s been the goal of the Zach Sobiech Osteosarcoma Fund – to use Zach’s story and legacy to fund research that will save the lives of kids with osteosarcoma.”

CAMPAIGN, EVENT & PARTNERSHIP WINS

We **can** show up for kids with cancer.



CAMPAIGN WINS

Dream Further Campaign reaches \$2.2 million goal for survivorship research and care.

In 2021, we launched Dream Further, a campaign honoring the 40 years of progress you've helped make possible in childhood cancer research and the new opportunity to look towards advancements in survivorship research.

Survivorship Facts

Today's childhood cancer treatments leave late effects that can last a lifetime. Late effects include:

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES
& MEMORY LOSS

HEARING LOSS

CAVITIES & OTHER
DENTAL PROBLEMS

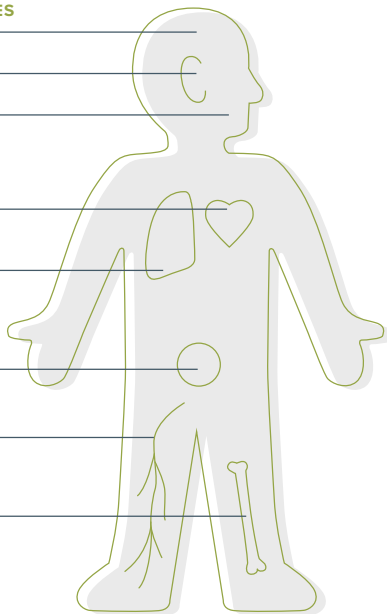
HEART & OTHER
ORGAN DAMAGE

INCREASED RISK OF
SECONDARY CANCERS

INFERTILITY

NERVE DAMAGE,
PAIN, WEAKNESS

STUNTED BONE
GROWTH



“One thing I want people to know is that survivorship research is cancer research. Patient care and research can be done at the same time.”

- Karim Sadak, MD, PHD, MSE
Director of the Cancer Survivorship Program at the University of Minnesota

Thanks to incredible donor and partner support, the Dream Further campaign exceeded its ambitious \$2 million goal, reaching \$2.2 million to fund research and care specific to the needs of childhood cancer survivors.

Special thanks to key contributors to the Dream Further Campaign

Jane Cady Pirtle and Megan Lindahl Goodrich
Dream Further campaign co-chairs

John and Nancy Lindahl
Sponsored the Lindahl Family Lobby

Katie's Kin
Sponsored the patient and family lounge "The Porch"

Norm and Diana Hageboeck
*Sponsored a patient exam room in honor of
Dr. Norma Ramsay*

Debbie and David Dworsky, Vicki and Shlomo Fainaru
and Lauren and Michael Kelner
*Sponsored a patient exam room in honor of
Mark Kelner*

Judy and Del Johnson
*Sponsored a patient exam room in honor of
Deb and Mark Nesbit, M.D.*

Bob Engelke
*Sponsored a patient exam room in memory of Louise
Engelke and Marilyn Anderson*

Pat and Ann Ryan
*Sponsored a patient exam room in memory of Katherine
Ann Ryan*

Dan Saklad
*Sponsored the Dan and Sheila Saklad Family patient
exam room*

Blythe Brenden-Mann Foundation
Cornerstone Partner

Custom One Homes
Cornerstone Partner

Cal and Sandy Simmons
Cornerstone Partner

Greg Soukup, MJ Carr and Warrior Mfg., LLC
Cornerstone Partner

New clinic name honors Katie Hageboeck and decades of support from CCRF

The Dream Further campaign culminated in the naming of the Katie Hageboeck Children's Cancer Research Fund Clinic at MHealth Fairview Masonic Children's Hospital. Katie, who passed away in 1979, asked that the money she was saving for a new 10-speed bike be donated to support kids like her. Four decades later, a clinic that bears her name will provide lifesaving care in a more comfortable environment to over 10,300 patients a year, thanks to generous support in memory of Katie.

"Our mission has always been to raise money for childhood cancer research, and we are so proud of Katie's significant impact on the progress of treating and curing all kids with cancer," said Norm Hageboeck, Katie's father. "Her wish over 40 years ago is providing hope for families today."



"We're extremely moved and grateful to have this clinic named for Katie. It's an enduring testament to her memory and an amazing outcome of her wish, that we can serve and support childhood cancer patients and survivors in such a strong capacity with this clinic," said Diana Hageboeck, Katie's mother.

EVENT WINS

Great Cycle Challenge hits \$13.5 million

Great Cycle Challenge riders hit an incredible \$13.5 million raised for childhood cancer research in 2021. Here's a breakdown of the 2021 numbers:

- + Over 40,760 riders from all 50 states
- + Nearly 4.88 million miles ridden
- + \$2.5 million raised on a single day, Kick Cancer's Butt Day

During Great Cycle Challenge, Florida rider Ricardo Andreu had the opportunity to meet Lily, one of the event's ambassadors who is fighting leukemia. Lily's mom, Tiffany, said seeing a community rally around her child gives her hope.

"Even if her story touches one person, and that person spreads the word and touches a few more people... maybe those people will donate to help kids in the future," she said.



Teams take 5.5 million steps forward during The Walk for Childhood Cancer Research

Participants in The Walk for Childhood Cancer Research raised over \$56,000 in September, furthering better, safer treatments for kids fighting cancer. Special thanks to our event partner, Thrivent Financial, top fundraising team, The Laura League, and our top individual fundraiser, John Goering, team captain of The Laura League.

- + 23 teams
- + 200 participants
- + 5.5 million steps
- + \$56,000+ raised

Although the event was virtual this year, some walk teams still hosted small team gatherings to celebrate their success, including Team For the Cure, led by Mark Dryer, who gathered his team in Plymouth, Minnesota for a walk around Parkers Lake.

Fundraisers received a personal thank-you message from oncologist and survivorship researcher Karim Sadak, MD, MPH, MSE.

"Every step you take helps raise funds so that we can make sure every child is cured of cancer, gets healthy and stays healthy for the rest of their life."
– Karim Sadak.

140 Golf Invitational Breaks Records, Raising \$420,662



The Lube-Tech 140 Golf Invitational broke their all-time fundraising record this fall, raising \$420,662 for hepatoblastoma research. This brings the event's 18-year total to \$3.9 million.

This year, participants also helped fund the inaugural year of Camp Norden.

Golfers at the event heard from Bella, a hepatoblastoma survivor, and her mom, Tabitha, about why funding for this research is so hard to come by. Hepatoblastoma is rare, but it is one of the fastest-rising types of childhood cancer. Golfers and fundraisers will help move essential research forward for kids like Bella.

Community Fundraisers

CCRF's community of fundraisers raised over \$740,000 in 2021.

One fundraiser, Dr. Alpay Temiz has some advice for those who are nervous about asking people to donate, or are worried about having set an unreachable goal. Dr. Temiz started a fundraiser in honor of colleague and mentee Bryant Keller, who passed away just months shy of earning a PhD to study and develop new therapeutic interventions for children battling cancer.

"There is no shame in asking," Dr. Temiz says. "Even a very small donation helps reach the ultimate goal. Key is to reach out to as many people as possible and explain why you are asking for money and how that money will be spent. Nothing is easy and fundraising is hard. Keep asking, keep working at it."

In 2021, Dr. Temiz far exceeded his initial \$8,000 goal, hitting \$20,000. His aim is to help fund the kind of out-of-the-box research that Bryant Keller

would have pursued, allowing others to finish what he started.

Thank you to all of our community fundraisers in 2021!

"People should know that there is less money going into children's cancer research and as a researcher funding is very important and appreciated."

- Dr. Alpay Temiz

PARTNERSHIP WINS

Corporate partners go above and beyond to engage with the cause.

We recognize two of our cause marketing partners who went above and beyond in 2021 to engage with the childhood cancer community and fund research for kids facing cancer.

Punch Neapolitan Pizza

Punch Pizza has partnered with CCRF since 2009 and contributed over \$252,000. These funds directly support some of the most promising minds in childhood cancer research. Punch Pizza has been a standout partner, particularly during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month every September. Because of Punch Pizza's efforts, CCRF has funded research that has:

- + Allowed researcher Branden Moriarity, PhD, to explore the genome engineering of human B cells to treat cancer and other genetic diseases. He recently secured a \$1.7 million grant from the National Institutes of Health – a direct result of Punch Pizza's seed funding.
- + Supported researcher Angela Mortari's lab in developing a process to create human lymph nodes using 3D bioprinting and tissue engineering.
- + Enabled researcher Peter Gordon, MD, PhD to take aim at relapsed childhood leukemia, focusing on what allows cancer cells to survive initial treatment or become resistant to today's cancer drugs.



Mixbook

During Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September, Children's Cancer Research Fund partnered with Mixbook to create the CCRF collection, special photo books designed to help childhood cancer families revisit their cancer experience and help survivors own their cancer stories.

Mixbook supported better, safer treatments for kids fighting cancer by donating 100% of sales from the CCRF Collection in September to Children's Cancer Research Fund and 5% of sales through the end of the year.

"It really did my heart so much good to make the Mixbook for Wyatt. It's very interesting as he gets older to revisit those pictures and what different times mean to him now." – Whitney, Wyatt's mom



FEATURED DONOR STORY

CCRF's new award aims to close gaps in childhood cancer research and outcomes

Today, racial and ethnic minority children and adolescents with cancer have a higher risk of death than non-Hispanic white children and adolescents. In the past few decades, researchers have made incredible progress in the world of childhood cancer research and care – but those advancements haven't reached every child with a diagnosis.

Through a new partnership with the Diversity and Health Disparities Committee of the Children's Oncology Group (COG), Children's Cancer Research Fund will award young investigators the funds to pursue research in childhood cancer disparities, to better understand why children of color experiencing cancer have worse outcomes than white children.

Lena Winestone, MD, MSHP, Vice Chair of the Diversity and Health Disparities Committee of COG says now is a key time to focus on the issue of disparities in childhood cancer research.

"It was hard to justify dedicating time and money to disparities in cure rates when no one was being cured," she said.

"We've made incredible progress in improving treatments and achieving cures, but anytime we're taking these novel and innovative approaches to treatment, if kids and families don't have equal access to them, we can actually see disparities widen."

- Lena Winestone, MD, MSHP

The Diversity and Health Disparities Committee of COG highlights the ways the CCRF Disparities Award aims to impact disparities:

- + Support researchers from minority communities who are conducting disparities research. If the people asking the questions and leading the research have personal insight into the issue of disparities, the quality of that research improves.
- + Improve patient care because when patients have someone of the same race or ethnic background caring for them, quality of care and subsequent outcomes improve. This has had proven benefits in the areas of palliative care and maternal fetal medicine.
- + Discover how we can close the gap in access to treatment. "In cancer, it's always better to seek treatment earlier, and catching cancer early can have a great impact on survival rates," Maria C. Velez, MD, Chair of the Diversity and Health Disparities Committee of COG and Medical Director of the Hemophilia Treatment Center at LSUHSC/Children's Hospital in New Orleans, said. "For some families it's a financial burden to seek treatment as quickly as they can. COG has over 200 hospitals in the U.S. that treat childhood cancer, but that's not always close to every child – we need to study how we can make the best treatment available to every child with a diagnosis of cancer right away."

COG will select the award recipients in May and project funding will begin in July 2022.

Making Childhood Cancer Disparities Research Possible



This work would not be possible without the dedicated support of donors like John and Judy Mendesh, who are helping fund this award.

John and Judy have been passionate about funding cancer research for years – their nephew survived leukemia as a teenager. John has also championed programs that aim to address racial and socioeconomic disparities in other areas of his work, so when he heard about the opportunity to fund disparities research through CCRF, he was eager to take part.

“I was intrigued as to why there was differential access to childhood cancer protocols and tools and saddened to know that some children have a better shot than others because of it. It shouldn’t be this way. It’s just wrong,” John said. “It’s a head and a heart thing for me.”

John says he’s particularly interested in focusing on making the pipeline of minority physicians and researchers more robust. Currently, this pipeline is “leaky,” meaning many ambitious, qualified candidates for positions drop out of the field entirely due to lack of support throughout their schooling and careers. John hopes his family’s support can help uncover what these promising candidates

need to stay in the field, so their talents can benefit children of color who are diagnosed with cancer.

“There aren’t enough people of color doing the science or the care,” John said. “People don’t think to design things for people who aren’t like them, and that’s wrong. We can’t have that in cancer research and medicine. Kids of color facing cancer deserve doctors and researchers who keep their needs in mind.”

“Kids of color facing cancer deserve doctors and researchers who keep their needs in mind.”

- John Mendesh

John and Judy believe this grant will be an important first step in bolstering this consistently underfunded area of research. The hope is to enable the following:

- + Increase the number of doctors and researchers of color focused on childhood cancer research and care
- + Close the survival rate gap between different racial and ethnic groups
- + Explore any physiological differences that may impact how treatments work for different populations

“We can’t solve this overnight, but unless the systemic issues get addressed, the problem won’t go away,” John said. “We have to be persistent.”

DONOR & PARTNER RECOGNITION

Thank you to our dedicated supporters

* = Deceased + = Community Fundraising Partner

HAGEBOECK SOCIETY

(Lifetime Giving \$1 Million and over)

140 Invitational Golf Tournament+
Al and Toni Cady and Family
Glenda and Fritz Corrigan
Kenneth* and Betty Jayne Dahlberg
Camie and Jack Eugster
Jean and John Hedberg
Bill and Sue* Hodder and Family
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KS95 for Kids+
The Lehman Family
Nancy and John Lindahl
Macy's
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Thrivent Financial

NESBIT SOCIETY

(Lifetime Giving \$500,000 - \$999,999)

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TCF Foundation

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(Lifetime Giving \$250,000 - \$499,999)

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Anonymous – 4
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C.H. Robinson Foundation
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Melvin Symanietz*
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Wilson's Leather

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(Lifetime Giving \$100,000 - \$249,999)

Anonymous – 4
Barbel Abela

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Patty and John Bailey
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Director, Development and Donor Relations

HaiVy Thompson

Vice President, Mission and Marketing

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021

SUPPORT & REVENUE	CY21	CY20
General contributions	\$7,758,431	\$5,490,431
Events	\$13,696,555	\$16,031,590
Direct expenses	\$68,607	\$93,549
Donated goods & services	\$11,976,153	\$13,591,772
Cause marketing	\$97,464	\$112,573
Investment income	\$716,673	\$481,344
Other	\$40,171	\$47,355
TOTAL REVENUES AND GAINS	\$34,216,840	\$35,661,516
EXPENSES		
Program services		
Research	\$9,689,501	\$10,532,990
Education & awareness	\$17,956,143	\$19,237,198
Patient & family services	\$359,046	\$610,298
Supporting services		
Fundraising	\$4,176,141	\$3,838,982
Management & general	\$1,489,829	\$1,339,426
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$33,670,660	\$35,558,894
NET ASSETS		
Other income	-0-	\$582,200
Change in net assets	\$546,180	\$684,822
Net assets, beginning of year	\$5,554,148	\$4,869,326
Net assets, end of year	\$6,100,328	\$5,554,148

OUT OF \$33.7 MILLION,
\$28 MILLION
 SUPPORTED OUR MISSION IN 2021.



EXPENSE RATIOS

● PROGRAM SERVICES

Research	28.8%	\$9,690,000
Education & awareness	53.3%	\$17,956,000
Patient & family services	1.1%	\$359,000

● SUPPORTING SERVICES

Fundraising	12.4%	\$4,176,000
Management & general	4.4%	\$1,490,000

● **TOTAL** 100% \$33,671,000

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	CY21	CY20
ASSETS		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$11,928,746	\$9,742,449
Investments	\$4,906,832	\$4,110,480
Pledge receivables, net	\$2,140,160	\$1,720,236
Property & equipment, net	\$348,957	\$254,099
Other assets	\$264,064	\$361,839
TOTAL ASSETS	\$19,588,759	\$16,189,103
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$68,634	\$432,610
Accrued payroll & related	\$466,386	\$344,753
Other liabilities	\$23,653	\$173,000
Grants payable, net	\$12,929,758	\$9,684,592
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$13,488,431	\$10,634,955
NET ASSETS		
Without donor restrictions		
Operating	\$367,276	\$1,275,481
Board designated	\$3,230,930	\$3,230,930
With donor restrictions	\$2,502,122	\$1,047,737
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$6,100,328	\$5,554,148
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$19,588,759	\$16,189,103



OUR MISSION

Every week, 38 kids pass away from cancer. We want to stop this, so we support the brightest and boldest minds whose groundbreaking research is leading to better treatments and cures. We also fund vital family support services and advocate for childhood cancer education and awareness.

CANCER

This year you've shown us that we can do more for kids with cancer.



**CHILDREN'S CANCER
RESEARCH FUND**

7301 Ohms Lane, Suite 355
Minneapolis, MN 55439

ChildrensCancer.org