



Children's Cancer Research Fund™

Butterfly

FALL 2015
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holding hands with a butterfly

NEW LEUKEMIA
BREAKTHROUGHS

CANCER'S RIPPLE
EFFECTS

GREAT CYCLE
CHALLENGE

TIME
TO FLY

HOLDING HANDS WITH A BUTTERFLY

Wearing pink ballet slippers, 2-year-old Elisa McCann flies around her living room using her newfound walking and running skills. Her father, Dagan, diligently follows her, arms protectively guiding her from corner to corner to prevent any injury that might arise from tripping and falling. Some call children like Elisa “butterfly children” because they are so fragile—as fragile as butterfly wings.

Shortly after Elisa was born she was diagnosed with a genetic connective disorder called epidermolysis bullosa (EB), a group of diseases that affects about 1 of every 20,000 children in the United States. EB can cause disfigurement, disability, and even death. Even the slightest bump or friction could have left Elisa bleeding.

“Before her bone marrow transplant, she couldn’t stand up,” says Dagan. “Now she’s going around the whole neighborhood, and we can even hold hands.”

For Elisa’s parents, holding hands isn’t something they take for granted.

When Elisa was born in her mother Gabriella’s hometown of Palermo, Italy, doctors noticed a strange patch of skin on the back of her left hand. Only twenty-four hours later, little Elisa broke out in blisters across her body, leaving medical staff perplexed about her condition. It was not until a few days later that doctors from Rome diagnosed Elisa with EB, prompting Gabriella to search the Internet until the wee hours of the morning for the best EB experts the world had to offer. That’s when she came across and contacted the University of Minnesota’s Dr. Jakub Tolar.

Gabriella arranged for Dr. Tolar to visit Elisa and her family on his way back from a business trip to London. “He said it was the farthest house call he’s ever made,” says Gabriella. “He has followed her case very closely since day one—even before he met her. When we met, he was so dedicated, even helping me with dressing her. To me, having him there was like shooting hoops with Kobe Bryant.” They stayed in contact every day and, eventually, the McCann family moved to be near Dr. Tolar and his treatment.

Elisa received a bone marrow transplant (BMT) from her sister, a pioneering way to treat EB. Following the BMT, the family does their best to prevent Elisa from getting an infection. “When [Elisa’s sisters] came in the house, they immediately had to wash their hands. It’s like they were coming inside from a Petri dish. I would always smell their hands to see how clean they were,” says Gabriella.

Elisa responded well to the BMT, but she’s experienced some of the complications that can occur in children who receive the treatment: Graft versus Host disease from the BMT and skin blistering from the EB.

Fortunately, “The optimistic and upbeat nature of Elisa’s entire family has been critical to the success of her recovery,” Dr. Tolar observed.

To date, the disease has no cure, but with funding from several organizations, including Children’s Cancer Research Fund, researchers at the University of Minnesota discovered that bone marrow transplants can heal the disease significantly. Researchers were able to demonstrate for the first time that stem cells from one organ can be used for the treatment of diseases in another organ. University of Minnesota researchers are also developing a platform of combination therapy that combines BMT and gene therapy. The university is also building a special EB Center with various experts working together to create the best form of comprehensive care for patients.

However, Dr. Tolar says significant challenges remain because safer and more effective treatments are needed. “BMT changes the worst form of excruciating and life-threatening EB to a more bearable and livable form. BMT gives people with EB a better future, where none existed before, but this is not enough. We continue to work towards a cure,” says Dr. Tolar. For families like the McCanns, BMT gives children with EB the opportunity to hold hands, hug their loved ones, and run and play as other children do.

In addition to holding hands with her dad, Elisa loves to smell the flowers outside her home, a small joy she and her family will never take for granted. Says Gabriella, “Epidermolysis bullosa changes your point of view. We’re hopeful, and we are waiting for the cure. Now we have more time, and she has a shot in life.”





Elisa with her mom, Gabriella

NEW STRATEGIES FOR FIGHTING LEUKEMIA



Peter Gordon, Ph.D.

“I like working with kids. They are resilient, brave, and courageous. Their spirit is unbeatable.”
- Peter Gordon, Ph.D.

Gold isn't just for jewelry—it could be the key to an innovative way to treat childhood cancers leukemia and solid tumors.

While pediatric oncologist/hematologist Peter Gordon, M.D./Ph.D., was riding his bike home from work he started to think about the power of using nanoparticles as a highly customizable and targeted way to deliver drugs to cancer cells while avoiding healthy cells. He decided to test the treatment in the lab, and the results are promising.

With seed money from Children's Cancer Research Fund and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, Dr. Gordon successfully used a gold nanoparticle to deliver a drug called dasatinib to leukemia cancer cells while minimally

affecting the surrounding normal cells. By targeting the cancer cells, this delivery system could significantly decrease the toxicity of the drug in children and minimize common side effects including lowered neutrophils (which help fight infection), bone marrow suppression, and pleural effusion (excess fluid surrounding the lungs).

Using nanoparticles as a delivery system could expand to other drugs and types of cancers. Dr. Gordon is currently collaborating with fellow researcher Branden Moriarity, Ph.D., about the possibility of using gold particles to deliver dasatinib to the bone tumor osteosarcoma.

In addition to his lab work, Dr. Gordon serves at the bedside as a pediatric oncologist at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital. That part of his job heavily informs his work as a researcher. “If I wasn't also in the clinic, I probably wouldn't have thought to ask the questions I've been asking in the lab,” he says. Dr. Gordon's work is only one example of the University of Minnesota's unique ability to bring patient care into the lab and vice versa.

Exploring Leukemia's Microenvironments

Dr. Gordon's lab work with gold nanoparticles is one of the ways he's looking at enhancing leukemia therapy. He also is exploring the leukemia's microenvironment (the normal cells), molecules, and blood vessels that surround and feed a tumor cell. Understanding how each leukemia cell interacts with its immediate surroundings is critical for improving leukemia therapy.

While leukemia begins in the bone marrow, it spreads to other organs including the spleen, liver, and central nervous system (CNS). The involvement of the CNS in leukemia is challenging because CNS-directed therapies (chemotherapy and radiation therapy) can come with the cost of secondary cancers and long-term endocrine, developmental, and cognitive deficits.

In contrast to the bone marrow, the role of the CNS environment in leukemia is largely unknown, so Dr. Gordon and his research team are characterizing how these interactions between leukemia and CNS cells support and protect the leukemia cells. “My goal is to leverage this knowledge into improved and less toxic therapies,” says Dr. Gordon. “Research requires support. It's expensive and funding is tight. Public support, financial and otherwise, is essential to funding new, novel ideas.”

IN MEMORY OF JULIE A. ROSS

Dr. Julie A. Ross, University of Minnesota Professor of Pediatrics and former Children's Cancer Research Fund Chief Medical Advisor, passed away on June 19, 2015. As one of the leaders in the field of molecular epidemiology, Dr. Ross chaired the Epidemiology Committee of the Children's Oncology Group and the NIH Epidemiology Study Section. She was also the recipient of the Suzanne Holmes Hodder/Children's Cancer Research Fund Chair in Cancer Research at the University of Minnesota. Dr. Ross was internationally recognized for her work as a mentor and as a researcher, receiving the Carole J. Bland award in 2010 and the NIH K05 Award (Established Investigator Award in Pediatric Cancer) in 2011.

Her work and dedication to improving the lives of children with cancer have helped aid other researchers in their understanding of the diseases. Dr. Ross's research team has provided key insights into the causes and consequences of childhood leukemia. Her team made a genetic discovery about the development of infant leukemia and investigated the risk of obesity among survivors of childhood acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) with support from Children's Cancer Research Fund grants. The findings from her studies have helped other researchers develop a better understanding of the origin of leukemia and long term health consequences of leukemia survivors. More recently, Dr. Ross was collaborating with other researchers on understanding how mitochondrial DNA can improve transplant success.

With support from Children's Cancer Research Fund, Dr. Ross was the driving force behind piloting and opening the Children's Cancer Research Network, a model for cancer patient registries. This voluntary registry, which follows children with childhood cancer into adulthood, will have a permanent impact on understanding and improving childhood cancer patient outcomes. We are thankful to have worked with Dr. Ross and to have supported her commitment to our cause.



CCRF FUNDS LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCHERS

The Mark E. Nesbit Lectureship in Pediatric Oncology, named in honor of a pioneer in the treatment of acute leukemia, is an annual lecture funded by Children's Cancer Research Fund. These lectures bring pediatric cancer experts from around the world to the University of Minnesota's students, fellows, and researchers. It is an opportunity for researchers to gain insight into other areas of pediatric oncology and rare disorders that could inspire their work.

This year's lecture, "Li-Fraumeni Syndrome: Creating New Shields against Damocles' Sword," was presented by David Malkin, M.D. Dr. Malkin is the senior staff oncologist in hematology/oncology at The Hospital for

Sick Children, director of the Cancer Genetics Program, and a professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Toronto. His lecture explored the current questions and challenges in treating Li-Fraumeni syndrome, a rare hereditary disorder that increases a child's risk of developing different kinds of cancers.

This year also saw the inaugural award of the Nesbit Fellowship, presented to Nathan Gossai, M.D. This award will be given annually to a pediatric research fellow, providing the recipient with the opportunity to attend an international research conference. Having this experience was an important factor in shaping Dr. Nesbit's career.

CANCER'S RIPPLE EFFECTS

By Ted Sibley, childhood cancer survivor



Ted, his wife Erin and their sons (from left to right) Samuel, Benjamin, Lucas and Trenton

I was 13 years old. It was the end of 7th grade and I was looking forward to a summer of baseball, summer camps and family vacations. Cancer was not something that was on my mind.

But there it was.

“You have metastatic choriocarcinoma,” the pediatric oncologist told me and my parents in the family conference room at the hospital. Sitting down and looking at images on a CT scan, the oncologist was pointing out things that were familiar to me: liver, kidneys, lungs...but then he started pointing out irregular masses on my scans. He was talking about words like “cancer,” “metastasis” and “chemotherapy.” These were words that I knew, but they didn’t apply to me. I knew that it was all a mistake. Once they did the right test or got the right image they would figure out that I wasn’t the kid who got cancer—and they needed to figure that out.

I went through the next year of my life undergoing numerous surgeries, chemotherapy and prolonged hospital stays. I lost my hair, my weight and all of my energy. The previous month I had barely figured out junior high algebra; now I was contemplating my mortality.

But something inside of me changed. At the end of my treatment I was a new person. I may have been physically weaker, but I was mentally stronger because of it. I graduated high school and was declared “cancer free.” I felt unstoppable, and nothing—even cancer—was going to get in my way.

I met my wife in college, and we married a couple of years later. I reassured her that my cancer history was behind us and, moving forward, we would have no problems with it. As I was finishing medical school, we wanted to start a family. But after some time had passed, we decided to see a fertility specialist.

My test results returned, and we learned that I was infertile. It was like a punch to the gut. I had never been told that was a possibility after cancer treatment. Cancer was in my past, and yet there it was again, staring me in the face, only with a different look to it. We were no longer talking about chemotherapy and surgeries; this time, cancer had returned to steal something else.

My wife and I were devastated. I had assured her that cancer was not a part of me anymore. But we had to deal with it; we knew that my history of cancer would never go away. It wasn’t something I could place on the shelf and think about occasionally.

Since that time I have become the father to four internationally adopted boys. I am also an emergency medicine physician and lead international medical teams throughout Latin America and Africa.

Cancer may have been something I experienced when I was a teenager, but the ripple effects have been unmeasurable. Cancer had been, and always will be, a part of who I am.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE: MARYNE MOSSEY

From watching Frozen five times to playing games and musical instruments, Care Partners volunteer Maryne Mossey has always connected with children. Maryne started with Care Partners in 2013, and since then she's spent time making morning rounds with kids medical care teams.

As a unit volunteer, Maryne asks parents and caregivers if they'd like her to sit with their child as they take a break or run errands. "The most gratifying thing is when you can distract the kids, get them to laugh, and totally get them to forget about their illness," she says. "One thing that volunteering has taught me is to just try to be a kid—don't take things so seriously."

Maryne originally studied music at New York University but has since switched her career goals toward pediatric oncology. Today, she's pursuing her masters of nursing at the University of Minnesota. "Care Partners definitely made me excited about my trajectory into the medical field," she says.

She remembers one particular little girl who was suffering from mucositis, a painful inflammation and ulceration of the digestive tract that is usually a side effect of chemotherapy and radiotherapy. "She needed someone to hold her hand and touch her cheeks," says Maryne. "I was comfortable doing this for her because I saw her need was so great." Maryne believes that her hands-on work as a volunteer will help her become a better nurse.

Care Partners is a volunteer-driven, quality-of-life program that provides nonmedical support to patients and families going through cancer treatment and blood and marrow transplants at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital. The program is funded in part by Children's Cancer Research Fund. For more information or to apply as a volunteer, please visit [ChildrensCancer.org/CarePartners](https://www.ChildrensCancer.org/CarePartners)



USING YOUR IRA FOR CHARITABLE GIVING



*Your gift can help fund
research to help kids like
Caden, a brain tumor patient.*

You've probably heard about the many benefits of an individual retirement account (IRA), but did you know you can give a tax-free charitable gift directly from your IRA? This option is just one way to make a planned gift that will make valuable research possible.

With an IRA, you are required to take a minimum distribution starting at age 70½, and that distribution will be taxed. But when you make a charitable gift directly from the IRA to the charity, the money is not taxed. This is a great way to support your favorite nonprofits and benefit from tax savings. In fact, many financial professionals encourage this method of giving.

Additionally, you can name a nonprofit organization as a beneficiary of your IRA and, again, the money would go to the organization tax-free when you pass away. This is one way to make a planned gift. If your IRA funds went to individuals, they would be heavily taxed. Instead, consider designating a percentage of your IRA to charity and passing other assets along to your loved ones.

To learn more about what's right for your situation, we encourage you to speak with a financial professional.

What is a planned gift?

A planned gift is a donation you let us know about now, but for most planned gifts, we don't receive it until you pass away. The gift can be part of your overall financial or estate planning.

Does my gift amount have to be large?

No. Gifts of any size truly make a difference. The wonderful thing about a planned gift is that it doesn't cost you anything today.

How do I give a planned gift?

There are many ways to make a planned gift, and there are options to fit anyone's financial situation. You choose what is best for you and then let us know what you've selected.

Do you have questions? Contact Amy Polski Larson at 952-224-8486 or apolskilarson@childrenscancer.org. More information can also be found at ChildrensCancer.org/Wings

CELEBRATING CARE PARTNERS

On April 14 Children's Cancer Research Fund hosted a celebration in honor of Care Partners volunteers and their incredible impact on children and families going through cancer treatment and blood and bone marrow transplants at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital.

More than fifty Care Partners family, unit, and clinic volunteers attended the event in the hospital's new Wilf Family Auditorium. During the program, Gabriella McCann shared how much it meant to have a Care Partners volunteer support her family when her daughter Elisa had a bone marrow transplant.

Guests also heard about the hospital's new integrative therapies program from Megan Voss, DNP, and new research developments from pediatric BMT physician Wes Miller, M.D.

For thirty-two years, Care Partners volunteers have helped kids take their minds off medical procedures and provided much-needed breaks for parents and caregivers. The success of Care Partners is due, in part, to program coordinator Alex Thwaites who was honored during the event for her service and natural ability to match volunteers with families.



IN 2014

74 Care Partners supported patients and families



**These Care Partners volunteers provided 5,184 hours of support.
That is equal to 648 eight-hour work days. The typical school year lasts 180 days.***



648 eight-hour days



A typical school year of 180 days*

**From the National Center for Education Statistics*



Valleyfair Cares

Valleyfair Cares

Valleyfair Cares helped raise \$45,000 and awareness for childhood cancer by offering discounted admission tickets from August 21 through September 4. In addition, Valleyfair guests could buy a raffle ticket for a chance to win a 2015 Jeep Renegade Trailhawk donated by Park Chrysler Jeep. Proceeds from the admission and raffle ticket sales benefited Children's Cancer Research Fund. A special thank you to Hubbard Broadcasting for your contributions to this program.

Flag Day Ice Cream Social in Memory of Suzanne Holmes Hodder

On June 15 patients at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital were treated to Kemps ice cream, music, and face painting as part of the annual Flag Day Ice Cream Social in memory of Suzanne Holmes Hodder. Sue was a long-time supporter of Children's Cancer Research Fund who passed away in 2011. She loved all things patriotic, and the Flag Day Ice Cream Social honors her love of patriotism and children.



Diana Hageboeck, longtime friend of Sue Hodder and CCRF founder, and Susan Hodder and Laurie Greeno, Sue's daughters

Celebrating 25 years of Benefactors Circle

Benefactors Circle founders Sharon and Joel Waller, along with their son and daughter-in-law Jon and Jill Halper, hosted a special dinner on May 17 at Café Lurcat in Minneapolis to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the group's founding and to celebrate over \$3 million raised since its inception.

More than 120 guests attended the celebratory dinner including Jobi Halper, Sharon and Joel's daughter and the inspiration for Benefactors Circle.

Jobi battled and overcame osteogenic sarcoma, a rare bone cancer, when she was eight years old. The Wallers felt compelled to get involved with Children's Cancer Research Fund and help find a cure for this disease. Starting with a small group of dedicated friends and family, the Circle was born in the spring of 1991. Each year, Benefactor members (individuals or couples) give at least \$1,000 to the Benefactors Circle and are then invited to attend the dinner.

At this year's dinner guests heard from Dr. John Wagner, Dr. Logan Spector and Dr. Mike Verneris, who spoke about the impact donations are making in the fight against childhood cancer.



Sharon Waller with her daughter, Jobi Halper





\$1,668,748 raised!

In June, more than 12,000 riders across the country participated in the inaugural Great Cycle Challenge USA. The month-long national event encouraged riders of all ages to pedal against childhood cancer by setting a personal riding goal and encouraging donations from friends and family. Participants raised more than \$1.65 million dollars for Children's Cancer Research Fund with the support of individual and team sponsors.

Many riders chose to ride on behalf of or in memory of someone they know. Minnesota's Kyle Schlink and son Carter pedaled for a special reason: Carter is a childhood cancer survivor. Carter chose to ride for a classmate, Caleb, who is battling cancer. Motivated by the need for ongoing awareness, Kyle and a friend biked 300 miles to Waterloo, Iowa, in one weekend. In Illinois, Jenni Long O'Connell rode in memory of her son Kevin who died of leukemia at age thirteen, and Maryland's Debbie Heath Miller rode for her daughter Jenifer Ward Bellomy, a childhood brain cancer survivor.

Not everyone who joined the Great Cycle Challenge has a personal connection to childhood cancer. For Indiana's Karin Horner, a busy mother of nine, the time she dedicated to the challenge gave her a chance to focus on her health and well-being. In Alaska, Wilma Yarnal was one of the first participants to sign up. Determined and optimistic, she set lofty mileage and fundraising goals for herself and surpassed both during her quest to "destroy cancer."

Thanks to the generosity of Great Cycle Challenge participants, teams, and supporters, funds raised during the event will help the University of Minnesota Masonic Cancer Center find better treatments and a cure for childhood cancer. To find information about the Great Cycle Challenge USA coming in June 2016, check out GreatCycleChallenge.com





Kids' Fun Run



Thank you to the more than 1,500 participants, volunteers, vendors, sponsors, and spectators who joined us at Time to Fly on June 20 at Phalen Park in St. Paul. Participants splashed through a wet morning that ultimately resulted in a beautiful sunny day while they celebrated children and families who have been touched by cancer. The many teams representing dedicated families, friends, businesses, and community organizations raised more than \$216,000 to benefit pediatric cancer research at the University of Minnesota Masonic Cancer Center.

Congratulations to the 2015 team and individual award recipients!

Team Participation Awards

Rookie: Team Cal with 137 team members
Veteran: Joggers for Julian with 123 team members

Team Fundraising Awards

First place: Joggers for Julian
Second place: Jack Attack
Third place: Team Cal

Individual Fundraising Awards

First place: John Golden, Joggers for Julian
Second place: Marj Groseth
Third place: Rebecca Dahlquist, Jack Attack



John Golden, team captain of Joggers for Julian

Stay tuned for more information about Time to Fly 2016! Registration and team recruitment begins in October at ChildrensCancer.org/TimeToFly

Thank you to our sponsors!



BLIP Toys
 NFL Alumni, MN Chapter



Members of Team Chubs

29th Annual Turtle Derby

This June, Children's Cancer Research Fund once again pledged to make a "turtley awesome effort to race" at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children's Hospital's 29th Annual Turtle Derby, a popular fundraiser and tradition for patients and families at the hospital. In addition to helping sponsor the event, CCRF hosted the Cool-Off and First Aid tent while turtles like "Speedy Peedy" and "Mr. Wigglesworth" competed for the coveted championship. Funds raised from the event help the hospital provide kid-friendly art in the pediatric CT room, art supplies for adolescent occupational therapy and more.

140 Invitational Golf Tournament

The twelfth annual 140 Invitational Golf Tournament, presented by our mission partner Lubrication Technologies, Inc., raised over \$200,000 this year for Children's Cancer Research Fund.

A full field of golfers enjoyed playing at the scenic Troy Burne Golf Club in Hudson, Wisconsin on August 15. In addition to playing the picturesque course, golfers had the chance to compete in special contests on the course including closest to the pin, longest drive and putting. The Troy Burne course was co-designed by Tom Lehman, a Minnesota native, professional golfer and Children's Cancer Research Fund's National Honorary Chair.

Later in the day golfers were joined by additional guests for silent and live auctions that featured a trip to Scottsdale for three to golf with Tom Lehman, a dinner program with cancer survivor Molly Hollway as the featured speaker and outstanding entertainment by Tonic Sol-fa. A great day was had by all.

Thank you to planning committee members Amy Hersperger, Amy Jo Van Culin, and Erin Pettit along with 140 Pre-Igniters Randy Jensen, Warren Peterson, JR Raffelson, Vance Ellis, and Dennis Bell. And a special thank you to Chris and Marna Bame and Lubrication Technologies for their yearlong support of Children's Cancer Research Fund.

Community Fundraisers

Thank you to the following individuals and their communities for making a positive impact on advancing research.

Alysa, Gina, Bridget and Vivian from Capitol Hill Magnet School in St. Paul, MN

Concert for the Cure

Emma's Hope Walk

Girls & Money Fun - Alexis G., Anika R., Annika A., Ava N., Eloise S., Hannah C., Katie B. and Katie L.

Karl Potach Golf Tournament

Nicholas Cisewski Memorial Golf Tournament

Pavel Buenaventura

The Optimist Club of Richfield

Run/Walk for Rachel 5K

Schwan's USA Cup Kick Cancer Day



29th Annual Turtle Derby
PHOTO © UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA MASONIC CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL



(left to right) Lori Niesen, Denny Oas, and Chris & Marna Bame at the 140 Invitational



Dawn of a Dream 1984



Dawn of a Dream 2013



Community Celebration

SAVE THE DATE

Dawn of a Dream

Planning for the 35th anniversary of Children's Cancer Research Fund's Dawn of a Dream gala is well under way! The committee, led by co-chairs Helenbeth Reynolds and Marci Weiner, is hard at work organizing a special evening for Saturday, November 7, at the Depot Minneapolis.

The night will begin with a pre-dinner reception that includes fun, interactive experiences followed by a captivating and inspirational program showing how we are "Stronger Together." The evening concludes with an exciting live auction, dancing, and live music by the Power of 10. We hope you'll join us! For ticket or sponsorship information, please contact Jim at jleighton@childrenscancer.org or 952-893-9355.

Community and Family Celebration

Please join us Wednesday, October 7, from 4 to 6 PM at the Minnetonka Community Center as we honor the wonderful community that supports Children's Cancer Research Fund. There will be fun activities for all ages, and we'll celebrate this year's Butterfly Award recipients, recognizing significant volunteer service, support, and commitment to our cause. Light refreshments will be served. This event is free and open to the public. For more information and to RSVP, please visit ChildrensCancer.org/Celebrate

about us

Children's Cancer Research Fund is a national organization dedicated to eradicating childhood cancer by funding pioneering efforts in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure of childhood cancers at the University of Minnesota, a leader in pediatric cancer research and other diseases. Many discoveries funded by Children's Cancer Research Fund have revolutionized the way childhood cancer is treated worldwide. We also provide education and support quality-of-life programs for patients and families.

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ChildrensCancer.org
 Facebook.com/ChildrensCancerResearchFund
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If you have any questions or comments, please contact HaiVy at 952-224-8848, or hthompson@childrenscancer.org.

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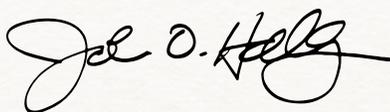
One of my favorite U.S. presidents, Theodore Roosevelt, once said, "Nothing worth having was ever achieved without effort." As you read this issue, you will see many examples of how extra effort is making a difference in the battle against childhood cancer.

You'll read about Dr. Jakub Tolar, who not only traveled a great distance to meet a patient but who isn't satisfied with the life-changing discovery that he helped to develop. Dr. Tolar is still working hard to find an even better way to help EB patients. You'll also meet Dr. Peter Gordon, a relatively new member of the cancer team, who is looking for ways to make treatments less challenging for young leukemia patients. They'll be the beneficiaries of his extra effort.

And that effort isn't just confined to the laboratory. Inspired by countless stories of young cancer patients, more than 12,000 people across the country rode their bicycles over one million miles during June. Their efforts inspired 30,000 donors to contribute over \$1.65 million to cancer research in the first Great Cycle Challenge USA.

Finally, we lost a tireless advocate for childhood cancer with the passing of Dr. Julie Ross in June. Among her many contributions, Dr. Ross devoted nine years of her professional career to lead the creation of the Childhood Cancer Research Network. Her effort is creating a permanent legacy in improving outcomes for young cancer patients.

Thanks for supporting our efforts to bring an end to childhood cancer.



John Hallberg, CEO

thank you to
 our mission partner:



Ryan, Shannon & Fish's Radiothon

Ryan, Shannon & Fish's KS95 for Kids® Radiothon

KS95's Morning Show, Ryan, Shannon & Fish, will share inspiring stories during the 17th annual KS95 for Kids Radiothon on December 11. They'll be broadcasting live from the Mall of America and raising funds for both Children's Cancer Research Fund and Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare. The event has raised more than \$13 million over the past sixteen years.

To hear the moving stories from kids affected by cancer or living with disabilities, tune into 94.5FM KS95 (for listeners near the Twin Cities) or stream the broadcast at KS95.com. For more details, please visit KS95forKids.com.