

IMPACT REPORT

Published November 2024

Powered by hope. Fueled by research.



LETTER FROM OUR CEO

Your support is changing the future of childhood cancer. At CureSearch, we're dedicated to accelerating the search for childhood cancer cures because kids with cancer can't wait.

In 2024 alone, we've invested over \$4.4 million in lifesaving research funding — over \$3.9 million of that supporting preclinical research and clinical trials. With the majority of young cancer patients treated in a clinical trial setting, this type of funding is changing the odds for the 42 children diagnosed with cancer each day.

Together, our efforts offer new hope to them and their families as they navigate the harsh realities of toxic and outdated childhood cancer treatments. Your support has made all of this possible!

This giving season, when I reflect on how grateful I am, I think of all the patients, families and advocates whose dedication to our mission is changing the future of childhood cancer. This change requires support from many places – academia, industry, advocacy, donors and foundations. Supporters like you are vital in making a difference.

In the coming year, we will continue expanding partnerships, investing in new technologies to achieve a future without childhood cancer, and stretching every dollar to fund the highest quality research projects, both nationally and internationally. Looking ahead, we are more determined than ever to achieve our vision of a world where no child has to face the uncertainty and pain of a cancer diagnosis.

Thank you for your continued commitment to our vision. I look forward to what we will accomplish together.

Until there are cures,

Hay Joehler

Kay Koehler, President & CEO



CURESEARCH

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP BOARDS LAUNCH

This year, we launched Community Leadership Boards nationwide to amplify our impact. Board members foster strategic relationships within their communities, driving fundraising, event participation and increased awareness of the need for pediatric cancer research funding.



Our Community Leadership Boards are growing.

Contribute your skills and passion to support our mission and help drive our initiatives forward — in your own backyard and beyond! To learn more about board opportunities in your area, please reach out to **communityengagement@curesearch.org** and a local board member or CureSearch staff member will contact you.

Learn more at:

https://curesearch.org/community-leadership-board



Colorado CLB members accepting the 2024 CureSearch Regional Impact Award with national board chair Jared Brancazio.



"I express my heartfelt appreciation to CureSearch for awarding me one of the most prestigious grants in the realm of pediatric cancer research. This remarkable opportunity will support the first consortium-wide clinical trial for Natural Killer cells in malignant brain tumors, which has the potential to profoundly impact the lives of countless children and young adults."



Dr. Mohamed Shebl Abdelbaki, Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Catapult <u>Awardee</u>

CURESEARCH'S 2024 CATAPULT AWARDEE

A Safer Approach to Treating Pediatric Brain Tumors

Children with recurrent brain tumors face toxic treatments and poor outcomes, underscoring the urgent need for therapies that are both safer and more effective. Dr. Abdelbaki is at the forefront of this effort, leading a groundbreaking clinical trial to offer renewed hope and improved care. The trial uses natural killer cell therapy, a cutting-edge method where specially enhanced cells are infused directly into the tumor site after surgery. This precision approach concentrates the therapy exactly where it's needed, giving these powerful cells the best chance to target and destroy cancer.

Conducted through the Pacific Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Consortium, this trial will enroll 24 children and young adults at sites across the country beginning in late 2024. Read more at: https://curesearch.org/clinical-trial-funding



Research Spotlight: Our Acceleration Initiative Moves New Treatments into Clinical Trials

Our Acceleration Initiative projects are advancing from preclinical research to clinical trials at a **groundbreaking rate of 60%** – a significant leap compared to the industry average of less than 8%. This means faster, more effective treatments are reaching children who need them.



CureSearch Acceleration Initiative Award

\$1.73 million

Dr. Mary Beckerle, Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of UtahProject: A novel epigenetic strategy to treat Ewing sarcoma

IMPACT: Dr. Beckerle's work represents a beacon of hope for children battling Ewing sarcoma. With the support of a CureSearch Acceleration Initiative Award, her team successfully tested an innovative LSD1 inhibitor. This breakthrough has advanced to clinical trials with encouraging results; Salarious Pharmaceuticals is now working to move the treatment toward FDA approval.



CureSearch Acceleration Initiative Award

\$1.26 million

Dr. Andrew Kung, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer CenterProject: Integrative analysis to identify new therapies for pediatric sarcomas

IMPACT: Supported by a CureSearch Acceleration Initiative Award, Dr. Kung's groundbreaking research is changing the odds for children with high-risk sarcomas. His team's development of an extensive portfolio of patient-derived xenograft models—over half dedicated to sarcomas—has paved the way for a promising clinical trial.



Spotlight on Innovation: Newly-funded projects shape the future of childhood cancer treatments

CureSearch Acceleration Initiative Award FOCUS: Ewing sarcoma

Dr. John Lee, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA Dr. Lee's team is enhancing CAR T-cell therapy by adding Interleukin-18 (IL-18) to boost its effectiveness, aiming to improve outcomes for children with metastatic cancer.

CureSearch Acceleration Initiative Award FOCUS: Pediatric glioma

Dr. Joshua Breunig, Cedars-Sinai

Dr. Breunig has developed a new modeling platform and tumor cell lines to test a targeted therapy called ADI-PEG 20. This, combined with standard treatments, may effectively combat aggressive G34R-mutant pediatric glioma.







FOCUS: CureSearch Young Investigator Award Acute myeloid leukemia (AML)

Dr. Babak Moghimi, Children's Hospital Los Angeles

AML is a common and aggressive leukemia in children with few treatment options for relapse. While CAR T-cell therapy has been successful for some cancers, it poses risks for AML by harming healthy cells. Dr. Moghimi's research is advancing safer CAR T-cells that specifically target AML, aiming to improve outcomes for children.



FOCUS: CureSearch Young Investigator Award Pediatric neuroblastoma

Dr. Hunter Jonus, Emory University School of Medicine

Dr. Jonus is using gamma delta T-cells from healthy donors to target high-risk neuroblastoma and other tumors. Her research supports a clinical trial at Children's Healthcare of Atlanta that combines these cells with chemoimmunotherapy.





The Transformational Power of Family and Philanthropy

For the Norcross family, giving back is a deeply held value. Since 2020, Gary and Amy Norcross and their family have been transformational supporters of CureSearch's mission to end childhood cancer.

In 2023, their connection to childhood cancer became profoundly personal when their daughter and son-in-law, Kathryn and Corey, shared devastating news. After a routine doctor's visit, their four-month-old grandson, Henry, was diagnosed with stage 4S neuroblastoma, a rare and aggressive cancer that had already spread to his liver.

"He endured eight rounds of chemo before undergoing surgery to remove 90% of the tumor. Henry faced many health challenges, but despite the pain and a frightening stay in ICU, Henry remained resilient, smiling and happy, hitting every developmental milestone," shared Kathryn and Corey.



Throughout their journey, the family relied on a strong and committed network of family, friends and advocates, including research-driven resources and expert information from CureSearch. In April 2024, they celebrated an extraordinary milestone—Henry rang the bell to mark the end of his treatment.

"A cancer diagnosis for an infant is a nightmare, but we were surrounded by support. Thanks to organizations like CureSearch, we have hope for the future—not just for Henry but for all children battling cancer," said Kathryn and Corey.



Inspired by little Henry, the Norcross family has gifted \$1.5 million to support the CureSearch Transformational Portfolio through the Norcross Family Foundation. The CureSearch Transformational Portfolio takes an innovative approach to pediatric cancer drug development. By advancing the most novel treatments and groundbreaking technologies, with an eye to multi-institution collaboration, it aims to redefine the future of pediatric oncology and deliver hope to families navigating their most difficult times. We are deeply grateful to the Norcross family for their generosity, which is driving research forward and bringing us closer to better treatments for children battling cancer.

The Norcross family's philanthropy goes beyond personal giving. In 2024, Amy joined the Jackson Hole Ultimate Hike, raising over \$35,000 and inspiring friends, family, and colleagues to join the fight. Amy and Gary's son and daughter-in-law, William and Caroline, joined in to support their nephew by creating their own Urban Hike, raising funds to walk from the top of Manhattan down to its southernmost point.

Together, the Norcross family continues to rally a growing community dedicated to advancing lifesaving pediatric cancer research.

"The Norcross Family Foundation's extraordinary generosity is fueling the kind of bold, high-impact research that will change the future for children facing cancer," said Kay Koehler, CureSearch President & CEO. "Henry's journey is a powerful reminder of why this work matters so much, and their support ensures that the most promising treatments reach young patients faster, improving outcomes for children everywhere."



CURESEARCH LEGACY FUNDS:

Honoring Children, Accelerating Cures

CureSearch Legacy Funds are a deeply personal way for families to honor their child's cancer journey. Rather than start a family foundation, these families amplify their impact by working directly with CureSearch to raise funds for the childhood cancer diseases they care most about.



The Amy Miller Champion Fund



The Beau Swallow Legacy Fund



Danielle's Roses



The Eloise Dodge Gould Legacy Fund



Garret and I: The Garret Collins Legacy Fund



The Jacob Koenigs "Jakefest" Memorial Fund



The Joey Keller Legacy Fund



The Luke McGuire Legacy Fund



The Nick Currey Fund



The Sam Schneider Legacy



Team Steve: The Steven
Crowe Legacy Fund



Violet's Village: The Violet Kenney Legacy Fund



SPOTLIGHT:

HONORING STEVEN CROWE'S LEGACY

Team Steve: The Steven Crowe Legacy Fund

The Crowe family keeps their son Steve's spirit alive, raising more than \$380,000 for critical research funding.

Funds raised by The Steven Crowe Legacy Fund are supporting CureSearch Young Investigator Dr. Elvin Wagenblast at The Tisch Cancer Institute at Mount Sinai. Dr. Wagenblast's research focuses on understanding the earliest stages of childhood leukemia initiation. His team is developing innovative therapies to intervene in the development of preleukemic and leukemic cancer cells, helping researchers understand the disease like never before. This support honors Steve's legacy and helps advance critical pediatric cancer research.



Our family has chosen to partner with CureSearch because of their focus on driving targeted and innovative research to end childhood cancer. Supporting high-potential pediatric cancer research is needed today as much as it ever has been."

-Mike Crowe, Steve's Dad



SPOTLIGHT:

HONORING SAM SCHNEIDER'S LEGACY

The Sam Schneider Legacy

The Sam Schneider Legacy stands as a powerful testament to the resilience and spirit of a community united by a shared mission.



Established in honor of Sam Schneider, whose brave battle with cancer inspired countless others, this legacy fund is driven by a commitment to advancing research and support for children and adolescents with Ewing sarcoma. Through events like the Sam Schneider Cornhole Toss and SAMDURO bike race in Colorado, the community rallies together to raise funds and awareness. Each event not only celebrates Sam's courageous journey, but contributes to a larger fight against childhood cancer, ensuring his legacy continues to impact and inspire future generations.





Honor a loved one and make a lasting impact by establishing a Legacy Fund with CureSearch. Your personalized fund honors the life and legacy of a loved one while supporting critical research. Legacy Funds are driving the progress that brings us closer to cures for all children. https://curesearch.org/legacy-funds





CURESEARCH

ULTIMATE HIKE

The Impact of Ultimate Hike

Ultimate Hike is more than just a challenging trek; it's a life-changing, lifesaving adventure that directly impacts the fight against pediatric cancer. Ultimate Hike unites passionate supporters and survivors, all committed to making a tangible difference in the lives of children and their families facing cancer. Hikers travel up to 30 miles in one day, all to help fund critical research aimed at finding cures.

In 2024 alone, **nearly 300 hikers**laced up their boots to hit the trails
nationwide! In total, they **hiked over**10,444 miles and raised nearly
\$1 million for childhood cancer research.

Join us at: www.ultimatehike.org









SUPERIOR TRAIL



SHENANDOAH 4

FOOTHILLS TRAIL





Ultimate Hiker, Frank Gioscia, 73, has raised an incredible \$500,000!

This milestone makes him Ultimate Hike's top fundraiser of all time.

Shortly after Frank got started with Ultimate Hike in 2011, a family friend's young son, Gavin, was diagnosed with cancer at just 6 years old.

"With CureSearch, my hiking took on new meaning. I've been hiking for Gavin for years. As I finish an Ultimate Hike, I see all of the pictures of the kids who are fighting cancer and those who lost their battle. I am so thankful that I can do this for them. It is the most rewarding thing I have ever done," Frank shared.



2023 CORPORATE PARTNER **SUPPORT IN NUMBERS**



\$1M+

raised by Kiewit's annual corporate golf outing, Jakefest, remembering Jake Koenigs and his battle with rhabdomyosarcoma.

3,000+

Brave Barbies distributed to children impacted by cancer, in partnership with Mattel.

14

Busy Bee convenience stores raising money for CureSearch at the register.

19

Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant locations donating a portion of dessert sales back to CureSearch.

12

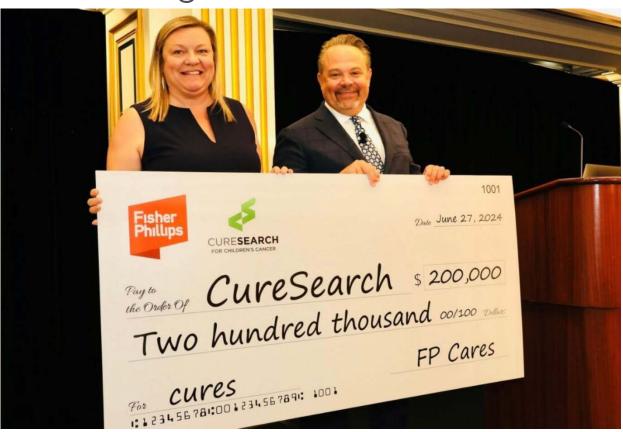
Pimiento Tea Room Supper Club dinners, featuring exciting menus, all benefiting CureSearch. 24

event sponsors making our Ultimate Hike, CureSearch Walk and other fundraising events a success!





CORPORATE PARTNERS: Fueling Breakthroughs in Childhood Cancer



Partnering for Progress: Fisher Phillips' Impact on Advancing Cures



Fisher Phillips demonstrated its commitment to ending childhood cancer by raising \$200,000 during a silent auction at its annual attorney retreat to support transformational research. But its support didn't stop there. Employees also participated in the "Notes of Hope" campaign, crafting thousands of messages of encouragement for children undergoing treatment. This year, we welcomed Fisher Phillips Chairman John Polson to our Board of Directors, further demonstrating the firm's commitment to our shared mission. Polson shared, "This is a cause that is very close to my heart, and I look forward to helping drive the organization's critical work in advancing research and providing hope to children and families affected by cancer."

Corporate partnerships like this exemplify how businesses can create a transformative impact in the fight against childhood cancer.

Consider adding a fundraising element to your next corporate event to help fund critical research and support children battling cancer!



OUR PARTNERS

We are proud to partner with companies that share our vision of a world without childhood cancer. Their support helps fund groundbreaking research and provides critical resources to children and families in need.

CORPORATE PARTNERS





















RESEARCH FUNDING PARTNERS

Our robust co-funding environment supports innovative projects, reduces duplication of efforts, and maximizes the impact of combined funding to advance drug development.























STRATEGIC SUPPORTERS

Strategic Supporters provide critical funding and/or expertise to advance our programmatic initiatives aimed at driving collaboration across the pediatric cancer ecosystem to accelerate the pace of new drug development.









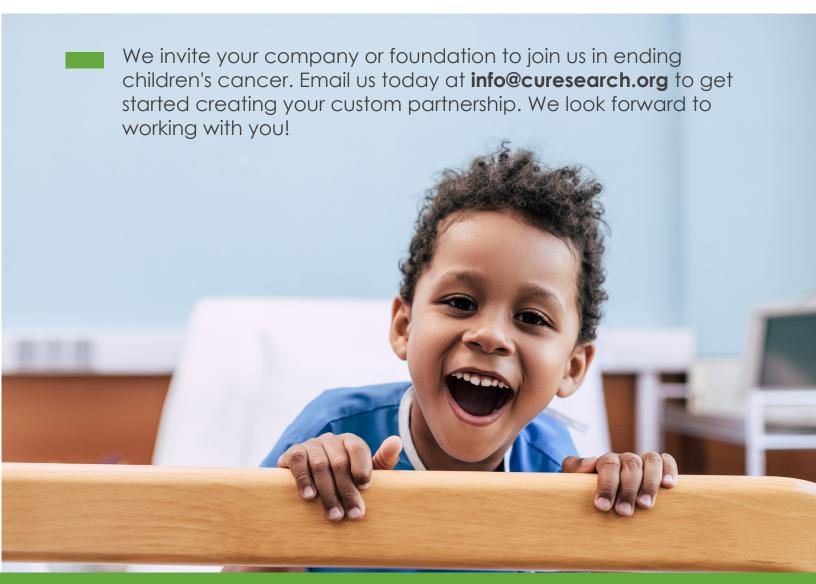














2023 DONOR HONOR ROLL

Transformational Giving (\$1M+)

Norcross Family Foundation

\$500,000 to \$999,999

LifeArc

\$100,000 to \$499,999

Grant Thornton Invitational

Linda Austin

Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer

Scott Carter Foundation

SebastianStrong Foundation
Thermo Fisher Scientific

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Brancazio Wealth Management Champions 4 Children SWFL Fisher Phillps dba FP Cares LTD

Google, Inc.

Kiewit Corporation

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Amazon Service, LLC

Busy Bee / Johnson & Johnson Inc

Day One Biopharmaceuticals

Gilbert Memorial Fund

Invest in Others Charitable Foundation, Inc.

Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant

Irving J. Gonzalez, P.A.

Less+More

Maravai LifeSciences Foundation

Peter P. Gao

Reed Schiess and Patti Stivaletta-Sherman

Sexton Family Foundation

The Eddie Sutton Foundation

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Abbott Rapid Diagnostics Informatics Inc

ABC 4 Maddy

Amy Southern

AstraZeneca Pharmaceutical, LP

Beth Codner Adams and Henry E. Adams Foundation

BrAva Fight

Brooklyne's Beacons Inc.

Bushman Family Foundation

Chelsea Ellsworth

Christmas City Classic For A Cure

David Kupiec

David Whan

David Vocaturo

Harry and Robin Koenigs

Ian Cook

Kathy Wanner

Katy and Mark Simpson

Laser Works of East Tennessee, LLC

Lisa Cara-Donna

Mattel Children's Foundation

Merck & Co., Inc.

Michael and Ellen Crowe

Ned Gilhuly

Patrick and Susan Nola

Project Recreate LLC

Randy Lamons

Richard Carter

Samuel Allen Pampel Foundation

Samuel C Blackman

Stephen and Adrian Peacock

Steven Gillett

Suzanne Finnegan

The Howe Foundation

Tony Jones

Trent Demulling

Virginia L Harrod

Wagner Equipment Co.

Ward Foundation

Wesley Grubbs

William Gadd

Wilson Family Foundation



\$5,000 to \$9,999

AFCO Steel

Alberici Constructors Alexandria Klug Allison Harris

AmazonSmile Foundation

Amy McKelvey Andrew Mlynarski Annie Gould Anthony Maracic

Ascension Quality Materials, LLC

Bailey Herrera BCBM LLC

Bristol-Myers Squibb Company

Cassandra Hornback Cathy Hernandez

Central Carolina Community Foundation

Chelsy Olsen

Christopher J. Berman Christopher Krumwiede

Cindy Valent
Dana Lopez
Davis Sibbernsen
Debbie Pauls
Derek Wallace
Diane Meissner

Disposall Waste Services LLC. Donald Aaberg

Elizabeth Genualdi Elizabeth Hensley Emily Koenigs

Fowler, Schimberg, Flanagan, & McLetchie, P.C.

Frank Breitman Frank and Mary Erlain Frels Family Foundation

Gary Ran

GCCOM Construction Company Green Development, LLC

Greg Hill

Haynie Family Foundation
Holcim-ACM Management, Inc

IBEW

Local Union 99

James Bushnell Jeffrey M. Skolnik Jennifer Formato John Moody

Johnson Charitable Fund

Kenneth Means Kirby Stumpf Laurie Bond Liz Larmore Lynn Lamons

Mark and Helene Honeybone

Matthew Perry Matthew Skidmore Michael Day Michael Dell Isola

Michael Feeney's Best Day Ever, Inc.

Michelle Tameling
Mike Ethier
Mitchell Cassels
Neretta Thompson

Nino Corsetti

Nolan Family Foundation

Patricia Ann Rice Pedro Aguilar Phil Dorroll

Redlands Community Hospital

Reyes Group Ltd. Roger Gamble Rosella Duitsman

Schoelzel Family Foundation

Scott Aschermann

Sewer & Tunnel Miners Union Laborers' Local 2

Stephen Gerster

Sun Valley Steel & Fabrication, Inc.

Tim and Diane Crowe

Toni Waybright Tony Forsythe Tony Safoian

Watt, Tieder, Hoffar & Fitzgerald, L.L.P.

Will White Zachary Judge



MONTHLY DONORS

Aimee Kroneberger Alexandra Mead

Amy Hood

Andrew Ackerson

Andrew Stall Anita Scott

Anna Broitman Anthony Van Dyke

Brian Caldwell Carrie Simmons

Casey Crowe Taylor Catherine and Steve

Loeffle

Catherine Sisson Chase Carter

Christian Moden

Christopher Watson

Courtney Channell Daniel Bernier

Deborah Tschudy

Edwin S. Cooley

Emily McWhorter Frank Fuentes

Gemma Furman

Glenn Harris

Greg Kaufman

Hanumantha Pokala

Holly Nuttle

James A. Christie James E. Rhodes

James Gunnett

James Hutto Jean

Houghton

Jeffrey S. Lobel

Jennifer Hoogendoorn

Jennifer Mitchell Jessica Gladden

Jessica Ortiz

Joan Crowley

John Culp

John Taylor Joshua Bieber

Judith Lebeda

Judy Gelber

Julie Tomlinson

Karen Connelly

Karen Powers Karla Hansen

Kathryn Youngs

Katrina Ruiz

Kerry Studnicki

Kim Grispo

Kyle Hovland

Kyrsten Anderson

Libby Working

Logan Eggel

Lorraine Catalano

Marcia Kuszmaul

Maria Davis

Martha Hawk

Mary Flores

MaryAnne Mullen

Matt Laskowitz

Maxx Taylor

Melissa Griffeth

Melody Li

Mercedes Stolcis

Michael Burton

Michael W. Frebowitz

Monica McGrath-Koerner

Natalie Brewer Natalie Sivak

Nicholas Claffey Nicole Ravlin Rachel Newell

Raymond Lopez Rebecca McIntyre

Rebecca Voat

Renee Picciotto-Haubner

Ronald J. Kleinman

Russ Currey Sabrina Shirkey Sally Clinard Sara E. Ford Sherri Jackson

Stephanie Penland

Stephanie Pietrasiewicz

Sunny Wei Susanne Smith

Suzanne Sack Trudy McDaniel William Jenner

Yi-Yin Ko

PLANNED GIVING SOCIETY

Alma & James I. Lewis Kathryn and Robert Vest Dorothy Winkey

Dr. and Mrs. Howard B. Emery

Dr. Ronald R. Louie Hammond Family Fund

Jan Brvan

Jean Michael

Kay R. Koehler

Robert I. Fendrich Family Trust

Robert T. Ridlev

The Estate of Walter Hanger



Become a Champion for Cures by starting a monthly gift today!

You'll provide ongoing support of our research funding and offer real hope to the 15,000 families who'll hear the words, "your child has cancer" each year.

Visit: www.curesearch.org/monthlygiving

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<u>Jared Brancazio</u>

Chair, CureSearch Board of Directors

VP, Investments at Brancazio Wealth Management of Raymond James

Suzanne Finnegan

Board Secretary

Director & Chief Credit Officer at Build America Mutual Assurance Company

Trent Demulling

Board Treasurer

Chief Financial Officer at Kiewit

Ali Frost

CMO, The Bay Golf Club

Brenda Weigel, MD

Chair, CureSearch Scientific Advisory Council

Vice President of Clinical Research Industry Engagement at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Cason Carter

Director, Head of Public Affairs at Citadel, LLC

Dave Kupiec

CEO/Founder at KPI Media Partners

Dave Whan

Executive Partner, CHRO, at Gartner

Greg Hill

EVP, Kiewit Infrastructure Group Inc.

Jeffrey Skolnik

Chair, CureSearch Industry Advisory Council

SVP of Clinical Development at Inovio

Jon Polson

Chairman and Managing Partner of Fisher Phillips

Kathy Wanner

Operating Partner at Abundant Venture Partners

Michael (Mike) R. Miller, Esquire

Senior Council at Fisher & Phillips, LLP

Paula and Mike Carter

CureSearch Board Members, Emeriti

Co-Founders of the Scott Carter Foundation

Sam Blackman, MD, PhD

Co-Founder & Former Chief Medical Officer at Day One Biopharmaceuticals

Shari Collier

Division CFO at St. David's HealthCare HCA

Stacey Adam, PhD

Director of Cancer Research Partnerships at FNIH

Stu E. Siegel, MD

CureSearch Board Chair, Emeritus

Retired Director at Center for Global Health Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Tina Swallow

Sales Director, Department of Defense at Trellix



STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

We are committed to stewarding every dollar raised toward the greatest impact on the children, adolescents and young adults who are depending on us.

In 2023, 70% of our expenses were allocated to programs, primarily research grants across our three research funding arms: Young Investigator, Acceleration Initiative and Catapult Awards.

2023 EXPENSES

FY2023 Total Expenses	\$5,124,878
Program	\$3,605,077
Fundraising	\$929,461
Administrative	\$590,340

Liabilities and Net Assets

Accounts Payable	\$163,239
Deferred Revenue	\$59,300
Net Asset with Restriction	\$929,461
Net Assets without Restrictions	\$6,237,171

We're proud to be a top-rated charity!





Learn more at: www.curesearch.org/about-us/financials







Follow us on social media to stay up to date on the latest CureSearch news, events, stories from childhood cancer patients and donor highlights.

- https://www.facebook.com/curesearch
- https://www.instagram.com/curesearch
- https://www.linkedin.com/company/curesearchforchildrenscancer
- https://www.youtube.com/curesearchnccf

