



C.U.R.E.

Childhood Cancer Association

2021 – 2022
Annual Report





A message from our Executive Director

Dear C.U.R.E. Friends and Supporters,

Throughout all of the uncertainties the past several years have presented us all with, there was one constant: the love and support from C.U.R.E. for our Families. Our Community has rallied behind our mission, validating the work we do here at C.U.R.E.

Even through a global pandemic, our Friends and Supporters continued to be a light during a very difficult time. YOUR light enabled us to continue to provide practical, meaningful support to our Families. Your light, along with the light of our Founders, helped to guide us as we reimaged events and the various ways we assist our Families.

During the 2021 – 2022 year, we provided meaningful support to our C.U.R.E. Families. Recognizing the changing economy and increase in prices of everyday items, we increased the financial support we provided. With the state of the world around us changing, gathering together was more comfortable this year. Recognizing that our Families were longing for connections and resources, we increased the number of Parents' Night Out events we offered as well as Family Outing opportunities. The support and love from our Community allows us to fulfill the needs of our Families, identifying the changes and shifts that occur as a result of their circumstances changing and the changes in the world around us. And we couldn't do it without the unwavering support of our Community.

C.U.R.E. Childhood Cancer Association's mission is not intimidated by the challenges presented to us. Supporting Families at every stage of diagnosis, treatment and beyond has been, and continues to be, at the forefront of our minds. Over the past few years, the light of our Supporters and Founders has helped us navigate uncertainties and fulfill needs, giving clarity to our purpose. We are looking forward to a bright future with expanded programming and services for our Families, which we plan to implement in the near future. With your help and your light guiding our way, we can implement these new initiatives, continue to be innovative and most importantly, provide support to our Families.

I look forward to navigating that journey with all of you.

Warmly,

Holly Dutcher

Our Story

C.U.R.E. Childhood Cancer Association was founded in 1976 by parents who lost their children to cancer. Their goal: provide meaningful, practical support to Families coping with a childhood cancer diagnosis. The humble beginnings of our organization include our Founding Parents going to Strong Memorial Hospital to meet other pediatric oncology parents while their child was in treatment and provide respite care for siblings.

Our core program, the Parent Advocate Support Program, was modeled after these humble beginnings and continues to be a meaningful support to pediatric oncology and hematology Families. C.U.R.E. employs a Parent Advocate who meets with pediatric oncology and hematology Families daily. She offers resources to parents (whether it is connecting them with other nonprofits or offering resources we have available through our organization), empathy and a listening ear.

The most unique part of our Parent Advocate position? It must be filled by the parent of a long-term cancer survivor. She knows what it's like to have your world halted by the words "Your child has cancer" and the overwhelm of medications and appointments and fear.

Her experience is invaluable. She brings our Families hope - her son is currently attending college and is a 15 year Survivor. The resources provided by C.U.R.E. through our Parent Advocate Support Program include parking vouchers for the parking garage at Golisano Children's Hospital, food vouchers so parents can eat alongside their child, a Comfort Bag and financial assistance. C.U.R.E. assists with everyday expenses like car payments, utilities and mortgage payments. We also support unique expenses such as hot water tank repair, appliance replacement and, sadly, funeral expense assistance. Every newly diagnosed Family is given a \$100 gift card for gas to help with travel to the numerous appointments that follow a diagnosis.






Many times when a child is diagnosed with cancer, one or both parents take a medical leave of absence from work. The economics of today almost necessitate a two-income working household and a decrease to income can be detrimental to Families. C.U.R.E. works hard to ensure Families are cared for by offering Holiday Gift Assistance, monthly social opportunities for Parents, quarterly Family

outings for our Families and more. We let our children know they are on our minds on their birthday, sending birthday cards with a little treat included to every child through their 16th birthday. We let parents know we haven't forgotten their child and send a "Thinking of You" card near their child's anniversary of death. C.U.R.E. is unique because we support Families from the day of diagnosis, throughout treatment and beyond. The support doesn't stop when treatment stops. When a child finishes treatment, C.U.R.E. celebrates with them - providing a handheld bell to ring and take home, along with a handprint canvas, a gift (oftentimes siblings receive a gift as well) and their favorite treat to enjoy to celebrate with. Sadly, we do lose an average of 15 children per year. We honor the fighters lost with an annual Brick Laying Ceremony at our office every Spring and remember all children lost at a Remembrance Service every Fall.



Our Impact

In the 2021 – 2022 fiscal year, C.U.R.E. provided the following support:

-  **\$310**
Items for Families
-  **\$4,382**
Gas Cards
-  **\$2,586**
Restaurant Gift Cards
-  **\$3,322**
Holiday Assistance
-  **\$6,961**
Rent/Utilities
-  **\$846**
Food for Families
-  **\$73**
Bell Ringing



“I have been connected to parents who have helped me navigate my feelings and questions and our daughter has met kids who are just like her.”

Support **\$566,317**

\$116,154 Contributions

\$31,800 Grants

\$25,919 United Way

\$374,676 Special Events

\$65,372 In-Kind

\$53,519 ERC Revenue

Expenses **\$383,514**

\$91,534 Education

\$145,426 Community Services

\$77,594 Management and General

\$68,960 Fundraising



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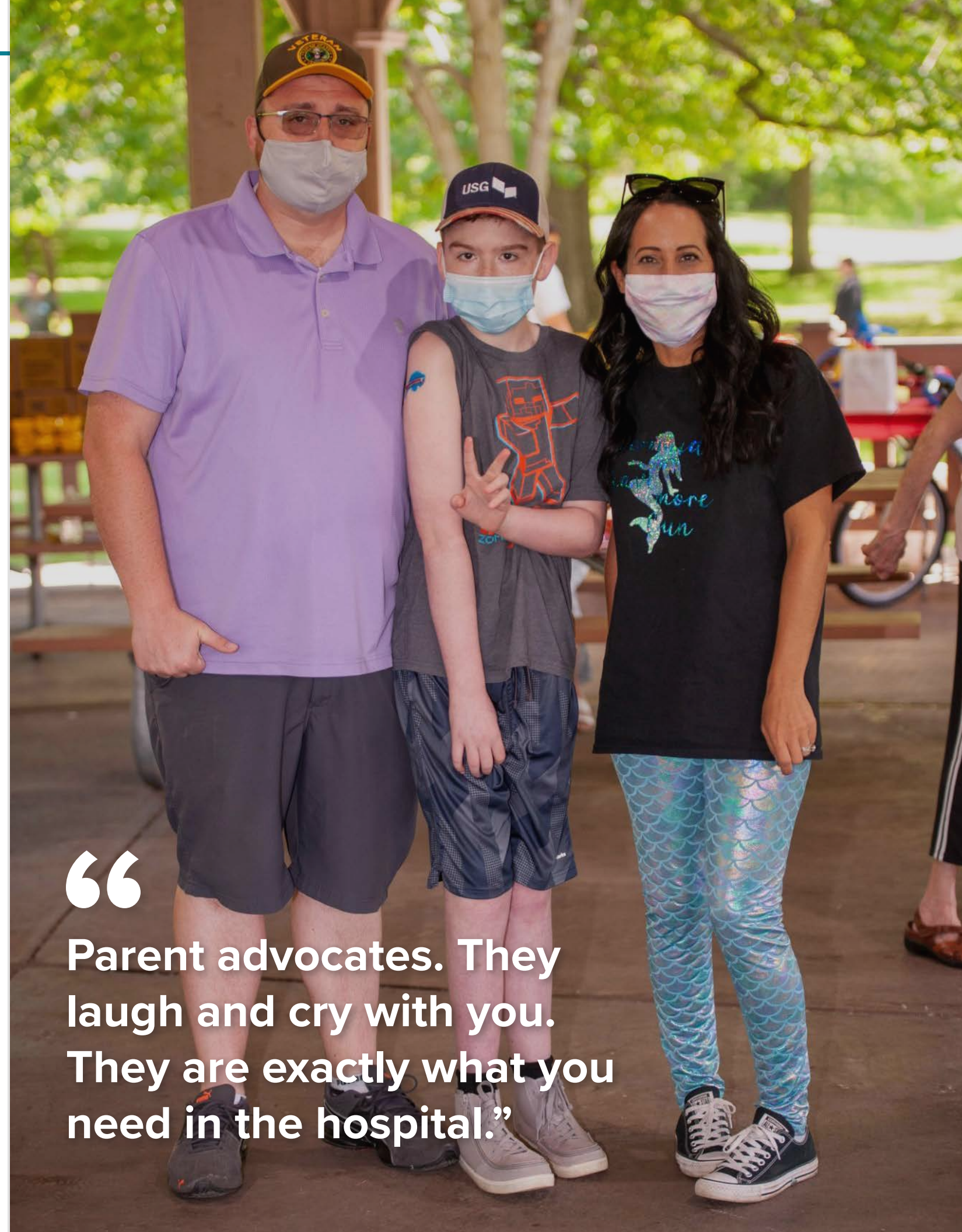
Weniger Family Charitable Trust

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“
Parent advocates. They
laugh and cry with you.
They are exactly what you
need in the hospital.”



Improving the lives of children and their families coping with childhood cancer or chronic blood disorders by providing emotional, educational, social and financial assistance; promoting and funding research towards a cure.

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The C.U.R.E. Childhood Cancer Association is a 501 (c) not-for-profit, tax exempt organization and your contributions may be tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law. Our tax exempt number is 51 - 021503