the difference is
“You might ask why we are so confident that these and other promising discoveries will change the practice of medicine.

The answer is simple: Because we have done it before.”

- CCRF Chief Medical Advisors

ONE STEP CLOSER TO A WORLD WITHOUT CHILDHOOD CANCER

Letter from our Chief Medical Advisors

Each “win” in childhood cancer starts with one: one person, one idea, one dollar and one step forward. Children’s Cancer Research Fund (CCRF) combines these steps to launch projects and ideas that create wins for children with cancer. The results can be promising, exponential and lasting.

This year, we have many examples that show how CCRF harnesses the “power of one” and turns it into wins against childhood cancer. One remarkable young man, Zach Sobiech, wrote one song, which sold for one dollar on iTunes. The sales of this song, combined with other generous donations, have funded a team of researchers at the University of Minnesota who discovered differences in the genetics of tumor cells versus normal cells and, thus, identified a new target for therapy. Now, through one partnership between the research team, a pharmaceutical company and the Children’s Oncology Group, we are about to launch the first human clinical trial resulting from research funded by the Zach Sobiech Osteosarcoma Fund.

Last year, the National Center for Health Statistics confirmed that the number of deaths from childhood brain cancers exceeded deaths from childhood leukemia. Although this statistic shows substantial gains in childhood leukemia treatments, it also illustrates the considerable amount of work involved in finding brain tumor cures. One exciting research initiative supported by CCRF is the development of an immunotherapy targeting glioblastoma, an aggressive brain tumor in children and adults. Initial testing in dogs with brain tumors had phenomenal results, adding years, not just weeks, of life for some dogs. This work provides the “proof of concept” necessary before moving to human clinical testing.

You might ask why we are so confident that these and other promising discoveries will change the practice of medicine. The answer is simple: Because we have done it before. For decades, we have developed lifesaving therapies for children with cancer and various blood diseases. For example, 93 percent of children with Fanconi anemia can now expect to be cured by blood stem cell transplants, compared to only 16 percent in 1995.

Although we have made excellent progress, we still need to do better. Your support is crucial, and we hope you will know the impact of one decision — that is, your decision to support the work of CCRF and our collective dream of finding cures.

Sincerely,

John Wagner, MD
Chief Medical Advisor

Logan Spector, PhD
Chief Medical Advisor

Brenda Weigel, MD
Chief Medical Advisor
LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR AND CEO

We are pleased to present our annual report for our fiscal year ending June 30, 2017.

Our work has always been inspired by the courageous children, compassionate researchers and donors like you, who are at the core of our mission. This year was no exception.

As we look back on this year, we are proud to show you the research and family program highlights your generosity has made possible. With your help, we can tell the inspiring stories of children who make a big difference in childhood cancer research and fund innovative ideas that will lead to better childhood cancer treatments. Today, we feel we are closer than ever to tackling these deadly diseases so kids across the nation can survive and thrive.

Among them were Tanner, a bone cancer survivor who rode his bike in the Great Cycle Challenge to fight cancer for kids like him; Nevaeh, a brain tumor survivor who helped her parents host a carnival to raise money for brain tumor research; Jocelyn’s mom, Kayla, who told us the story of her daughter, who sadly passed away from cancer but whose story is bound to change the research landscape; and Brooklyn, who showed her bravery when she told us what it was like to go to the hospital for leukemia treatments.

The past year was also an exciting year for research breakthroughs, which are now leading to clinical trials that could provide children with more treatment options. Branden Moriarity, PhD, found several genetic markers in osteosarcoma, some of which have medications already available for patients. He is turning his discovery into a clinical trial launching later this year. Mike Olin, PhD, and Chris Moertel, MD, have developed a new way to refine a vaccine to treat brain tumors. Their new therapy is also getting ready for a clinical trial — one that could affect many children facing fatal brain tumors.

Finally, your donations continue vital family support programs that help kids and their families heal, even if a cure is not immediately available. They ensure that new, brilliant researchers enter pediatric oncology, so research can move forward well into the future.

Gratefully,

Cari Erickson
Chair, Board of Directors

John Hallberg
Chief Executive Officer

Brooklyn, leukemia survivor, with her dad
A LOOK BACK: CONNECTING WITH FAMILIES

Your support gives hope to hundreds of families who have heard or who will hear the most devastating news of their life: Their child has cancer.

Each year, we have the honor of meeting families who create a meaningful impact by sharing their experiences with us at events and in our donor communications, social media and more.

You helped our outreach team connect with 266 new families affected by childhood cancer.

Five of these families and their kids emerged as incredible advocates, showing us that a world without childhood cancer is possible. They represent the future children whose lives will be changed by advancing childhood cancer research.
AGE 10
DIAGNOSED WITH NEUROBLASTOMA

WHAT WE LOVE ABOUT DEXTER:
Grinning from ear to ear or sticking out his tongue, Dexter is usually doing something crazy in every photo you see of him, like trying out his hoverboard or eating chocolate-covered scorpions. His laughter and joy are contagious, reminding us that each moment in life matters.

YOUR IMPACT ON KIDS LIKE DEXTER:
CCRF funding helped David Largaespada, PhD, and his lab identify a gene that makes normal, healthy cells into neuroblastoma and medulloblastoma cells. Largaespada is most excited about finding a potential explanation for the aggressive behavior of these tumors, which could lead to more effective treatments.

“Never give up. Everybody is here for you.”
— Dexter

the difference is

Dexter

11
what we love about Jocelyn:

Jocelyn passed away before we had the chance to meet her. Hearing stories about Jocelyn, we could feel her profound wisdom. At a young age, she was asking big questions about life and death. She and her family changed the childhood cancer landscape and those surrounding her, just by sharing their beautiful story.

your impact on kids like Jocelyn:

Our donors fund the epidemiological work of Logan Spector, PhD. He is a co-investigator on a new Children’s Oncology Group rhabdomyosarcoma study that will help identify risk factors for the disease and research genetic targets to better treat it.

She had more guts than I ever had. She was braver than I will ever be.

– Kayla, Jocelyn’s mom
NEVAEH, 10
DIAGNOSED WITH MEDULLOBLASTOMA

WHAT WE LOVE ABOUT NEVAEH:

Nevaeh’s perseverance and tireless advocacy for kids with cancer are second to none. Whether she is helping her parents coordinate their carnival fundraiser or bagging groceries at a local store, we look at Nevaeh as a shining example of brain tumor activism and generosity — she is truly an inspiration.

YOUR IMPACT ON KIDS LIKE NEVAEH:

As mentioned in Dexter’s story, CCRF funding helped David Largaespada, PhD, and his lab identify a gene that turns normal, healthy cells into neuroblastoma and medulloblastoma cells. Largaespada is most excited about finding a potential explanation for the aggressive behavior of these tumors, which could lead to more effective treatments.

You have also helped fund the work of Michael Olin, PhD, and Christopher Moertel, MD, in refining a potentially lifesaving vaccine. Read more about their research on page 20.

“I just want her to be able to do what she loves to do because there’s a lot she can’t do. I want her to know that if she has a dream and believes in something, she can follow that dream.”

— Tessa, Nevaeh’s mom
“Without advancements in research, we wouldn’t have been able to celebrate Brooklyn’s 3rd birthday nor had the chance for her baby brother to know his big sister. I can’t think of a better way for someone to feel they really made a difference or impact in a child’s life than by donating to the research efforts of Children’s Cancer Research Fund. We are living proof.”
— Grant, Brooklyn’s dad

**Brooklyn, 4**
**Diagnosed with leukemia**

**What we love about Brooklyn:**
An articulate and brave preschooler, Brooklyn can handle a port access like none other. While the nurses hook her up to chemotherapy, she practices her alphabet with flash cards. We love Brooklyn’s energy and ability to make everyone smile, especially when she sings Bob Marley’s *Three Little Birds*—she has a way of letting us know that every little thing really will be all right.

**Your impact on kids like Brooklyn:**
You are helping fund research that explores how to reduce the painful side effects of leukemia treatment for kids like Brooklyn. Today, researchers are studying how to catch leukemia early on, how to deliver drugs in a way that reduces side effects from treatment and how to build up a child’s immune system after treatment. Read more about how you are helping shape leukemia research at ChildrensCancer.org/Research.
TANNER, 10
DIAGNOSED WITH OSTEOSARCOMA

WHAT WE LOVE ABOUT TANNER:
If you are older than Tanner, you can be sure he will address you as “Sir” or “Ma’am.” Respectful and enthusiastic, he and his family are remarkable advocates for childhood cancer research. In fact, Tanner was an ambassador for CCRF’s cycling fundraiser, Great Cycle Challenge USA, and his team made it onto the national leaderboards!

YOUR IMPACT ON KIDS LIKE TANNER:
A few years ago, CCRF created the Zach Sobiech Osteosarcoma Fund with two goals in mind: to identify the causes of osteosarcoma and develop effective treatments. Your donations are helping researchers make great progress toward these goals. Read page 18 to see how.

You can read the kids’ full stories online at ChildrensCancer.org/Stories

the difference is

Tanner

“We will continue to battle for more funding and better research, raise awareness, and spread love so that no family fights alone.”

— Shane, Tanner’s dad
OSTEOSARCOMA: A DEADLY DISEASE AS OLD AS THE DINOSAURS

We are not afraid to defeat a disease that is as old as the dinosaurs, and, thanks to your support, we are well on our way. Currently, researchers are making important advances in understanding osteosarcoma, a bone cancer that has taken the lives of thousands of children and young adults. Through CCRF’s Zach Sobiech Osteosarcoma Fund, researchers are identifying the causes of osteosarcoma and working to develop effective treatments. Your support helped researchers work toward these goals.

“One of the keys to understanding osteosarcoma incidence and survival is the ability to include large numbers of patients and their families from around the world.”
– Logan Spector, PhD, Suzanne Holmes Hodder Chair in Pediatric Cancer Research

LAUNCHING NEW IDEAS

Your donations also helped scientists like Logan Spector, PhD, epidemiologist and Suzanne Holmes Hodder Chair in Pediatric Cancer Research, launch an osteosarcoma biobank (BOOST) that will help identify the causes of osteosarcoma. Spector is sending DNA kits to osteosarcoma patients and their families to gather their genetic information, literally putting research in their hands.

With the data from the DNA samples, he will further map osteosarcoma, which could help him predict who is going to get it, learn how to catch the disease early on and, hopefully, save lives. Already, more than 130 people have signed up for kits, and the number keeps growing.

FIVE CROSS-DISCIPLINARY PROJECTS

Through five collaborative projects, CCRF-funded researchers share their diverse skill sets and perspectives to create a fuller picture of the disease. This comparative oncology approach includes expertise from epidemiologists, geneticists, molecular biologists, veterinary scientists and oncologists who work with patients on a daily basis.

OSTEOSARCOMA is infamous for being difficult to treat because the genes that promote this cancer’s development are largely unknown, making it harder for doctors to combat.

Funded by CCRF’s Zach Sobiech Osteosarcoma Fund, researchers generated and analyzed 119 osteosarcoma tumors in mice and identified 253 genes that are commonly altered in osteosarcoma. They found three big genetic drivers of osteosarcoma: CSF1R, SEMA4D and ZNF217. They sound like the names of robots, but they are actually genes that cause osteosarcoma to flourish.

Now that researchers know these genes are drivers of osteosarcoma, they can find targeted treatments and therapies to defeat the disease and, hopefully, provide better outcomes for kids with cancer.

They are starting with SEMA4D — a gene that is also expressed in other cancers like breast cancer — using a drug that already exists to help defeat it. Research done at the University of Minnesota has shown that the drug has the potential to be effective in kids and teens with osteosarcoma. The osteosarcoma team will partner with Children’s Oncology Group to start the phase 1 trial. For families facing cancer, this breakthrough could lead to another treatment option for kids.

FOSTERING NATIONAL COLLABORATION

In 2017, we cosponsored MIB Agents’ FACTOR conference, which connected CCRF-funded osteosarcoma researchers with more than 100 families and scientists from across the country, helping fast-track research through idea sharing and conversation.

TURNING CLINICAL TRIALS INTO STANDARD TREATMENTS

Clinical trials are critical to providing kids with additional options when they have exhausted the existing treatment protocols. These trials also test novel treatments that lead to new and improved therapies for kids with cancer everywhere. In fall 2017, scientists plan to begin a breakthrough phase 1 clinical trial at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children’s Hospital.

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BRAIN TUMORS:  
THE LEADING CHILDHOOD CANCER KILLER

According to new federal data, childhood brain tumors are the leading cause of cancer-related death among kids, surpassing leukemia. Supporters like you are helping fill the funding gap so that breakthrough brain tumor research can move forward.

Because of support from donors like you, Michael Olin, PhD, and Chris Moertel, MD, researchers at the University of Minnesota, can say, “We have proved our hypothesis.”

Olin was awarded a grant in 2014, thanks to Dawn of a Dream Fund supporters, to test his hypothesis that a specific protein called CD200 interferes with a potentially lifesaving brain tumor vaccine. Moertel and Olin’s goal was to be able to “turn off” the protein, giving the vaccine a chance to attack the brain tumor.

Before their work with CD200, researchers at the University of Minnesota had developed a brain tumor vaccine that demonstrated promising results and resulted in minimal toxicity for brain cancer patients. However, as they tested the vaccine, the scientists discovered that brain tumors surround themselves with a shield of sorts that prevents the immune system from attacking the tumor.

Researchers are confident that the new CD200 inhibitor/vaccine combination will be just as effective in humans.

Olin found a way to turn off the protein using what he calls a CD200 inhibitor. This inhibitor stops the protein from shutting off the T cells; it lets the T cells recognize the tumor cells and fight them.

Once Olin discovered how to turn CD200 off, he shared his findings with the University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine and Elizabeth Pluhar, DVM, PhD. They collaborated to treat companion dogs with high-grade brain tumors using the brain tumor vaccine and Olin’s new CD200 inhibitors. After treatment, MRIs showed that many of the dogs’ tumors had disappeared. Today, the dogs have remained tumor-free as long as 530 days from treatment. Because dog brain tumors and human brain tumors are very similar, researchers are confident that the new CD200 inhibitor/vaccine combination will be just as effective in humans.

In March 2017, Olin confirmed that the human CD200 inhibitors they have developed are working. He is hoping to bring the breakthrough discoveries to a human clinical trial this year or early next year. Olin has designed five different versions of the humanized CD200 inhibitor and is now researching which will be the best to bring to human trials.
RETAILING BRIGHT MINDS

You help CCRF provide a steady stream of funding for our endowed chairs, researchers who are leaders in their fields. This funding helps us recruit and retain the brightest minds in childhood cancer research at the University of Minnesota. Each year, these five chairs bring us closer to a world where children and families will no longer have to fear childhood cancer.

HERE ARE THEIR RESEARCH WINS OF THE YEAR:

“Inbrutinib became the only drug with FDA approval for treatment of graft-versus-host disease. Preclinical studies were CCRF supported and provided the key data for moving forward with the clinical trial.”

— Bruce R. Blazar, MD, Children’s Cancer Research Fund Land Grant Chair

“Our win would be identifying 23 promising drugs for treating Neurofibromatosis Type 1 tumors.”

— David A. Largaespada, PhD, Hedberg Family/Children’s Cancer Research Fund Chair in Pediatric Brain Tumor Research

“My win would be opening the Biology of Osteosarcoma (BOOST) Registry and Biobank, funded by the Zach Sobiech Osteosarcoma Fund. One of the keys to understanding osteosarcoma incidence and survival is the ability to include large numbers of patients and their families from around the world.”

— Logan G. Spector, PhD, Suzanne Holmes Hodder/Children’s Cancer Research Fund Chair in Pediatric Cancer Research and Chief Medical Advisor

“Our research win of the year would be the successful “rejuvenation of the immune system” by the ability to make thymic progenitor cells and T cell reprogramming. Its impact is huge. (Today), the goal is to speed immune recovery … and to enhance the longevity of … modified T cells to target leukemia.”

— John E. Wagner, Jr., MD, Hageboeck Family/Children’s Cancer Research Fund Chair in Pediatric Oncology and Chief Medical Advisor

“Our big win of the year was the true translation of basic science to the clinic, as exemplified by the opening of the national trial targeting SEMA4D in osteosarcoma.” (See page 19)

— Brenda J. Weigel, MD, Lehman Family/Children’s Cancer Research Fund in Pediatric Cancer Research and Chief Medical Advisor
TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF RESEARCHERS

CCRF supports researchers by funding fellowships, grant programs and educational opportunities to build experience and expertise. Training for academic and clinical careers in pediatric oncology takes many years, and starting new, specialized labs is a challenge as granting becomes more competitive. We strive to help researchers overcome these challenges by providing funding and education at each step of the way.

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Over the past 37 years, we have supported nearly 100 fellows who are working around the world to create safer, more effective treatments for kids. New fellows develop both clinical and research expertise so they can become the next leading researchers in their fields.

Nathan Gossai was just one of the many clinicians and researchers who benefited from this program. He is now the director of Leukemia and Lymphoma at the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Children’s Minnesota.

EMERGING SCIENTIST AWARD

The Emerging Scientist Award provides funding to postdoctoral researchers early in their careers. Your support gives them the opportunity to develop their ideas in the lab, generating enough foundational work and data to apply for larger grants.

YOUNG CANCER SCIENTIST PROGRAM

CCRF also supports the Young Cancer Scientist program, which pairs an experienced cancer researcher with undergraduate students to give them professional experience in these areas:

- Data collection, analysis and presentation
- Experimental design
- Hypothesis testing
- Laboratory techniques
- Literature search and interpretation

“As a fellow, I was at the bedside in conversation with patients and families who were traversing perilous paths and who frequently were comforted by the embrace that CCRF’s Care Partners and family support provides. While the training support and benefit to families were essential and impressive, there was perhaps no greater benefit to my professional development than the opportunities afforded to me by CCRF’s targeted research support. CCRF enables a flexibility of training and creativity of inquiry and discovery that leads to meaningful advancements. I was incredibly fortunate to work with a recipient of Children’s Cancer Research Fund’s [support], Peter Gordon, PhD, MD, at the Masonic Cancer Center — working to identify novel therapeutics and better understand leukemia biology.”

– Nathan Gossai, MD, former fellow in Pediatric Hematology, Oncology and Blood/Marrow Transplantation at the University of Minnesota
From creating pilot studies to refining current childhood cancer treatments, your support will turn ideas into lifesaving realities — and create hope. Below are a few highlights of what researchers will be working on in the next year.

YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP ELIMINATE GRAFT-VERSUS-HOST DISEASE.

Many childhood cancer treatment plans include stem cell transplants that can lead to a life-threatening condition called graft-versus-host disease (GVHD). This disease develops when the donor’s immune cells mistakenly attack the child’s normal cells. Nearly half of patients with severe GVHD will die. Researchers have already discovered that cells called T cells can overpower GVHD, but it is incredibly costly to make enough T cells in the lab to be effective.

HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS:

Bruce R. Blazar, MD, and his team discovered how to make T cells even more powerful against GVHD by changing their cellular structure. Your support will help Blazar and his team further investigate how T cells use fatty acids to make them more powerful against GVHD. With more power behind fewer cells, saving lives could cost far less. This research will also allow Blazar’s team to find already available drugs in use for obesity to treat GVHD more effectively than ever before.

YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP IMPROVE LIFE FOR SURVIVORS OF GERM CELL TUMORS.

Germ cell tumors occur within and outside the ovary or testis. Though children who have been diagnosed with germ cell tumors tend to have high survival rates, doctors do not know much about the toxicity of current treatments and how they affect survivors later in life. Germ cell tumors affect 600 children and young adults every year in the United States, and that number keeps rising, so there are and will be more germ cell tumor survivors than ever before.

HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS:

Jenny Poynter, MPH, PhD, plans to use CCRF funding to contact 100 families to document their experiences with germ cell tumor treatment and identify whether survivors had any health issues. Once Poynter collects this information, she will be able to determine the feasibility of conducting a larger follow-up study on potential late effects, ranging from secondary cancers to hearing loss and infertility.

YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP RESEARCHERS STUDY LINKS BETWEEN OBESITY AND CHILDHOOD CANCER OUTCOMES.

Childhood obesity is a serious health problem. There is already evidence that the more obese adults are and the longer they remain obese, the more likely they are to develop cancer. It is not known whether obese children are at higher risk of developing cancer; however, it is known that children who are obese and develop cancer will experience worse outcomes than non-obese children.

HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS:

Justin Ryder, PhD, and Lucie Turcotte, MD, will use the funding to study the interplay between obesity and childhood cancer. They plan to investigate whether markers found in the body play a role in treatment response in children newly diagnosed with acute leukemia, with and without obesity. This study will provide foundational research to help scientists study why obese children are more resistant to standard leukemia therapy and develop new treatments to improve outcomes for kids with obesity and cancer.

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YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP RESEARCHERS INVESTIGATE HOW TO MAKE CHEMOTHERAPY EFFECTIVE FOR KIDS WITH THE SPREADING BONE CANCER, OSTEOSARCOMA.

Osteosarcoma is a deadly bone cancer that affects about 700 children and young adults in the United States each year. Though rare, the cancer has existed since the age of the dinosaurs, with little treatment progress. When the bone cancer spreads to children’s lungs, they almost always die because the osteosarcoma cells no longer respond to chemotherapy.

HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS:

David Largaespada, PhD, and his lab colleagues suspect there is a link between osteosarcoma’s chemotherapy resistance and its ability to spread and survive in distant parts of the body, such as the lungs. He plans to use Dawn of a Dream funding to explore this link and investigate how to make the spreading form of osteosarcoma sensitive to chemotherapy again.
YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP RESEARCHERS EXAMINE AND TREAT DISEASES THAT PREDISPOSE KIDS TO CANCER.

NEUROFIBROMATOSIS TYPE 1
Neurofibromatosis type 1 (NF1) is a genetic disorder that makes children susceptible to certain tumors. Little is known about why some children with NF1 develop tumors and some do not, and there are a number of factors that may influence risk. Because the inner workings of the disease are mostly unknown, it is difficult for doctors to predict which children might be affected by the tumors.

HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS:
Erin Marcotte, PhD, plans to use Dawn of a Dream funding to gather NF1 patients’ data and create a pilot study that focuses on the environmental and nutritional factors that may increase the risk of NF1-related tumors. Her ultimate goal is to gather enough data to apply for more funding from the National Institutes of Health. Her research is an important step toward discovering which factors play a role in creating subsequent cancers in kids with NF1 and in improving patient outcomes.

FANCONI ANEMIA
Fanconi anemia (FA) is a rare genetic disease in which proteins that help repair DNA do not function properly. Children with FA suffer from bone marrow failure and a variety of devastating birth defects. Thanks to supporters like you, two projects are underway to help alleviate the disease.

HOW YOUR DONATION HELPS:
To treat FA, doctors typically transplant healthy cells from matching donors into the patient — but this form of treatment has a significant risk of fatality. Ideally, researchers would treat FA by altering patients’ genes directly in their cells. Scientists’ ability to correct genes is evolving rapidly with a new technology called CRISPR/Cas9. Using Dawn of a Dream Funding, Branden Moriarity, PhD, will apply this technology to correct an FA-causing gene in patient cells. His goal is to field a clinical trial to treat patients with their own cells after scientists have corrected their FA gene.

Bone marrow cells from children with FA are also extremely sensitive and are unable to repair a type of DNA damage caused by chemotherapy, leading to increased leukemia and other cancers. Troy Lund, MD, PhD, will use the funding to determine how cells use a specific protein to recognize and repair this DNA damage. Researchers and doctors could then figure out how to target the protein in children with leukemia to make chemotherapy more effective.
This past year, we unveiled our new website. From highlighting children’s stories to making content more accessible on any device, we hope it will increase childhood cancer awareness and provide a place for donors like you to learn more about our organization and support the cause more easily. One website feature we are excited about is our ability to showcase blog posts written by the children and families we work with each day — the ones who best know the ups and downs of childhood cancer. Who better to tell the childhood cancer story than those who have experienced it firsthand?

Looking back, one story particularly stood out.

MEET DANNY, A 12-YEAR-OLD LEUKEMIA SURVIVOR.

I am Danny, and I am a 12-year-old seventh grader. I like to do good, learn in school, play lots of basketball, talk to my friends and hang out with my three older brothers. I like the color yellow and try to use it as much as I can at any time. Watching DC and Marvel movies is always fun. My favorite hero is probably Ant-Man or Duke Victory. During the season of winter, I usually cuddle up inside, but occasionally I go outside and play in the snow. I have not gone sledding this year though I plan to.

Before maintenance, induction and intensification [leukemia treatment] was when I had the most pain. It was not physical pain, but mental and spiritual. This pain was coming from being away from my family when I was in the hospital — even though my mom lived there in my hospital room with me, and Dad came with my brothers to visit me every night they possibly could. Seeing how I was delaying the members of my family’s lives by having to get a feeding tube put into me. She then started crying with me and said she really didn’t know. My mom told me she was so sorry for everything that I was going through. After I saw her pain, I tried to lighten things up by holding her hand and telling her it was okay to cry. She left the room for about 20 minutes after that. Seeing my mom in sorrow actually made me feel less scared because seeing someone sad with me showed me that I was not the only one who needed healing, and I was not the only one who was weak.

At school, I had a lot of friends. At the hospital, I had the nurses as friends. Even though the nurses were all smiles and funny, I would prefer a lunch table full of classmates over a hospital bed with a nurse adjusting my IV pole. My whole class stayed in contact with me. They sent me notes, and we talked by Skype whenever we could. My Mom encouraged me to Skype as much as I could. Sometimes I didn’t want to Skype just because I was very tired, which changed my emotions about interacting with people.

Most of the time, I dreaded talking to people even though I loved to talk before I was diagnosed. I regret rejecting the offers to Skype with my family and friends now. I look back and see how a little selfish I was. Once I got back to school I was terrified! As soon as I got there, every teacher and student I met or passed by said, “Nice to have you back, Danny” or “Welcome back, Danny” and that made me feel relieved to know that I was not an alien from Mars. My friends helped me whenever I needed help. They were definitely aware of my illness, but they didn’t try to avoid or hide from me. They knew I had cancer, but they treated me and still do treat me like a normal kid in their grade. I am forever grateful to them for that.

One time in the hospital, a doctor told me I might have to get a feeding tube put into my belly because I had lost 20 pounds, which put me down to 60 pounds. That night I was in the hospital, in my bed with my mom in a chair right next to me. I started to cry. Trying to hold back the tears, I asked my mom if I was going to get a feeding tube put into me. She then started crying with me and said she really didn’t know. My mom told me she was so sorry for everything that I was going through. After I saw her pain, I tried to lighten things up by holding her hand and telling her it was okay to cry. She left the room for about 20 minutes after that.

For my future, I actually think of the worst possible scenarios, which is just a habit I should throw away. Sometimes I just pray to God that whatever my future holds for me, I will learn to accept it. I sometimes think of never getting stronger or being able to succeed in academics. Everyone around me believes in me, and I have proof that I will have a great future.

In my cancer treatment, there were many difficult parts of it. One part was the most painful; I hope no kid will have to face the anxiety, depression and hopelessness that comes from cancer.

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“Working with CCRF … has made an incredible difference in our journey with our son Danny’s leukemia. The embodiment of what CCRF wishes to convey to families going through this uncertain cancer terrain is simply, hope.”

— Jackie, Danny’s mom
Childhood cancer affects the whole family, so, with your help, we provided funding for a variety of quality of life services designed to enhance healing and care for children and families during treatment and beyond.

YOU SUPPORT CARE PARTNERS, A FAMILY QUALITY-OF-LIFE PROGRAM.
We support their volunteers. Care Partners provides volunteers with nonmedical support on the pediatric hematology/oncology and bone or marrow transplant floors at the University of Minnesota. Last year, there were 76 volunteers who gave 4,940 hours of time to families and children. Our volunteers provide transportation, pick up groceries or food for families, spend time visiting with children and families and more.

YOU PROVIDE RESOURCES SO THEY CAN SERVE MEALS TO PATIENTS AND FAMILIES AT OUR MONTHLY DINNER PROGRAM.
Eighty-nine volunteers helped serve meals to patients and families at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children’s Hospital. Thank you to the Hodder family and friends for hosting the Flag Day Ice Cream Social in memory of Suzanne Holmes Hodder with our June Dinner Program to provide ice cream and fun to our families. Thank you to Chick-fil-A of Apple Valley, Minnesota and Olive Garden in St. Louis Park, Minnesota for your support. We served 2,397 meals to patients and families this year. That’s enough to feed everyone on 33 schoolbuses!

YOU SUPPORT THE CARE PARTNERS BEADS OF COURAGE.
Care Partners funds Beads of Courage®, an innovative therapeutic art program that helps cancer patients document their cancer stories. Each colorful bead captures what they have endured and achieved throughout their experience, including procedures like hair loss, radiation, dressing changes and more.

YOU FUND SIBSHOPS.
You make it possible for siblings of children with medical needs to take part in fun opportunities and receive peer support and education. During each monthly workshop, child life specialists work with siblings in both individual and group settings to provide coping and adjustment support. You helped serve 150 siblings.

YOU SUPPORT MOMCOLOGY.
Momcology is a national nonprofit peer support organization established for mothers and primary caregivers of children diagnosed with cancer. In addition to online support, Momcology hosts restorative retreats and in-hospital support groups across the country so moms can connect and heal in person. You helped us provide Warm Hug Mugs and coffee to moms and caregivers at the retreats.

YOU SEND C.C. BEARS TO CHILDREN AND THEIR SIBLINGS AROUND THE WORLD.
Cure Cancer Bear, otherwise known as C.C. Bear, travels the nation to those who need him most. To request bears or learn more, visit ChildrensCancer.org/CCBear. This donor-supported cuddly bear has reached 521 kids this year. That’s more than 20 full elementary classrooms!
NEVAEH’S STORY

Instagram Takeover written by Tessa, Nevaeh’s mom

Nevaeh was so strong through treatment. She never gave up. She relapsed in July 2012 before her 5th birthday. Hearing your child has cancer once is more than awful; hearing it is back is devastating.

Nevaeh was diagnosed in October of 2011 with medulloblastoma, a form of brain cancer. She had just turned 4 years old.

Nevaeh’s baby brother would help her feel better – she was so sick through treatment.

Nevaeh was so strong through treatment. She never gave up. She relapsed in July 2012 before her 5th birthday. Hearing your child has cancer once is more than awful; hearing it is back is devastating.

Nevaeh was diagnosed in October of 2011 with medulloblastoma, a form of brain cancer. She had just turned 4 years old.

Nevaeh’s baby brother would help her feel better – she was so sick through treatment.

She is now 9 years old, cancer-free and an amazing ambassador for childhood cancer and brain tumor research.

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Cancer is the number one cause of death by disease in children, and medical research is more necessary than ever. Generating awareness about this need and providing educational resources for researchers are key parts of our mission. We are proud to support the following education and awareness initiatives, which reach millions of people, including childhood cancer families, doctors, researchers and the general public.

INSPIRING ADVOCACY

Research news, patient stories, volunteer opportunities and more are communicated via our website, blog, emails, social media, newsletter, mailings and events such as the KS95 for Kids’ Radiothon and Great Cycle Challenge USA. On Facebook alone, our stories reached more than eight million people over the past fiscal year. In addition, awareness building through pro bono advertisements is made possible thanks to support from MNI Targeted Media.

FOSTERING EDUCATION AND COLLABORATION

We are proud to support The Mark E. Nesbit Lectureship in Pediatric Oncology and the Norma K.C. Ramsay, MD, Distinguished Visiting Professor Lectureship series. Both of these events bring nationally and internationally recognized childhood cancer experts to the Twin Cities to speak on current clinical and research issues.

We also help fund the Cancer Survivorship Conference, an annual event at the University of Minnesota that focuses on questions and issues that survivors and their families often face after cancer treatment or stem cell transplantation.
BUTTERFLY AWARDS

Each year, CCRF presents Butterfly Awards to individuals, organizations and teams that have contributed significant time and resources to ending childhood cancer. We are grateful for the passion and commitment shared by this year’s award recipients.

THE DAHMEN FAMILY - AMBASSADOR

The Dahmen family first shared Griffin’s story with Ewing sarcoma during the 2015 KS95 for Kids Radiothon. Diagnosed at just 8 years old, he endured countless scans and X-rays, 26 weeks of chemotherapy infusions and surgery to remove what started as a baseball-sized tumor from his pelvis. A huge sports lover, Griffin has overcome the ravages of chemotherapy and weakness in his right leg to jump back into playing two of his favorites: baseball and basketball! Despite all that the family has endured, including the stress of living with the uncertainties of childhood cancer, Griffin’s parents, Jill and Kurt, have consistently said “yes” to every opportunity to join our mission. Their passion for raising awareness and support for research shines through everything they do. Jill has shared her family’s story at several events, and both Jill and Kurt have written for the CCRF blog, hosted a Time to Fly team and participated in photo and video shoots for various projects.

BERNIE LAUR - CARE PARTNERS

Bernie exemplifies the best of what Care Partners volunteers bring to the lives of children and families at the University of Minnesota Masonic Children’s Hospital. Since joining Care Partners in 2015, he has selflessly given his time and spirit to serve families on a long-term basis. Bernie first learned about Care Partners when he and his Hubbard Broadcasting colleagues served meals at the Care Partners dinner program (page 32). Embodying the Hubbard commitment to children, Bernie always goes above and beyond the necessary steps to ease the difficult journey that families face. His generous heart is a testament to what each of us can do when we cheerfully and unselfishly reach out to others.

ARDEN VIRNIG, MD - COMMUNITY PARTNER

In just three years, avid cyclist Arden Virnig, MD has biked over 2,700 miles and raised more than $41,000, becoming one of the top participants in Great Cycle Challenge USA. Virnig rides in memory of his daughter, Mary, who passed away from ganglioneuroblastoma in 2010. Each year, he honors Mary in a different way: he has biked with a warrior stick that she held onto during her battle with cancer, and he has used a tandem bicycle, leaving the second seat empty as a reminder of the loss his family endures each day. He has also helped us with news segments and social media posts aimed at bringing more awareness and funding to childhood cancer research. Virnig’s remarkable dedication to his daughter and the cause has undoubtedly helped make Great Cycle Challenge a success.

LINDA’S PHOTOGRAPHY - COMMUNITY PARTNER

Longtime supporter Linda Motzko consistently has used her talent and creativity as a photographer to raise nearly $50,000 for childhood cancer research. Since 1999, her family business, Linda’s Photography, has hosted Bunnies & Lambs, a unique springtime fundraiser that benefits CCRF. For every $25 donation to CCRF, customers receive a free photo session that captures children holding bunnies and lambs, providing happy memories to families to cherish for years to come.

DAVID LARGAESPADA, PHD - MEDICAL RESEARCHER

David Largaespada, PhD, is a nationally recognized authority on mouse genetics, gene modification and cancer genes. As a professor in the Departments of Pediatrics and Genetics, Cell Biology and Development and the associate director for Basic Research in the Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota, his laboratory focuses on understanding the genetic changes within cells that allow them to metastasize or resist cancer treatments. Largaespada has received millions of dollars from the National Institutes of Health and other sources for his research. He has published over 170 scientific articles, cofounded three biotechnology companies and mentored many postdoctoral, graduate and undergraduate students. Largaespada has been the catalyst for driving research success and is a true leader in the field, transforming our understanding of cancer. Most importantly, these amazing discoveries are leading the way for his lab and others to develop new therapies for some of the most difficult-to-treat cancers.

RUSSELL SWANSEN - VOLUNTEER

For 12 years, Russ Swansen served on the CCRF board of directors, including a term as board chairperson. His leadership and dedication to advancing research, fueled by the loss of his sister to childhood cancer, has been instrumental to our growth during this time. As an executive with Thrivent Financial, Russ has helped generate hundreds of thousands in revenue through sponsorship support of Dawn of a Dream and Great Cycle Challenge USA, and he has encouraged giving through Thrivent employee and member charitable programs. One of his greatest contributions is his ability to connect new donors to the CCRF mission, bringing significant giving and long-term support to the organization.
Thank you to our dedicated partners whose efforts are making a real impact for children and families affected by childhood cancer.

AMAZONSMILE
Shoppers can donate 0.5 percent of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to benefit childhood cancer research.

CRAVE CARES
Customers were encouraged to round up their purchases, with proceeds benefiting CCRF.

I SEE ME!
Ten percent of all sales made using a special offer code were donated during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September.

MACY’S THANKS FOR SHARING
Macy’s offered guests an opportunity to give back and shop with a special discount, donating proceeds from the program to multiple nonprofits, including CCRF, which received $200,000.

MINNESOTA TWINS
Major League Baseball honored kids and families affected by childhood cancer throughout the month of September and featured CCRF during pre-game activities. The Minnesota Twins also provided a first pitch experience and autographed memorabilia for the auction at our annual gala.

PUNCH PIZZA
Ten percent of all pizza sales during one week, in addition to customer donations at the register, were donated to CCRF.

VALLEYFAIR CARES
The Valleyfair Cares program raised funds for childhood cancer research, donating one dollar of each ticket purchased online. In addition, Park Chrysler Jeep of Burnsville, Minnesota, donated a 2016 Jeep Cherokee Sport SUV as part of a raffle that contributed to the success of the program.

6TH ANNUAL ZEN BOX IZAKAYA RAMEN ATTACK
This annual event, held at Mill City Museum in Minneapolis, treated more than 1,000 guests to delicious bowls of ramen and ramen burgers, created by chefs from around the country, all to benefit CCRF.

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISERS
Thank you to the community fundraisers whose efforts to raise $1,000 or more are supporting bold new research that is revolutionizing the way families experience treatment and life afterward.

3rd Annual Nicholas Cisewski Memorial Golf Tournament
3rd Annual Run/Walk for Rachel
Angellist
Artists Against Cancer
Benny Specialized Transportation July Company Campaign
CARS ReCon Auction Donations
Coaches vs. Cancer
Emma’s Hope Walk, Belle Plaine, Minn.
4RATiCate Cancer Cruise
Friends of CCRF Golf Tournament
Hairmastics Management Systems, Inc.
Indeed We Can, Indeed Brewery Minneapolis
Justin’s Smile
Karl’s Tourney (Karl R. Potach Foundation)
Knockout Childhood Cancer 5K Rook Pub, Indianapolis
Lincoln High School Prowler Ad
Linda’s Photography Bunnies & Lamb promotion
Love Beer. Hate Cancer. Softball and Kickball Tournament
Meg McElroy’s Annual Holiday Party
Miss Daisy Memorial Benefit to remember Garrett Harper
myTalk 107.1’s Project Down and Dirty
Schwan’s USA Cup Kick Cancer day
Super Kids Never Quit
Team Kendal Kidz Concert
Twins Wives Organization online auction
UnitedHealth Group Time to Lead Challenge
Until 20 Film Showing
Wachusett Regional High School Juniors Save the World Dance project
Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign
the difference is
Fundraising

BENEFACTORS CIRCLE | MAY 21, 2017

Members of the Benefactors Circle enjoyed a delicious dinner hosted by founders Sharon and Joel Waller and their son and daughter-in-law, Jon and Jill Halper, on May 21 at Café Lurcat Bar in Minneapolis. CCRF Co-Chief Medical Advisor Brenda Weigel, MD, spoke about her research and the impact of the support of the Benefactors Circle. The Benefactors Circle has raised more than $3.2 million since its inception in 1991. Funds raised from the Benefactors Circle will support vital osteosarcoma research. In addition, member support will help the CCRF-funded Care Partners program purchase American Girl dolls that do not have hair, specially designed for children whose treatment causes hair loss.

DATE FOR LIFE | FEB. 11, 2017

Guests gathered together for the ninth annual Date for Life event in memory of Katie Jurek, who passed away from osteosarcoma 10 years ago. Festivities held throughout the evening raised $72,000 for childhood cancer research, carrying on Katie’s message of hope for kids and families affected by cancer. Taylor, a two-time cancer survivor, graced the audience with her beautiful, acoustic version of Ingrid Michaelson’s Everybody. To celebrate the evening’s success, guests danced to the live music of The R Factor.

K9S9 FOR KIDS RADIOTHON | DEC. 9, 2016

Each year, listeners are inspired by the stories of families affected by cancer and special medical needs during the one-day K9S9 for Kids Radiothon. This year, listeners heard from our incredible ambassadors and childhood cancer survivors Alex, Brooklyn, Danny, Lexyn, Nevaeh and Taylor. Donations flooded in throughout the day, providing a better tomorrow for these kids and families. The event garnered over $541,839 and concluded with more than 5,000 people gathering to celebrate by singing to Zach Sobiech’s Clouds, carrying on his message of hope. Thank you to the support of K9S9 for helping make this event a success!

140 INVITATIONAL GOLF TOURNAMENT | AUG. 20, 2016

This year marked the 13th annual 140 Invitational Golf Tournament. Guests enjoyed dinner and entertainment and bid on exciting items, from room remodels to relaxing getaways. They also had the special opportunity to hear from Logan Spector, PhD, about the Ewing sarcoma research he is conducting. This year, the event raised more than $250,000, bringing the 13-year total to more than $1 million.
This year’s Great Cycle Challenge raised more than $4.4 million, drew 38,000 participants and resulted in 3 million miles pedaled!

Participants from across the country pedaled for one reason: to fight childhood cancer for kids like Brooklyn, Callie, Kendal and Tanner. Thanks to their dedication and the generosity of their sponsors, support from Great Cycle Challenge will help provide better outcomes for kids fighting cancer.

This year brought together many incredible riders. This event was possible because of them.

“I cannot tell you how much I enjoy being a part of this amazing event. I am so motivated to get on my bike and pedal for these kids. It is an honor and a privilege to be biking and raising money to help children kick cancer’s butt.”
– JoAnn Anton, Conn.

“I’m glad to be a part of such an amazing event. I am very grateful for Great Cycle Challenge!”
– Miguel Carrizales, Ill.

“Tribute Day was amazing! Everything connected with Great Cycle Challenge is clear, easy and geared to support the research and fight childhood cancer. That’s the goal!”
– John White, Tenn.
DAWN OF A DREAM
NOV. 5, 2016

Committed supporters, families affected by childhood cancer and friends raised nearly $1.2 million at our 36th annual Dawn of a Dream gala!

“This year’s Dawn of a Dream was truly inspiring. It is amazing to witness a room so full of hope, passion and a desire to make a profound difference,” said Mindy, mother of Connor, a brain tumor survivor.

$12.6 million
Total amount raised in fiscal year 2017

24.8% to fundraising
4.3% to management

70.9% to our mission

PROGRAM SUPPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
<td>$4,395,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and awareness, including research fellowships</td>
<td>30.3%</td>
<td>3,769,833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient and family services</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>655,514</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>24.8%</td>
<td>$3,081,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
<td>532,704</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We're committed to sharing transparent and complete financial information with our donors and the community. Here is a snapshot of our performance during the 2017 fiscal year. To see more details and audited financial documents, visit ChildrensCancer.org/Financials.

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### Support and Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Contributions</td>
<td>$5,478,841</td>
<td>$5,478,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>6,449,661</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct Expenses</td>
<td>(319,319)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donated Goods and Services</td>
<td>535,594</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cause Marketing</td>
<td>144,776</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>231,645</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>50,581</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenues and gains</strong></td>
<td>$12,571,779</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## EXPENSE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>$4,395,100</td>
<td>$4,395,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Awareness</td>
<td>3,769,833</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient &amp; Family Services</td>
<td>655,514</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>3,081,716</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; General</td>
<td>532,704</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td>$12,434,867</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Change in net assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>$136,912</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, beginning of year</td>
<td>$4,190,262</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets, end of year</td>
<td>$4,327,174</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$4,886,588</td>
<td>$3,602,218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>2,289,699</td>
<td>2,145,071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledge Receivables, Net</td>
<td>1,658,751</td>
<td>985,653</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property &amp; Equipment, Net</td>
<td>284,231</td>
<td>206,224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Assets</td>
<td>248,848</td>
<td>250,874</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$9,368,117</td>
<td>$7,190,040</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$799,683</td>
<td>$603,488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Payroll &amp; Related</td>
<td>274,165</td>
<td>268,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Liabilities</td>
<td>242,157</td>
<td>180,510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Payable, Net</td>
<td>3,724,938</td>
<td>1,946,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>$5,040,943</td>
<td>$2,999,778</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating</td>
<td>$1,613,192</td>
<td>$1,351,304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Designated</td>
<td>2,375,884</td>
<td>2,577,671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temporarily Restricted</td>
<td>138,098</td>
<td>61,287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanently Restricted</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$4,327,174</td>
<td>$4,190,262</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
<th>FY 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</td>
<td>$9,368,117</td>
<td>$7,190,040</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LIFETIME GIVING SOCIETY**

*Italicics: Founding Member       *Deceased

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Society</th>
<th>Amount Range</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **HAGEBOECK SOCIETY** | **$1 MILLION +**             | Jean & John Hadberg  
Bill & Sue* Hodder and Family  
Julia Hoffman  
Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation  
KS95 for Kids  
The Lehman Family  
Macy's  
Macari's Ramey*  
Target Corporation  
Thrivent Financial |
| **NESBIT SOCIETY**   | **$500,000-$999,999**        | Anonymous - 1  
Patty and Chris Conroy  
Camie and Jack Eugster  
Hansen Family Foundation  
Lori and Russell Swansen |
| **RAMSAY SOCIETY**   | **$250,000 - $499,999**      | Anonymous - 1  
Barbel Abela  
Judy and Roger Anderson  
Virginia and Michael Baden  
Bame Foundation  
Nancy and John Berg  
Benevity Community Impact Fund  
Geri and Steve Bloomer  
BMO Harris Bank  
Gina Leonetti Boonshoft and David Boonshoft  
John and Nancy* Burbridge  
Elizabeth and Kenneth Burdick  
Corky and Chuck Carlson  
Debbie  
Joanne and William Edlefsen  
Bob Engelke, in memory of Louise Engelke |
| **LIFETIME VISIONARIES** | **$100,000 - $249,999**     | Anonymous - 3  
Virginia and Michael Baden  
Bame Foundation  
Nancy and John Berg  
Blythe Brenden-Mann Foundation  
John and Nancy* Burbridge  
Al and Toni Cady and Family  
Brett Casebolt and Jessica Hart  
Party and Chris Connery  
Bob Engelke, in memory of Louise Engelke  
Karen W. and Eric H. Paulson  
Karl Potach Foundation  
Dr. Norma and Robert Remsay  
Michael and Brittnay Roger Family Foundation  
Ryan Companies  
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation  
Berkus and Dennis Simonseth  
Sandy and Cal Simmons  
United Way of Greater Twin Cities  
US Bank  
Karen and Glen Vanic  
Jennifer and Kevin Wier  
Wells Fargo Bank  
Brett Wescott*  
Marion B. and David G. Williams  
YourCause Thrivent Financial Foundation |
| **ANNUAL GIVING BY INDIVIDUALS** | **VISONARIES** | $20,000+ between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017 |
| Anonymous - 3  
Virginia and Michael Baden  
Bame Foundation  
Nancy and John Berg  
Blythe Brenden-Mann Foundation  
John and Nancy* Burbridge  
Al and Toni Cady and Family  
Brett Casebolt and Jessica Hart  
Party and Chris Connery  
Bob Engelke, in memory of Louise Engelke  
Karen W. and Eric H. Paulson  
Karl Potach Foundation  
Dr. Norma and Robert Remsay  
Michael and Brittnay Roger Family Foundation  
Ryan Companies  
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation  
Berkus and Dennis Simonseth  
Sandy and Cal Simmons  
United Way of Greater Twin Cities  
US Bank  
Karen and Glen Vanic  
Jennifer and Kevin Wier  
Wells Fargo Bank  
Brett Wescott*  
Marion B. and David G. Williams  
YourCause Thrivent Financial Foundation |
| Anonymous - 3  
Ronald Ames  
Tani Austin  
Geri and Steve Bloomer  
The Boardman Family  
Roxanne Bromley  
Paul Cisewski  
Ingrid and Christopher Culp  
Joanne and William Edlefsen  
Arthur T. Erickson Foundation  
Scott and Christa Erickson  
Marina Goldin  
Kathy and John Grable  
Erin Heart  
Geoff and Kristin Huber  
Kenton Family Fund  
Nancy and John Lindahl*  
Ron and Jacquit Mason  
Ben Miller Foundation  
Dr. Mark and Deb Nesbit  
William Nichols  
David and Jane Olson  
Jackie Doersfeld and Paul Perse  
Holly and Eric Pihl  
Karl Potach Foundation  
Prince Family Foundation  
Scott and Staci Richardson  
Linda Schultz  
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation  
Andrew and Marci Weiner and Family |
| **DISCOVERERS** | **$10,000 - $19,999 between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017** | Anonymous - 3  
Ronald Ames  
Tani Austin  
Geri and Steve Bloomer  
The Boardman Family  
Roxanne Bromley  
Paul Cisewski  
Ingrid and Christopher Culp  
Joanne and William Edlefsen  
Arthur T. Erickson Foundation  
Scott and Christa Erickson  
Marina Goldin  
Kathy and John Grable  
Erin Heart  
Geoff and Kristin Huber  
Kenton Family Fund  
Nancy and John Lindahl*  
Ron and Jacquit Mason  
Ben Miller Foundation  
Dr. Mark and Deb Nesbit  
William Nichols  
David and Jane Olson  
Jackie Doersfeld and Paul Perse  
Holly and Eric Pihl  
Karl Potach Foundation  
Prince Family Foundation  
Scott and Staci Richardson  
Linda Schultz  
Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation  
Andrew and Marci Weiner and Family |
Annual Giving by Organizations

**Visionaries**

$20,000+ between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017

- Benefitry Community Impact Fund
- Best Buy Corporation
- Bio-Techne
- Community Health Charities
- Delta Air Lines
- Hubbard Broadcasting

- Kacy VanderHorst
- Jeffrey Varner
- Julienne Vogt
- Heidy Jo Waller and Ini Ituma
- Shu Ming Wang
- Jim and Jane Wayne
- Zach Weiner
- Chava Wringarten

- Bryan and Tonya Weiss
- Wett Family Foundation
- Heather West
- Vonda White
- Phyllis Whitman
- Steve Williams
- John and Becky Williamson
- Mr. Kenneth D. Winnegrad

- George and Veronica Wirth
- Anne and Allen Wolf
- James West
- David Woodworth
- Norma Wubbena
- Vicki and Gary Wyard
- Craig Zager
- Curtis Zaun

**Discoverers**

$10,000 - $19,999 between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017

- Ames Construction, Inc.
- C. H. Robinson Foundation
- The Evelyn C. Carter Fund Corp
- Facebook Donations
- FrontStream
- Hubbard Broadcasting Foundation

- Jackson National Community Fund
- Minneapolis Foundation
- Optum
- Puretein Bioscience, LLC
- Regis Corporation
- Spoon and Stable

- Starkey Hearing Technology
- Thomson Reuters My Community Program
- YourCause Dell Corporate Giving Program

**Innovators**

$5,000 - $9,999 between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017

- Anonymous - 1
- AM Retail Group, Inc.
- Aventis Hope Foundation
- Blaine Brothers Inc
- Bobby and Steve’s Auto World Foundation
- The Christiansen Group
- Delta Air Lines
- Emergent Network
- Fredrickson & Byron PA
- Grant Thornton LLP
- Hairstylists Management Systems, Inc.
- Hays Companies

- HPMC Pedal Pushers
- Hunt Electric Corporation
- IBM Employee Services Center
- It’s Just Lunch
- Kaufman Container
- John Kraemer and Sons Inc
- Long Haul Trucking
- LRE Foundation
- Luther Automotive Services LLC
- Mankato Area Community Foundation
- Minnesota Security Dealers Association
- myTalk 107.1 KTMY-FM

- Riverway Foundation
- Sertom Farms
- Solect Inc.
- Travel Beyond
- UnitedHealth Group
- University of Minnesota Foundation
- University of Minnesota Masonic Children’s Hospital
- Up Up Up Publishing LLC
- Wells Fargo Community Support Campaign - Dostopia
- YourCause AT&T Employee Giving Campaign
Bank of America Charitable Foundation
Bank of the West
Berlin Packaging, LLC
Café Latte
Capital Area United Way
Chevron Lubricants
CLAM Corporation
ExxonMobiv Fuel and Lubricants
Good Done Great
Guardian Building Products and their dedicated employees
Hayden Homes
I See Me! Inc.
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Swea City, IA
Liberty Carton Company
Lincoln High School
MOMC Mall Holdings LLC
Moss & Barnett
Network For Good
New York Community Trust
Nicholson House Gift Shop
Oasis Outsourcing
Old World Industries, Inc
Pledging Foundation
Polaris Industries Inc.
Reliance Products
RLA Insurance Intermediaries
Rock the Cause, Inc
Rohn Industries, Inc.
Rollex Corporation
SPA, Inc.
Spottech, Inc.
Stellus Consulting, LLC
Tall Sales Company
The Partners Group
Thrivent Choice
Toitono-Grace High School
Twist Interior Design
Valleyfair
YourCause General Mills
YourCause Medtronic Foundation
AmazonSmile Foundation
America’s Charities
Bearing Point Wealth Partners
Bellor USA Group, Inc
Bobby and Steve’s Auto World
Brenny Transportation, Inc.
Cards for Causeres, LLC
Carlson & Stewart Refrigeration
CatMax Foundation
CARS Recon, Inc
Causies International, Inc.
CPR Cell Phone Repair
Crosspoint Power & Refrigeration
CSC Technologies Inc.
Danita Conttrainr, Inc
Delta Fauser Company
Deublin Company
Donovan Realty, LLC
Entire Car Protection
Eraratc Car Cruise
German Days Inc
Give with Liberty
Glenroy Inc.
Green Bay Packaging, Inc.
Green Courte Partners, LLC
Highland Central School District
Hot Or Not Yoga
Ice-O-Metric Contracting, Inc.
Incline Technologies, Inc.
Indeed Brewing Company
Infineum USA LP
Jewish Craft, Inc.
Joe’s Carpet Service LLC
JustGive
Koopman Daities, Inc.
Lakry Enterprises, Inc.
Levin Capital Strategies, L.P
Linda’s Photography
Meisinger Construction Co. Inc.
Methanex
Michels Pipeline
MidContinental Chemical Company
Minnesota Twins Community Fund
Monica Dawson for State Senate
Monticello Middle School
National Christian Foundation Houston
National Sports Center
National Window Associates
Nuriug USA Ltd.
PayPal Giving Fund
Plastic Container Corporation
Pleaser USA, Inc.
Premium Imports, Inc.
ProAm PAC
Redpath and Company
Rogers Royals Tip Off Club
Rookies Pub
Round It Up America
SKS Concrete
Schwab Charitable Fund
Scottsdale Management Group, Ltd.
SWP Systems
COMMUNITY HEALTH CHARITIES
We partner with Community Health Charities (CHC) to help individuals give, support and connect with their most important health causes. The mission of CHC is to unite caring donors in the workplace with our nation’s most trusted health charities. CHC directly impacts and improves the lives of those affected by chronic illness by providing resources to medical research.

2017 MISSION PARTNERS
Thank you to our mission partners for their continued generous support. They have the highest designation given to corporate partners.

PIONEERS
$2,500 - $4,999 between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017

TRAILBLAZERS
$1,000 - $2,499 between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017

IN-KIND DONORS

2017 MISSION PARTNERS
Thank you to our mission partners for their continued generous support. They have the highest designation given to corporate partners.
THANKS TO YOU

More than 1,200 donors and community partners gathered on Sept. 8, 2016, at The Minikahda Club in Minneapolis for our first annual Thanks to You event, which recognizes and thanks many of our most valuable donors. Guests enjoyed dinner and cocktails while they heard about hopeful research advances from Chief Medical Advisors Logan Spector, PhD, John Wagner, MD, and Brenda Weigel, MD. Two families that have experienced the impact of research in their own lives shared their stories, which was a highlight for guests. Cancer survivors Griffin and Lexyn, both 9 years old at the time, gave out special thank-you gifts to donors.

GREAT CYCLE CHALLENGE INDIVIDUALS $5,000+

Penny Bardoczi
Anirban Bhattacharya
Rachel Brodsky
Patricia Carroll
Miguel Castillo
Norma Cavazos
Lisa Chaimard
Designs Designs
Kathy Danss
Jord Fabel
Jeff Freitag
Bernie Gessner

David Grong
Dave Harris
Elizabeth Hart
Mary Hart
Teresa Jacobson
Jeffrey Kahn
Tracy Katesch
Charlie Manzoni
Susan McCallough
Michal McIntyre
Dan Parmelee
Patience Renzulli

Ned Savoie
Shannon Savoie
Michael and Mrs. Scheer
Mike Schiller
Stephen Schmid
Richard Schwenk
Tom Smith
Tanner Sprague
Philip Tassi
Ardon Vining
Sylvia Waldsmith

GREAT CYCLE CHALLENGE TEAMS $5,000+

ALF Campers
Arrum
Backroads
Bikerjd
CaliforniaLove
Callie’s Crew
Ciará’s Cyclists and Maddie’s Mashers
ColeStrong
Don’t Stop Won’t Stop!
Ella’s Bike Team
Guardians for Good
Just Because!
KEZ Designs...Designs
Kids Lives Matter
Loo Looz Stitz
McLain Race Team
MrsKutschy’s Honey Badgers
Peloton
Phalcon PhireWheels
RE/MAX Signature
Team Cooper
Team Loren
Team Monkey Bars
Team Ovreo
Team Tanner Never Alone
The Chain Breakers
The Cyclomaniacs
Tour de friends
WCN
Wheels Rolling
Willcome Warriors

Anonymous
- 2
Judy and Roger Anderson
Pamela R. Bady
Frank and Kim Baird
Debbie and Byron Bequette
Nicki Brown
Al and Toni Cady
Chuck and Corky Carlens
Kay and Glen Christianson
Anne and Rick Collins
Patty and Chits Conroy
Lori and Mike Cousineau
Jo DeBruyker
Joanne and William Edelfien
Bob and Louise* Engelke
Camie and Jack Eustiger
Joyce and David Flick
Mary and Paul Freeman
Judy and James* Gaviser
Beverly Carlson Ganda
Lorna and Tom Gleason
Kay Grooth
Diana and Norm Hageboeck

RE/MAX Signature
T eam Cooper
T eam Loren

Renee and John Hallberg
Jean and John Hedberg
Anne and Richard Higgins
Julia Hoffman
Michael B. Hoffman
Charlyne K. Hori
Josephine and Jan Hubbard
Fred Hundt and Cindy Jepsen
Mary and John Jeffries
Judy and Del Johnson
Laura and Brad Johnson
Philip G. and Susan C. Jones
Anne Kehoe
Mark G. Kirchner
Nancy and John Lindahl
Mary L. Mills
Dr. Mark and Deb Neshit
Shayne and Angelika Olsen
George and Lori Olson
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Karen W. and Eric H. Paulson
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Jutta Peters
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Dan and Sheila Saklad
Howard Schwartz
Cal and Sandy Simmons
Greg Sookup and MJ Carr
Jacqueline Lou Smith
Daniel Statick
Howard and Judy Tucker
Mary C. and Thomas F. Underwood
Rick and Lori VanBuelde
Brenda Weigel and Ros Barrels
Andrew and Marci Weiner
Kristal Wilson
Bob and Jennifer Winding
Peggie Zueher
Every week, 38 children pass away from cancer. We want to stop this, so we support the brightest scientists whose ideas make the greatest impact for children with cancer. We also support vital family services and advocate for childhood cancer education and awareness to surround families with community and, ultimately, hope.

With only 4 percent of federal cancer funding dedicated to childhood cancer, support from CCRF is crucial to finding safer, more effective therapies for kids battling cancer.

Thank you for joining the fight against childhood cancer. You have given us and families everywhere another reason to hope.