



RUTLEDGE
CANCER FOUNDATION

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Better
TOGETHER

OUR MISSION



*works to **ease the impact** of cancer on the lives of teens and young adults, **raise survival rates**, and **find a cure** for sarcomas and other solid tumor cancers.*





EASE THE IMPACT

In 2023, we funded \$168,694 which served over **2,064** patients and families through our patient programs that address unmet emotional and physical needs.



RAISE THE RATE

In 2023, we raised **\$827,040** to ease cancer's impact, increase awareness and early detection, and to further research for less toxic, personalized cancer therapies.



FIND A CURE

In 2023, we funded **\$312,000** in research aimed at finding a cure for solid tumor cancers.



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Our motto this year has been **Better Together**, and it has certainly proven to be true! We have been able to add several key positions which will allow us to better fulfill our mission. We now have an Events Manager who is dedicated to all of our fundraising events — both in person and virtually.

We have hired a Business/Systems Manager to keep our office, database, and reporting running smoothly. Lastly, we have created a new position, dedicated to our patient programs. This role is essential in growing and supporting our patients and their families by providing them with much needed resources and impactful experiences. Due to these new hires, we have doubled our office space and now have a dedicated room for our Carley's Closet program! Please come by and we will be happy to give you a tour and introduce you to our new staff.

These new positions equip us to grow and increase our footprint in the adolescent and young adult (AYA) cancer landscape well beyond the borders that we are currently serving. Our board has been hard at work on developing a robust Strategic Marketing Plan and Business Plan for this next phase. With more than 90,000 new cancer diagnosis in this age group (15-39) in the

U.S., more resources and research are needed more than ever. Because of our donor and grantor support, we were also able to award over \$300,000 to four different collaborative research projects that span across the country and British Columbia. We remain committed to being part of the breakthrough treatments for sarcomas and other solid tumor cancers. We won't back down until we have succeeded.

An eventful milestone took place in May of 2023 that benefits young cancer patients across Texas, one that Carley worked tirelessly on in both the Texas and Colorado legislatures. In 2020, she was able to witness the passing of the Fertility Preservation bill in Colorado. After testifying five years ago, along with numerous other advocates, Texas has passed their own Family Preservation bill that provides insurance coverage for teens and young adults to preserve their ability to have children prior to toxic chemo and radiation. This provides hope for the future in an otherwise very frightening time.

Since 2011, we have helped thousands of patients and supported cutting edge research, but there is so much more we can do. I am thankful for our leadership and donors who are positioning Rutledge Cancer Foundation for the future. Join us as we continue to reach new heights in fulfilling our mission to ease cancer's impact, raise awareness, and find a cure, because we are always **Better Together!**

With Hope in Finding a Cure,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Laura Rutledge". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Laura Rutledge
Co-Founder and Executive Director





EASE THE IMPACT

In 2023, RCF was able to serve over **2,064 patients** and family members with **\$168,694** spent on innovative programs, patient events, supportive care, and outreach.

RCF PATIENT PROGRAMS:

CARLEY'S CLOSET

Started in 2011, Carley's Closet serves the unique needs of adolescent and young adult cancer patients at both pediatric and adult medical centers, supplying resources and comfort items to help keep patients active and positive throughout their treatment. RCF also provides Christmas stockings to patients with age-appropriate gifts and comfort items to help them get through the holiday season.



782

patients received
New Diagnosis Bags



430

patients received
Christmas
Stockings

ONCO-FERTILITY PRESERVATION

Loss of fertility is a significant side-effect of cancer treatment for patients diagnosed during their reproductive years and a source of considerable emotional distress. In partnership with Moncrief Cancer Institute, Rutledge Cancer Foundation helped pioneer a community-wide Onco-Fertility Preservation Program. The program includes fertility preservation education, care coordination, and financial assistance for medically underserved teen and young adult cancer patients. RCF also supports fertility preservation programs at Cook Children's Medical Center and MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. In a landmark decision, the Family Preservation Act was passed into law in Texas in 2023, requiring private insurance companies to cover fertility preservation for cancer patients. RCF will continue funding uninsured or underinsured patients.



73

patients were blessed through the
Onco-Fertility Preservation Program





RCF PATIENT PROGRAMS:

THERAPEUTIC CANCER EXERCISE

 **91**
patients
participated
in ForeverFit

Research has proven that cancer patients who exercise during and after treatment have better outcomes. In 2019, RCF brought ForeverFit (formerly FitSteps) to UNT Health Science Center in Fort Worth. Clinical exercise specialists work directly with patients to provide an individualized exercise plan based on their diagnosis and physical capabilities. This program is offered free of charge to all cancer patients through funding from RCF.



TRAVEL ASSISTANCE FOR FIRST DESCENTS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

2 
patients received travel
scholarships for First
Descents Adventures

First Descents provides life-changing, outdoor adventures for young adults impacted by cancer and other serious health conditions. Many young adult patients apply and receive scholarships to the First Descents Program but cannot afford the travel cost to get there. In 2022, RCF opened a travel assistance fund to allow patients to participate.



PATIENT OUTINGS

317 
AYA Cancer Patients
hosted at RCF
Patient Outings

Life during and after cancer is especially difficult for teens and young adults. Patients try to maintain a “normal” life but suffer from long-lasting and life-changing issues. These stressors often cause added isolation and depression, affecting overall health and patient outcomes. RCF’s patient outings are designed to bring young patients and their families together to help them forget about their cancer for a while and give them a sense of community with others who understand.



1,460
people attended RCF
AYA Awareness events



404
volunteers served
young cancer
patients through RCF

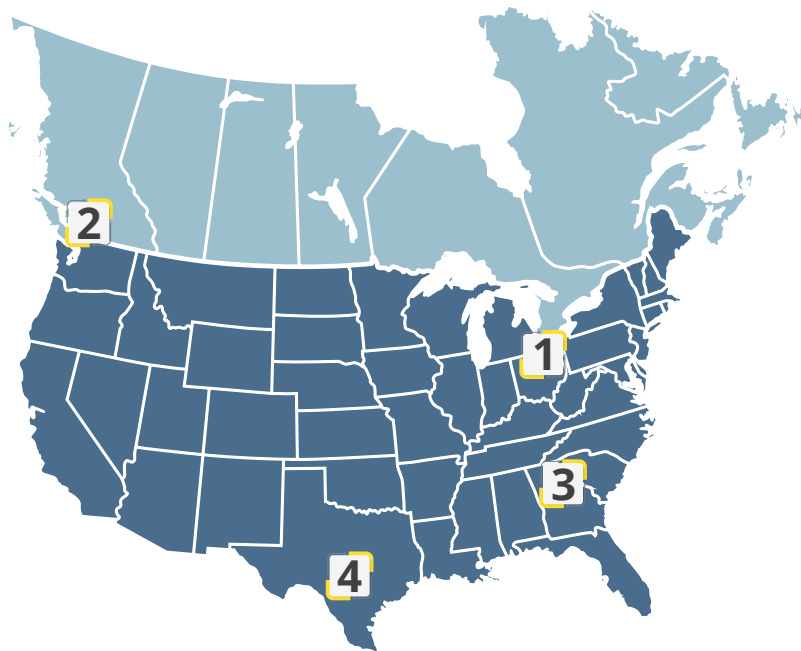




FIND A CURE

RCF SARCOMA AND SOLID TUMOR RESEARCH

Since 2011, Rutledge Cancer Foundation has donated over **\$1,715,197** for immune-based, targeted pediatric sarcoma research and clinical trials. We follow our research projects carefully, requiring bi-annual progress reports. RCF has supported 13 new therapies and six clinical trials. Our goal is to get less toxic, more curative therapies to patients as quickly as possible. Current projects include:


1

mRNA Ewing Vaccine

Doctors Timothy Chan and Pete Anderson, Cleveland Clinic
Cleveland, Ohio

2

Targeting IL1RAP

Dr. Poul Sorensen and team at University of British Columbia
Vancouver, BC, Canada

3

SRB1 Nanoparticle Drug Testing

Dr. Jason Yustein, Emory University
Atlanta, Georgia

4

Drug Delivery with IKE & GPX4

Drs. Greg Aune and Alex Bishop, UT Greehey Children's Cancer Research and Jim Graham, Qana Therapeutics
San Antonio, TX

For more details on our research visit our website:
rutledgecancerfoundation.org/research



2023 CONTRIBUTIONS

Our deep gratitude goes to all who give in support of our mission.

CORPORATE SPONSORS/DONORS

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Aegon Transamerica Foundation
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Michael and Elizabeth Stevener — Dallas Seminary Foundation
Radiology Associates of North Texas
Tracy Rector & Greg Fitzgerald Charitable Fund — North Texas Community Foundation
UBS Match Gift — Cyber Grant — Kyle Kight
W. Paul and Lois Bowman — TD Ameritrade

\$250 to \$999

AmazonSmile
Boulder Lifestyle/Sweep

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Cynthia and Hal O'Neil — Fidelity Charitable Fund
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James and Amy Miller Charitable Fund
MD Anderson
Sweep
Tindall Family Fund — Fidelity Charitable

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\$5,000 to \$9,999

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Cheryle Locke
Susan Mitchell

Kelly and Charles Secker
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\$1,000 to \$4,999

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Tamara and Dan Reese



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 Amy and Andrew Yanez
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 Harrison Bell
 Reed Bell
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 Jarrod Brinker
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 Dorothy Waterhouse
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 Wells Watson
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 Robert and Regal Williams
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 Carly and Gary Witulski



2023 MEMORY AND HONOR

GIFTS OF \$100 AND ABOVE

IN MEMORY OF:

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David Atnip

Justin Beckman

Mary Beckman

Justin Corbridge

Paula Olson
Fred Schwarmann
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Mike and Sydney Brill
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Johnie Olson
McCallum Family Foundation
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Kitson and Steve Loerwald

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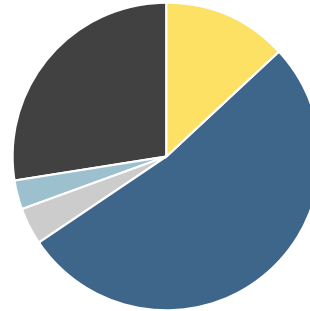


Michelle Foster
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 Margarita Solis
 Peter Taylor
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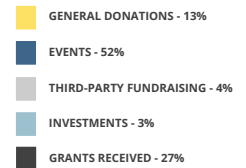
2023 FINANCIAL REPORT

RUTLEDGE CANCER FOUNDATION

Revenue	2023 Actual
General Donations	\$ 110,953
Events	\$ 434,415
Third Party Fundraising	\$ 36,098
Investments	\$ 26,766
Grants Received	\$ 224,500
Total Revenue	\$832,732



INCOME:



IN HONOR OF:

Theresa Brillhart

Delynn and Ted Crofford
 Charitable Fund

Gloria Kanter

Alexander Kanter

Grace Kight

Sarah and John Kight

Michael Kovnar

Gretchen Miller

Olivia Nowell

Cammie and Jim Nowell

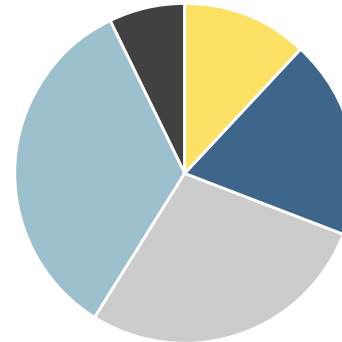
Hannah Rector

Tracy Rector and Greg Fitzgerald
 Charitable Fund

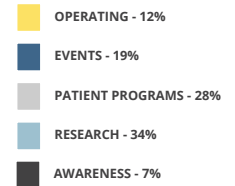
Maggie Shipman

Patricia and Andrew Vories
 Hilary and Joshua Shipman

Expenditures	2023 Actual
Operating	\$ 108,497
Events	\$ 171,053
Patient Programs	\$ 250,305
Research*	\$ 313,609
Awareness	\$ 66,211
Total Expenditures	\$909,675



EXPENSES:



*Research partially funded from prior year's funds.

Learn more at:
rutledgecancerfoundation.org



#EASETHEIMPACT

#RAISEThERATE

#FINDACURE





RUTLEDGE
CANCER FOUNDATION

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