Our Mission
The St. Baldrick’s Foundation is a volunteer and donor powered charity committed to supporting the most promising research to find cures for childhood cancers and give survivors long and healthy lives.
About Us
What started as a challenge between three friends in 2000 has grown into the world’s largest private funder of childhood cancer research grants.

Since then, over 12,000 events have been held and nearly 500,000 shaving have taken place to stand in solidarity with kids fighting cancer.

Childhood Cancer Treatments Need Childhood Cancer Research

How Big Is The Problem?

Every 2 minutes a child is diagnosed with cancer worldwide.

Childhood cancer is the #1 disease killer of children in the U.S.

In the U.S., 1 in 5 won’t survive, and those who do often suffer long-term effects from treatment too harsh for their developing bodies.

Even when kids get cancers that adults get — like lymphoma — they must be treated differently. Children are not simply smaller adults!

One study shows that by the time they are 45, more than 95% of childhood cancer survivors will have chronic health problems, and 80% will suffer from severe or life-threatening conditions as a result of the treatments they received.

Funding gap: In 2011, the National Cancer Institute budget was $5.196 BILLION. Together, all childhood cancers received only 3.7% of that.
How We Fundraise

Fundraising
Donations raised through St. Baldrick’s fundraisers support the development of childhood cancer treatments that are as unique as every child.

Head-Shaving Events
The St. Baldrick’s Foundation coordinates signature head-shaving events worldwide, giving volunteers the opportunity to “go bald” in solidarity with kids fighting cancer and to raise money to support the best childhood cancer research, wherever it takes place.

TO DATE:

500,000+ Shaved Heads 67,000+ Women 12,000+ Events Worldwide

In 2018, more than 30,000 supporters, including more than 4,500 females, have already registered to shave their heads at more than 1,000 events.

Do What You Want
If going bald isn't your thing, you can Do What You Want to raise funds. Let your creativity flow!
Research
To date, St. Baldrick’s has committed more than $253 million to lifesaving research, making it the largest private funder of childhood cancer research grants.

Grant Types

Research Grant
Funding for year-long research projects that look to find new and better cures for childhood cancers.

Cooperative Research Grant
A multi-million dollar grant to the Children’s Oncology Group, distributed to 200+ institutions for clinical trials, funding virtually every institution qualified to treat children with cancer.

Consortium Research Grant
Funding given to groups of researchers at multiple institutions who are collaborating on projects with great promise.

St. Baldrick’s – Stand Up To Cancer Pediatric Cancer Dream Team
A four-year, $14.5 million grant focused on curing the most hard-to-treat childhood cancers by bringing together the fields of genomics and immunotherapeutics.

St. Baldrick’s Summer Fellow
Funding for medical school or college students to work in a pediatric oncology research lab for one summer, possibly encouraging them to choose childhood cancer research as a specialty.

St. Baldrick’s Fellow
Two to three years of funding to provide new doctors with training in childhood cancer research.

St. Baldrick’s Scholar
Three or more years of funding given to early career professionals who are pursuing exciting research and without funding might have to leave the field.

Supportive Care Research Grant
Funding for research to improve the management of patients symptoms during treatment, to improve family coping skills and compliance with therapy, and to help with the many issues that survivors face.

International Beneficiary
Funding shared with a childhood cancer beneficiary outside the U.S., from monies raised by St. Baldrick’s events held in their country.

International Scholar
Awards to train researchers from low- and middle- income countries to prepare them to answer specific research questions related to childhood cancer in their home country.

Infrastructure Grant
Funding to help institutions treat more children on clinical trials or for resources to make more research possible. (These grants are funded based on need, expected results and local St. Baldrick’s participation.)

St. Baldrick’s Foundation Robert J. Arceci Innovation Award
In memory of the renowned Dr. Robert J. Arceci, this award offers $250,000 a year for three years for unrestricted research by early- to mid-career pediatric oncologists. Researchers may not apply, they must be nominated in recognition of their innovative work. Each year the award goes to one recipient from the U.S. or Canada, the other international.

Learn more about St. Baldrick’s grant types at StBaldricks.org/grant-types.
Funding Impact
St. Baldrick’s funds a part of virtually every phase III pediatric oncology trial. This gives more children the opportunity to receive cutting-edge treatment.

Immunotherapy
St. Baldrick’s researchers are at the forefront of an entirely new kind of treatment — Immunotherapy. The concept is simple: modify the immune system so it can identify, target and kill cancer cells, leaving healthy cells unharmed.

- While most kids with B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) are cured with standard chemotherapy, for those who relapse, the outlook is grim. To change that, Dr. Kevin Curran at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York is working on gene therapy to create “cancer assassins” — anti-CD19 CAR modified T cells, to be exact.

- At the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Dr. Gregory Friedman’s research uses the herpes virus to defeat medulloblastoma. With one gene removed, the virus can’t replicate and can’t kill healthy cells — but it does kill tumor cells, and even the cells that can make the tumor grow back. The virus also stimulates the immune system, which could give this therapy a one-two punch towards knocking out medulloblastoma.

- A four-year, $14.5 million project co-funded by the St. Baldrick’s Foundation and Stand Up To Cancer, Dream Team researchers from seven institutions across North America are working together to find new ways to use genomics (the study of genes and their functions) and immunotherapy to target cancer cells. Amazingly, 93% of patients enrolled in Dream Team trials showed no evidence of disease after just one infusion of modified T cells. One year later, 55% of those patients remained in remission.

- In Aug. 2017, the FDA approved the very first gene therapy (Kymriah) in the U.S. making it the fourth drug in 20 years to be approved specifically for kids with cancer. “The support of the St. Baldrick’s Foundation during the development of this therapy was indispensable for teaching physicians how to render it as effectively and safely as possible.” Dr. Crystal L. Mackall, Professor of Pediatrics and Internal Medicine at Stanford University, associate director of Stanford Cancer Institute, and co-leader of the St. Baldrick’s – SU2C Pediatric Cancer Dream Team. Given to children and young adults whose leukemia could not be cured by any other means, the treatment produced remission within three months for 83% of patients. It has already saved the lives of many children, like 2016 St. Baldrick’s Ambassador Phineas.

More than $253 million. Over 1,358 grants. 29 countries.
2018 St. Baldrick’s Ambassadors

Every year, the Foundation selects five Ambassadors to represent the thousands of kids touched by childhood cancer from many different geographic areas, age groups, disease types and more.

Brooks Forever 6
Brooks was known for having bravery beyond his years and a faith that never faltered, even when he was diagnosed with two, stage 4 inoperable anaplastic astrocytomas at the age of 5. After fighting for nearly a year – enduring radiation, surgery, therapy and medicine – the cancer took his life. In honor of their son, his family created a St. Baldrick’s Hero Fund to raise money for the most promising childhood cancer research.

Maya Age 8
Maya was diagnosed with a kidney tumor one month before her 7th birthday, beginning chemotherapy just weeks later. Now a year later, “Mighty Maya” has lived up to her nickname, having prevailed in the fight against cancer with ferocity and major support from her family, friends and classmates. Today, she shows no evidence of disease and spends her time participating in the Girl Scouts, adventuring to waterfalls and hiking trails with her family.

Kellan Age 6
Kellan was diagnosed with stage 3 neuroblastoma with secondary paralysis the day he was born, starting chemotherapy on the third day of his life to remove the large masses on his spine and abdomen. After four rounds of treatment and an extensive, lengthy surgery to remove the tumor at only 3 months old, Kellan was declared no evidence of disease (NED), but was left paralyzed from the waist down. Despite the odds, Kellan has passed the five-year milestone of being NED and stays busy by skiing, fishing and adaptive climbing.

Julia Age 11
Julia was diagnosed with a grade II ependymoma in her brain when she was 8 years old. After bravely enduring eight surgeries, eight rounds of chemotherapy and two months of radiation, her tumor has remained stable. Although the tumor is still present she has bounced back to doing the things she loves best – singing, dancing, playing the ukulele and serving as a Cadette Girl Scout.

Zach Age 16
Zach was first diagnosed with ALL at 6 years old. Faced with limited treatment options after his most recent relapse, Zach decided to go on a clinical trial led by a St. Baldrick’s-funded researcher where Zach’s own immune cells were reengineered to attack the cancer. This prepared his body for a bone marrow transplant from a perfectly matched donor, his brother. As a three-time cancer survivor, Zach is excited to get back to the things he loves such as fishing, swimming and playing with his new puppy, Buddy.

Ambassadors are available for interviews upon request.
Advocacy
Collaboration is critical in any effort to create a change in childhood cancer. We bring the voice of children and their families to Capitol Hill and work with our larger childhood cancer community to create the changes needed to conquer childhood cancer together.

In collaboration with the Alliance for Childhood Cancer and other organizations, accomplishments include:

- Crafting the first consolidated childhood cancer bill, the Survivorship, Treatment, Access and Research (STAR) Act.
- Improving the lives of kids with cancer as a leader in the Alliance Policy Roundtable process — an effort to find common ground on policy among the many childhood cancer groups and collaborate on common goals.
- Spearheading the first consolidated appropriations ask in more than 20 years, leading to inclusion of childhood cancer-specific language in both the House and Senate appropriations bills.

Learn more about Advocacy at: StBaldricks.org/advocacy.
Fundraising Accountability

The St. Baldrick’s Foundation remains committed to fiscal responsibility and transparency.

Every dollar we spend goes:

- to our mission, to find cures for childhood cancers;
- to maximize our fundraising;
- to improve the effectiveness & sustainability of our organization;

and of course, every dollar spent on fundraising and administration is done so with the goal of generating more for the mission!

The expense ratio varies each year not only due to changing expenses, but also according to the amount raised by our volunteers.

Expense Ratios For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2017

- Program: 72%
- Fundraising: 25%
- Administration: 3%

Five-Year Growth

- 2013: $34,081,644
- 2014: $39,176,795
- 2015: $36,915,888
- 2016: $39,549,644
- 2017: $39,133,671

An independent audit of the St. Baldrick’s Foundation has been performed by Armanino, LLP. A copy of the full financial statement is available at StBaldricks.org/financials. We will also gladly send a copy by mail upon request. Please contact Anja Kloch at 626.792.8247, ext. 268 or Anja.Kloch@StBaldricks.org. All funds reflected in this press kit are listed in U.S. dollars.

Other Ways to Get Involved

Donate, volunteer, involve your business, give a matching gift, make a tribute or memorial gift, create a Hero Fund or spread the word!

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