Ways to Give

The St. Baldrick’s Foundation offers two great ways to fight childhood cancer—and they won’t cost you anything today:

Matching Gifts

—Many companies have matching gift programs that will match your gift to St. Baldrick’s. The impact is tremendous. Through matching gifts, St. Baldrick’s has received over $6.5 million in additional funding for pediatric cancer research grants. “If you know a child who has been treated for cancer, St. Baldrick’s has had a hand in that research. Over time, we’ve moved the needle,” Robyn says. “The next dollar donated could unlock a cure and save children’s lives.”

Legacy Giving

—Establishing an estate gift to St. Baldrick’s is simple. Thanks to our partnership with Freewill, an online source for writing your will at no cost. Simply follow the steps, designating the St. Baldrick’s Foundation as the beneficiary of your legacy gift. Learn more by scanning the QR code or going to https://www.freewill.com/stbaldricks

Promising Cures

—With the support of generous individuals, foundations, and corporate partners, St. Baldrick’s today is the largest charity funder of childhood cancer research. And there’s so much to celebrate. Since 2000:

25 Years and Counting

This is the 25th year of St. Baldrick’s head-shaving events, and there’s so much to celebrate. Since 2000:

627,333 heads shaved

16,421 shaving events

$342 million awarded in pediatric research grants

Read on for ways to keep the momentum going.
Dr. Bhatia started her career in pediatric cancer research in the mid-1990s, a few years before the founding of the St. Baldrick’s Foundation. At the time, not as many kids survived pediatric cancer and there was little understanding of the long-term side effects that treatments have on developing bodies. As a young investigator, she wanted to learn more.

“We were still in the process of discovering that cancer survivors are at an increased risk for health problems—called late effects—that develop years later and are directly related to the treatment they had received,” explains Dr. Bhatia, the director of the Institute for Cancer Outcomes and Survivorship at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. “Now, we know that 95 percent of childhood cancer survivors will have a significant late effect as a result of their treatment by the time they’re 45.”

While there are still some types of cancer that no child survives, advances in care mean that kids with pediatric cancer are living longer. In fact, 85 percent survive at least five years after diagnosis and many grow into adulthood. But decades of work by Dr. Bhatia and others reveals that pediatric cancer survivors face a lifetime of potentially serious medical issues, including diagnosis and many grow into adulthood. But decades of work by Dr. Bhatia and others reveals that pediatric cancer survivors face a lifetime of potentially serious medical issues, including cancer. However, we need to focus on the quality of survival to make sure that survivors are living long and healthy lives.”

These survivors should not lose the battle to the very treatment that cured them.

Early in her career, Dr. Bhatia was recognized as a promising young investigator, first by the Conquer Cancer Foundation through the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), and later, with grant funding from the St. Baldrick’s Foundation. Fast forward two decades, and now, Dr. Bhatia is a member of the St. Baldrick’s Foundation Board of Trustees, serving on the Scientific Program Committee. She has also been a St. Baldrick’s donor, as well as a grant reviewer and participant in several research summits sponsored by the foundation. Dr. Bhatia says, “I needed to give back, because St. Baldrick’s had helped me tremendously when I received funding to carry out my research.”

Dr. Bhatia appreciates St. Baldrick’s donors for their lifetime support of pediatric cancer research. Looking to the next 25 years, she adds, “We have come a long way in moving the needle with respect to curing childhood cancer. However, we need to focus on the quality of survival to make sure that survivors are living long and healthy lives.”

Next Generation of Researchers

“A shortage of trained pediatric oncology researchers was projected 25 years ago, and the St. Baldrick’s Foundation played a major role in averting that. Without its support of the research of young investigators, the pediatric cancer research field may not have grown to be as robust, innovative, and forward-thinking as it is today. Many of the early St. Baldrick’s fellows and scholars are recognized today as leaders in the field.”

Jeffrey M. Lipton, MD, PhD
Founding Member, St. Baldrick’s Scientific Program Committee
Professor and Thomas Gambino Professor of Pediatrics in Hematology/Oncology
Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell

Taking Better Care of Survivors

“In addition to finding new cures, research helps improve the lives of patients and survivors. Over the past 25 years, we’ve gained a better understanding of the dose-dependent association between key therapeutic exposures and chronic health conditions. This information has led to a concerted effort to de-escalate therapy where possible, resulting in a reduction in late effects and improvement in the quality of life for long-term survivors.”

Smita Bhatia, MD, MPH
Member, St. Baldrick’s Board and Scientific Program Committee
Director, Institute for Cancer Outcomes and Survivorship
University of Alabama at Birmingham

Federal Advocacy

“One of the last 25 years, the NCI (National Cancer Institute) has more than doubled its investment in pediatric cancer research, leading to better treatments and improved outcomes for childhood cancer patients. Advocates, researchers, providers, and lawmakers have played a pivotal role in this. The power of advocacy is in uniting many voices. As St. Baldrick’s co-chairs the Alliance for Childhood Cancer, we are proud of the leadership role we have played in bringing the broader childhood cancer community together to achieve these goals.”

Kathleen Biddle
Chief Executive Officer
St. Baldrick’s Foundation