

SAVE THE DATE!



June 19 and 20 – Child Wellness Fair



September – Chow Down For Charity



October 21 – A Dinner With A Spin

More details inside!



CancerFree Kids
P.O. Box 575
Loveland, OH 45140
www.cancerfreekids.org

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CancerFree Kids Awards First Research Grants

We are proud to report that CancerFree Kids has awarded its first two research grants at the end of our first year of operation. A Grant Selection Committee made up of CFK Board members as well as community leaders and medical professionals chose two exciting research projects from among the many applications that were received for the funding. Two researchers at Cincinnati Children's Hospital were selected and each received a \$10,000 grant to support their work this year.



Dr. Smith, Director of Hematology/Oncology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and Ellen Flannery, President of CancerFree Kids with Grant Recipients Dr. Mehta and Dr. Qi.

Part of our mission is to keep our Supporters directly in touch with where their money goes so they can be a part of the entire process and know that they are truly making a difference. 84% of all the funds raised in 2003 went directly to fund these two research projects. Read on to learn about these exciting and important studies:

Improving Donor Selection in Bone Marrow Transplantation

Researchers: Parinda Mehta, MD and Stella M. Davies, MBBS, Ph.D., MRCP

Bone Marrow Transplantation offers a potential cure for a variety of cancers in both children and adults. In spite of rigorous efforts to find the best donor match, it is currently impossible to predict the outcome of bone marrow transplants and they are still all too often unsuccessful.

The purpose of this research project is to

identify an additional tool for selecting the best possible donor match. Preliminary evidence suggests that it may be possible to significantly improve outcomes by using an additional factor, specifically the makeup of a gene called IL-1, to select the best donor match.

This study will test this theory by using 500 DNA samples taken from past bone marrow transplant recipients and donors. If the results confirm what the preliminary evidence suggests, this could become an important tool in donor selection and significantly improve survival rates.

Not only could this study impact patient survival in the very near future, but this methodology may also be used in the future to identify other factors to improve donor matching.

Development of a Novel Anti-Neuroblastoma Agent. *Researcher: Xiaoyang Qi, Ph.D.*

The treatment and cure of neuroblastoma has lagged far behind that of most other types of childhood cancer, making it one of the deadliest types of childhood cancer. This research study will test a new type of therapy for neuroblastoma. The therapy consists of a lipid/protein mixture newly developed by investigators at Cincinnati Children's Hospital that appears to selectively kill cancer cells.

Preliminary data look promising for its ability to kill neuroblastoma cells while leaving normal cells unharmed, but these results must be validated in an animal model before the therapy can be tested in people. By supporting this project, we at CancerFree Kids have positioned ourselves on the ground floor of what could prove to be a whole new therapy for cancer.

The grant review committee selected these outstanding proposals for their potential to make significant impacts on the care of children with cancer. Congratulations to all three researchers...and a heartfelt thanks to all of our donors throughout the year. Your generosity in supporting our cause is truly an investment in the future.

Here are some ways
You can help:

Support our fundraising projects

Volunteer your time and talents

Put us in touch with a company or organization that might want to help

Create your own fundraising event for CancerFree Kids

Make a contribution

And any other way you can think of!

We would love to hear your ideas!

Contact:
Ellen M. Flannery
Founder and President

(513) 652-KIDS
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Fundraising Highlights

Getting' Jiggy With the Piggy For CancerFree Kids!

CancerFree Kids has earned the honor of becoming an official charity of Cincinnati's annual Flying Pig Marathon. So we lost no time in "Gettin' Jiggy With The Piggy," and having a lot of fun with some great pig-related events, sponsored by the law firm of **Wood & Lamping LLP**.

With the enthusiastic support of our local Loveland Schools, we launched week-long Fun-raisers in grades 1 – 4. The week kicked off with an Assembly, complete with a flying pig and everyone learning "The Pig Jig." Thanks to Michelle Hopkins from WLWT-TV who featured the Event on her "5 on Kids Side" Segment, helping us to raise awareness of the importance of funding childhood cancer research!

The students and teachers at Loveland Primary and Elementary Schools participated with a level of enthusiasm and generosity that far surpassed anything we ever could have anticipated. A total of more than \$4,400 was raised which will go to support research!

We also participated in the **Flying Piglet Kids Fun Run and Expo**, which takes place at Sawyer Point the day before the Flying Pig Marathon. Lots of families came out to run in the various events and take part in all of the great festivities at the Expo. The kids walked away with a Piglet medal for participating, plus lots of giveaways and prizes!

The CancerFree Kids Booth featured a prize giveaway plus t-shirts and pinwheels were available! A great time was had by all! Plan to get jiggy with us next year at the Piglet Fun Run – your kids will love it!

A Special Thanks to Robin Pendery of the Cincinnati Nutrition Council for her help with a fundraiser at Terrace Park Elementary School. In conjunction with their annual "Flying Piglets Run," she helped to arrange a garden art pinwheel sale to benefit CancerFree Kids.



After lining the finish line of the race with the colorful pinwheels, everyone who purchased one then took it home to put in their own garden! What a colorful way to support a good cause! Metal garden pinwheels are available for \$15 if anyone is interested in purchasing one for their own yard. Call Ellen Flannery at 652-KIDS or stop by our booth at the Child Wellness Fair at Coney Island on June 19 and 20!

Cincinnati Reds Opening Day Parade!

For the 2004 Reds Opening Day Parade we were joined by 25 very special marchers, a first-grade class from Loveland Primary School, plus a host of childhood cancer survivors and their families and friends!



A bright red fire truck, courtesy of McAlister's Deli, escorted us as we celebrated our survivors! We hope you will plan to join us for next year's Opening Day Parade!

New Jewelry Item!



By Popular Demand: Small-beaded Keychain Bracelets are here! See our web site for more jewelry selections, or contact us at (513) 575-KIDS or send e-mail ellen@cancerfreekids.org



Contact:
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Check out our
Web site!
www.cancerfreekids.org



Letter From the President

We are so excited to share with you the news about our first \$20,000 in grants that were recently awarded to researchers at Cincinnati Children's Hospital – the culmination of one year of work! I hope you will take the time to read about this exciting research on the front page of this newsletter, as it is vastly important that we all know what we are working so hard for! Speaking of working hard, thank you to all of the people whose hard work made these grants possible. We couldn't do it without you!

If you are still looking for ways to help, there are many! Some ideas are on our website, and they include things like: host your own "Party with a Spin" fundraiser; small or large, to benefit CFK; buy some CFK beaded jewelry or have your own jewelry sale; purchase and display a metal garden pinwheel; help with restaurant contacts for our "Chow Down For Charity" September Restaurant events; plan to attend our big Dinner with a Spin Fundraiser on October 21 or even volunteer to help with the planning or be a Table Host by inviting your friends to come and sit at your table! Or create your own way of raising funds and awareness for childhood cancer! Call or email me anytime – I can't wait to hear your ideas!

Sincerely,
Ellen Flannery

Upcoming Events

CHILD WELLNESS FAIR!

At Coney Island

Saturday, June 19th and Sunday, June 20th, from 10am-6pm. Bring the whole family to this fun event which focuses on the health and wellness of children and families. There will be lots of fun things for the kids, as well as practical information designed to enhance your family's health and well-being. Be sure to visit the CancerFree Kids booth for lots of fun and information...not to mention pinwheels!! See you there!

A DINNER WITH A SPIN!

Save The Date!

Get ready for a night of fun and excitement when we host our first major fundraising event "A Dinner with a Spin!" on October 21st at the Five Seasons Country Club in Symmes Township. This Event will feature lots of fun and prizes, plus a Celebrity "PinWheel of Fortune" Game Show. Our celebrity guest host will be Brad Johansen, Sports Director of WKRC-TV. We are currently recruiting volunteers to help plan this event, as well as Table Hosts. For more information on this event, contact Event Co-Chairs: Marcia Lechner at (513) 583-0539 or Leslie Keller at (513) 677-8028.

CHOW DOWN FOR CHARITY!

September 2004

September is National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, and CancerFree Kids will be raising awareness by inviting people to "Chow Down For Charity!"

We are once again inviting local restaurants to choose one day in September as "CancerFree Kids Day." On that day, we will encourage people to eat at that restaurant and the restaurant will donate a portion of its proceeds to CancerFree Kids. It's a win-win situation all around--a great way for restaurants to attract more customers, while also raising money for a good cause. Last year we had great success with these events and we are planning to expand it even more this year!

Here's how you can help! Help us get your area restaurants involved! Talk to restaurant owners or managers that you know, or let us know about them and we will send an introductory letter. Last year no one that we asked said no!! And every restaurant that participated wants to do it again! It's that easy!! For more information about Chow Down For Charity, contact Amy Wagner at mawagner@cinci.rr.com or (513) 683-4121.