

SAVE THE DATE!



May 14 – Bonefish Grill Grand Opening



September – Chow Down For Charity



October 20 – A Dinner With A Spin

CancerFree Kids
P.O. Box 575
Loveland, OH 45140



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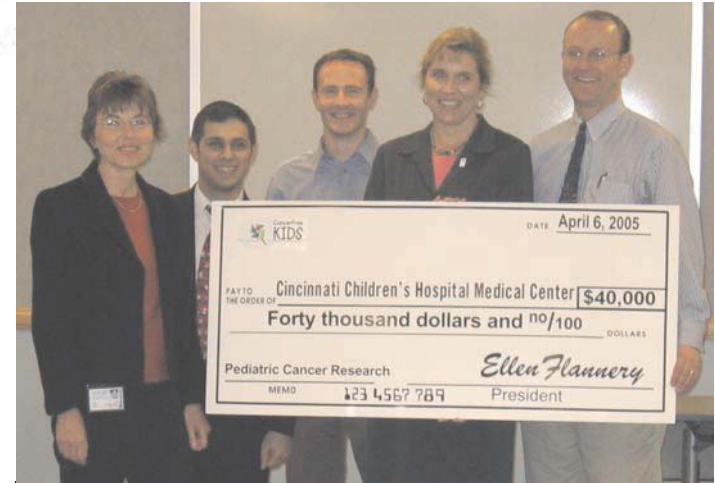
Shayna Flannery
 Childhood Cancer Survivor

Max Flannery
 Consultant of Fun



CFK Awards Four Research Grants!

Thanks to everyone's support, we awarded research grants totaling \$40,000 this year ~ twice the amount we awarded last year! On April 6, 2005, CFK founder and President Ellen Flannery presented four research grants totaling \$40,000 to four very deserving researchers at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. For a brief description of the funded projects, see Page 2.



L-R: CFK 2005 Grant Recipients Gerlinde Layh-Schmitt; Reuven Schore, M.D.; James C. Mulloy, Ph.D.; CFK Founder and President Ellen Flannery; and CFK 2005 Grant Recipient Lars Wagner, M.D.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 8th! Give Her The Perfect Gift From CFK!

CFK Jewelry makes an ideal Mother's Day gift, so be sure to place your order today for one of our beautiful sterling silver Mother's bracelets!



Include names or initials of children or grandchildren, each strand \$50.00. Special orders can be taken until April 25th for orders to be delivered in time for Mother's Day on May 8th. E-mail your order to: alice@cancerfreekids.org or call the CFK office at 513-575-KIDS.

WE NOW ACCEPT VISA AND MASTERCARD!



Our Bracelet Keychains make great gifts for Graduations, Birthdays, and Anniversaries!

Thanks to CFK Advisory Board Member Sharry Addison, and 14-year-old Lauren Mathews of Atlanta, Georgia, for all of their help with CFK jewelry sales! We really appreciate your help with spreading the word about childhood cancer research!



Bonefish Grill Restaurant Grand Opening In West Chester To Benefit CFK



Bonefish Grill is celebrating the opening of its newest location at **7710 Voice of America Dr. in West Chester**, with a fundraising event on May 14 with all proceeds benefiting CFK. A \$20 donation per person includes complementary drinks, appetizers and a main course tasting. Reservations are required, and tickets are going quickly! Call Alice at 575-KIDS to reserve your tickets before May 11th!

Contact:

CancerFree Kids:
Ellen M. Flannery
Founder and President

(513) 652-KIDS
P.O. Box 575
Loveland, OH 45140
ellen@cancerfreekids.org



Research Projects Funded by 2005 CFK Research Grants

Molecular Mediators of Childhood T Cell Leukemia

Drs. Layh-Schmitt, Wang, von Kalle, and Anderson

Exploring the possible root causes of T cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) development by investigating the inappropriate expression of two genes. May lead to the development of targeted therapeutic agents.

Assessment of MGMT as a Therapeutic Target for Neuroblastoma

Drs. Wagner, Collins and Weiss

Only one third of high-risk patients with neuroblastoma are cured currently, so new treatment options are needed. One of the reasons that chemotherapy doesn't work is that the MGMT protein repairs DNA damage caused by the chemotherapy treatments and allows tumor cells to continue growing. This study will look at the MGMT protein to determine what percentage of neuroblastoma tumors contain the protein. If they discover that a high percentage of tumors contain this protein, then they can add to the chemotherapy regimen a new drug that can effectively reverse the function of MGMT and overcome resistance to chemotherapy.

The Role of Rac GTPases in Leukemias

Drs. Schore, Gu and Williams

In a large percentage of patients with Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML), even intensive chemotherapy is not enough to cure them. This study will investigate the role that a group of small proteins, Rac GTPases (a family of signaling proteins), play in the progression of the disease. These proteins are usually involved in cell functions such as migration and adherence, but may be abnormal in leukemia cells. Based on these findings, they will alter the proteins' activity using both pharmacologic and genetic approaches. This may lead to new targeted treatments.

Identification of the Genes Regulated by Leukemia Fusion Proteins and the Role they Play in Leukemia Development

Dr. James Mulloy

Dr. Mulloy studies fusion proteins (those generated by broken chromosomes that re-join incorrectly) that result in leukemia. This project will analyze the effects of fusion protein expression on the biochemistry of the blood stem cell and try to understand how these how the fusion proteins lead to leukemia. This study will improve our understanding of the processes involved in leukemia evolution, essential information for the development of novel therapeutic approaches.

Research Progress Report from Dr. Parinda Mehta, 2004 CFK Grant Recipient



IL-1 genetic polymorphism and outcome of unrelated transplant—Progress Report.

We are making good progress. We have been able to (1) optimize the assay that we want to use for screening all 1000 DNA samples we have, (2) develop the software we need to handle the storage of the samples and track the data, (3) prepare the samples for the assay, and (4) we have begun to analyze the samples with our assay. Now we need to finish the analysis of the 1000 samples and then make sense of it all and see if it fits with our prediction. If so, then knowing the particular "variant" of the IL-1 gene that a given donor and recipient have will become a new, important aspect to picking the best donor for bone marrow transplant patients. If that is the case, it will really be an exciting new development in the field.

Check out our
Web site!

www.cancerfreekids.org

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!

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GE Continues Support of CFK



GE continues to support CFK, for which we are very appreciative. CFK was awarded \$6855.00 from the GE Community Service Fund, and the GE Supply Chain Division continues to support us with plans for fundraisers throughout the year. Most recently, they hosted a cornhole tournament where they raised more than \$600.00! Thanks also to CFK Board Member Kathleen Bell of the Bistro Group for donating 16 meal certificates for tournament participants!

Local Dr. Develops Unique Jewelry to Benefit CFK



These are matching mother and daughter, sterling silver, heart-shaped lockets with a surrounding message "Live, Laugh, and Love" priced at \$75 and \$65 respectively. Suspended on grosgrain ribbon, this 2-sided locket allows you to slide in colorful fabric on one side and a picture on the other side. Victoria Cusi, M.D. designed them specifically for CancerFree Kids and donates 20% of the sales to them. To order, contact 513-871-4057 or e-mail at victoriacusi@fuse.net.

NCAA Office Pool

Jim Boerger of Kroger conducted the 3rd Annual NCAA Office Pool benefiting CFK. Jim says that participants like the idea that part of the money goes to a good cause! Thanks to Jim for his efforts which have brought in more than \$1300 so far!

LPK for CFK

CFK is grateful to receive support from Libby Perszyk Kathman (LPK), a top advertising agency in downtown Cincinnati. Following a corporate gift of \$1000.00, LPK associate John Marshall and his band Vigoda joined forces with another local band, 3 Degrees, for a benefit concert for CFK at Sneaky Pete's in Montgomery. The event raised over \$2000.00!



Hopeful Hearts Showcase

Thanks to the Seymour Family of Cincinnati, who opened their home to host a "Hopeful Hearts Showcase" on February 5th, 2005. A wide variety of vendors set up shop to support various areas of cancer research, including Kimberly Seymour of "Cakes for Cancer Kids" who made and sold Valentine-themed Rice Krispie Treat cakes and donated the proceeds to CFK. Also donating their proceeds to CFK were Andrea Dangel of Tastefully Simple Gourmet Foods and Barbara Schulman - The Silver Lady II. Our heartfelt thanks to all of you!

Loveland Schools Gear up for Second Annual CFK Fundraiser

After raising over \$5,000.00 "Gettin' Jiggy With the Piggy" for CFK last Spring, Loveland Schools gladly agreed to participate again this Spring. This year grades 1-6 will be helping out with this "fund-raiser" which takes place the last week of April. Thanks to the Loveland Schools Administration for their continuing support of CFK!

Also taking place at Loveland Schools is "Granny's Garden Party" on May 7th, where CFK will be selling jewelry, yard-art pinwheels, and more. Come out and see us! For more information, log onto www.grannysgardenschool.com.

