



Northern Nevada

**Children's Cancer**  
FOUNDATION

Celebrating 25 years of **Help. Hope. Courage.**



**2025 ANNUAL REPORT**

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



Dear Friends,

For more than 25 years, Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation (NNCCF) has had the honor of walking beside children with cancer and the families who love them—through diagnosis, treatment, survivorship, and every uncertain moment along the way. NNCCF was founded on a simple belief: no family should face cancer alone. That promise continues to guide everything we do.

Because of the compassion of this community, we have provided more than \$12 million in direct financial assistance to local families, helping bring relief and stability when it is needed most. As more children survive and grow into adolescence and young adulthood, families are seeking ongoing, meaningful support—reflecting progress in care and a responsibility we approach with compassion and intention.

Looking ahead, we remain focused on strengthening our programs and services, expanding specialized support, and ensuring every family can rely on steady, compassionate help—today and in the years to come. We are deeply grateful to the families who trust us, the supporters who make this work possible, and the community that continues to stand with us. Together, we move forward with Help, Hope, and Courage.

With gratitude,

**Brigitte Cole**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Emily Jaenson**  
Board President



## 2025-2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT - Emily Jaenson**  
*Cushman & Wakefield*

**Sophie Boel**  
*Redwood Materials*

**Kim Kandaras**  
*Walton's Funeral & Cremation*

**Casey Stiteler**  
*Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.*

**VICE PRESIDENT - Leonard Wohletz**  
*Morgan Stanley*

**Lisa Carano**  
*THE ROW/Caesars Entertainment*

**Brandan Koehn**  
*Victory Woodworks*

**Dr. Robin S. White**  
*The Medical Professional, LLC*

**SECRETARY - Tom Gurgui**  
*Microsoft*

**Matt Cates**  
*Granite Construction*

**Meagan Noin**  
*MN | G Partners, Inc.*

**TREASURER - Ryan Gilbrech**  
*Morgan Stanley*

**Matt Clifton**  
*Buzz Oates Construction*

**Kelly S. McIntosh**  
*Sight Partners*

**Brandi Anderson**  
*Push Consulting, LLC*

**Shirley Folkins-Roberts**  
*Panattoni Development Company, Inc.*

**Doug Roberts**  
*Panattoni Development Company, Inc.*

## NNCCF TEAM

**Brigitte Cole**  
*Chief Executive Officer*

**Anne Pauly**  
*Director of Programs & Services*

**Celeste Esquivel**  
*Events Coordinator*

**Cheyenne Walker**  
*Marketing Coordinator*

**Jessica Lee**  
*Chief Operating Officer*

**Tiffany Kress**  
*Community Relations Manager*

**Alexandra Macdonald**  
*Programs & Services Coordinator*

**Joan Carpenter**  
*Volunteer Staff*

**Lizzie Dalton**  
*Director of Grants*

**Hannah Townsend**  
*Finance Manager*

**Jenae Oxarart**  
*Family Navigator*

**Christine Duncan**  
*3 CK Management, LLC*

**Emily Najera**  
*Director of Development and Marketing*

**Chloe Iler**  
*Programs & Services Finance Administrator*

**Stacy Rowan**  
*Officer Assistant*

**Liz Garcia**  
*Stress Free Bookkeeping, LLC*

# OUR MISSION



Our mission is to enhance the quality of life for children with cancer and their families by providing financial assistance and compassionate support programs all while advocating for increased research funds and raising public awareness.

## WHO WE ARE

For more than 25 years, NNCCF has been the only organization in our region solely dedicated to supporting children with cancer. We walk alongside families from diagnosis through treatment, survivorship, and when needed, grief and loss.

## WHO WE SERVE

- Ages 0–25
- Confirmed cancer diagnosis
- Residents of northern Nevada (southern boundary: Tonopah, NV)

## QUICK NNCCF STATS

- 25+ years of service
- \$12M+ in financial support
- 160+ families served annually
- \$4.6M+ raised for childhood cancer research

## MEET SOREN

Soren is a sweet little boy who was diagnosed with kidney cancer at just four years old. He and his family traveled from rural Nevada to Reno for frequent appointments, and he bravely endured a year of chemotherapy treatment. Throughout treatment, Soren kept a big smile on his face and was full of energy, lighting up every room he entered. This little superhero celebrated his "No More Chemo" party in fall 2025!



## A MESSAGE FROM SOREN'S PARENTS

*"When our son Soren was diagnosed with stage 4 kidney cancer last year, we felt overwhelmed, terrified, and alone. From the moment the hospital social worker connected us with NNCCF, they became our lifeline. NNCCF relieved the burden of everyday life by covering bills and practical expenses so we didn't have to worry about finances while navigating surgeries, hospital stays, chemotherapy, and radiation.*

*In the midst of so many difficult memories, they created good ones we can hold onto. Stopping by NNCCF to check out the toy closet and visit with the staff after a hard week of chemotherapy brought Soren so much joy and gave him something to look forward to.*

*NNCCF has never forgot about our other child, always including him so he felt seen even while his brother was fighting cancer. We will be forever grateful for NNCCF's compassion, presence, and the peace of mind they brought during the hardest time of our lives."*

~Kim, Soren's Mom



# FOUR PILLARS OF FAMILY SUPPORT



AT THE HEART OF OUR MISSION ARE  
FOUR PILLARS OF FAMILY SUPPORT

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Helping families manage the unexpected and overwhelming costs of childhood cancer.



- Household Expenses
- Medical Expenses
- Travel Expenses
- Bereavement Expenses



## EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

Creating community through compassionate support, meaningful connection, and moments of joy.



- Family Events
- Bell Ringing Celebrations
- Toy Closet
- Hospital Comfort Wagon
- Beads of Courage
- Family Navigation
- Hope for the Holidays

## EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

Helping children and families stay connected to school and plan for the future.



- E-Smart Program - K-12 Educational Support
- Inspire Scholarship Program - College and Continued Education



## MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Ensuring families have access to professional, compassionate mental health care.



- Collaboration with Mental Health Providers
- Priority Scheduling
- Family Counseling
- Play Therapy
- Grief and Loss Support



## BEYOND THE PILLARS

At NNCCF, we believe every child deserves a future free from cancer. We work to advance funding for childhood cancer research, elevate it as a national priority, and rally our northern Nevada community to ensure local warriors and families have a voice. Together, these efforts bring us closer to a world where every child can be cured.

# 25 YEARS OF HELP. HOPE. COURAGE.



We honor our roots in the two foundations that merged in 2009 to form NNCCF. Angel Kiss Foundation (AKF), founded in 2000 in memory of Jarryd, and the Keaton Raphael Memorial (KRM), Reno office, founded in 2004 in memory of Keaton, both shared the goal of helping families battling childhood cancer. By joining forces, NNCCF expanded its reach and services to support more local children. Many of the original founders, board members, staff, and families remain involved today, and we are grateful for their continued support.



Jarryd



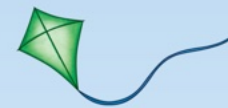
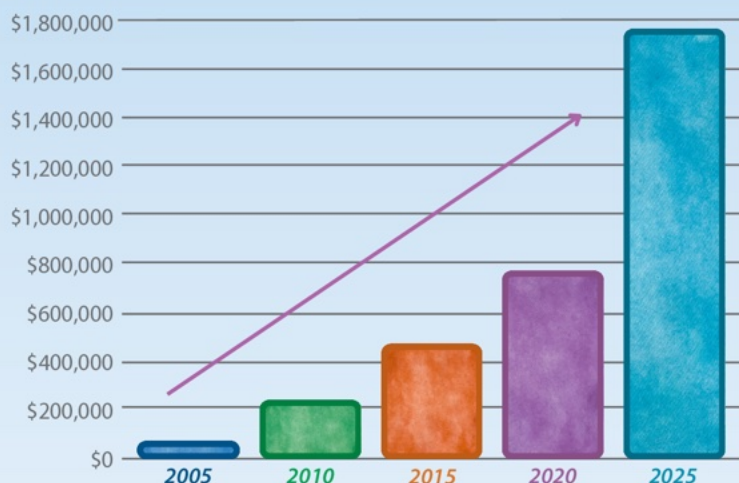
Keaton



## NNCCF TIMELINE



## GROWTH OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES



In 25 years,  
NNCCF has provided more than

**\$12  
MILLION**

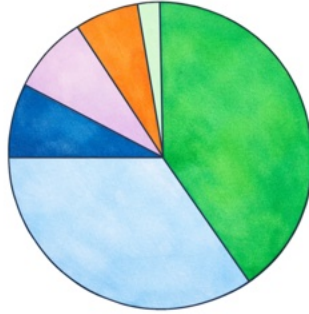
in financial assistance to local  
children battling cancer.

# 2025 BY THE NUMBERS



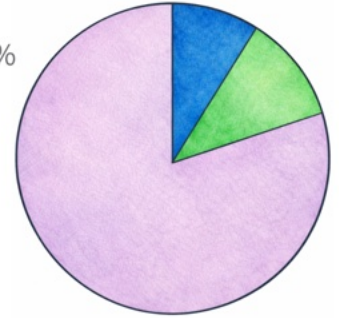
## Sources of Income

- Fundraisers - 41%
- Grants - 34%
- In-Kind Donations - 8%
- Individual Giving - 8%
- Community Partners - 7%
- Corporate Matching - 2%



## Expense Category

- Programs & Services - 80%
- Fundraisers - 11%
- Management & Development - 9%



**FAMILY ASSISTANCE FUND**  
\$1,564,953 provided



**INSPIRE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**  
\$179,743 awarded



**HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS**  
49 Families sponsored



**SHAVE FOR THE BRAVE**  
\$213,494 raised



**NO MORE TREATMENT BELL**  
15 celebrations



**FAMILY EVENTS**  
21 hosted

# .80¢

of every dollar donated in 2025 funded  
**PROGRAMS & SERVICES**  
that directly supported NNCCF  
**WARRIORS AND THEIR FAMILIES**

## WHO WE SUPPORT

Children and young adults (ages 0–25)  
across northern Nevada



**AGES 0-5**  
13%



**AGES 6-11**  
17%



**AGES 12-18**  
35%



**AGES 19-25**  
35%

# NEW INITIATIVES

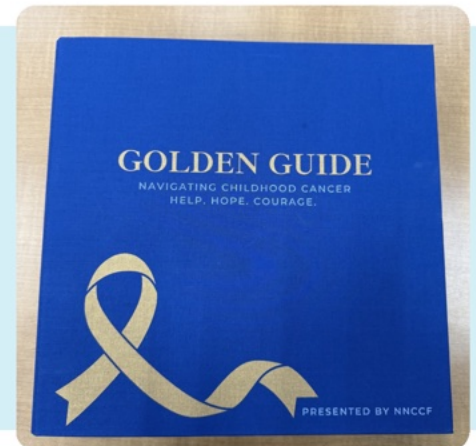


Due to incredible success and the generosity of our community, in 2025 we were able to launch many new programs and resources, such as a family navigator role, patient navigator training, a Golden Guide binder, mental health support, hospital comfort wagons, and a branded NNCCF van!



## GOLDEN GUIDE NAVIGATION BINDER

NNCCF created the Golden Guide Navigation Binder to support families at the time of diagnosis. This all-in-one resource helps organize treatment schedules, medical contacts, and essential information, reducing stress and empowering families with clarity and organization from day one.



## MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Through a collaboration with Connected Therapy, families gained access to mental health support, including individual and family therapy, play therapy, and grief support. All services are provided at no cost to families. In 2026, the program will expand to include a bereaved parent support group, further strengthening care for families facing childhood cancer.



## HOSPITAL COMFORT WAGONS

Thanks to community donations, NNCCF introduced hospital wagons filled with comfort items such as heated blankets, sleep masks, and streaming devices. These wagons support families during long hospital stays, helping reduce stress and make the hospital feel more like home.



# PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS



## CELEBRATING CORWIN FORD RENO



Thanks to Corwin Ford Reno and Ford National, NNCCF families had an incredible experience at the Great Reno Balloon Races. This was a special family event that was a truly one-of-a-kind experience.

From trucks filled to the brim with mattresses and blankets for the ultimate comfortable viewing, to a full VIP experience, and even a few balloon rides, it was nothing short of memorable. Thank you Corwin Ford Reno for this unforgettable weekend!

## PRESENTING SPONSOR AT DOZERS & DIRT

We are truly grateful to Corwin Ford Reno and Ford National, whose generous partnership makes our mission possible. We thank them for supporting Dozers & Dirt as our Presenting Sponsor. Their investment created a memorable event and strengthened programs for the families we serve.

With their support, we also purchased NNCCF's first van, enabling rural outreach, supporting event logistics, and expanding our impact across the community.



## WHAT GIVING MEANS

*"Our family feels incredibly blessed to support Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation and stand in the gap for our neighbors. We are constantly inspired by the resilience of these young warriors and the servant hearts of the NNCCF team, whose love knows no bounds."*

~ Justin Russell, Corwin Ford Reno General Manager/Partner

# PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

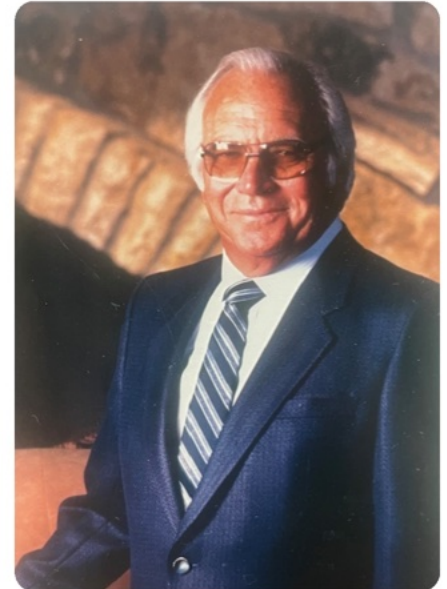


## WILLIAM N. PENNINGTON FOUNDATION

The William N. Pennington Foundation has been a dedicated partner of NNCCF since 2013, beginning with a grant that funded the office space we call home today. In 2016, they launched a matching grant for our Know the Gold Campaign and have continued to match donations, dollar-for-dollar, each year.

Since the start of our partnership, the William N. Pennington Foundation has contributed more than \$6.5 million to support NNCCF's mission. Their most recent commitment included a \$1.3 million match for the 2025 Know the Gold Campaign, continuing strong support for local families.

NNCCF is grateful to the William N. Pennington Foundation for their extraordinary commitment to children with cancer and their families across northern Nevada. As William N. Pennington shared, "the Foundation supports organizations that help people and families persevere through difficult times," a vision that continues to make our region stronger and more caring.



## NEVADA REALTORS ASSOCIATION - KEYS TO KINDNESS



Nevada REALTORS® incoming president, Sarah, chose to forgo the traditional installation gala and instead launched Keys to Kindness, a Give Back Day benefiting NNCCF. Through support from realtors across Nevada and a generous triple match from the NVR Board of Directors, they raised a total of \$69,084 for northern Nevada's youngest cancer warriors.

*"Keys to Kindness reflects the heart of REALTORS® – opening doors, lifting others, and showing up for our community."*

~ Sarah Scattini, 2026 Nevada Realtors President

Community Partner events play an important role in supporting NNCCF and the families we serve. From golf tournaments and weightlifting competitions to firefighters taking over diners and donating their tips, as well as PJ days, art exhibits, and Christmas light shows, these efforts bring the community together to make a meaningful difference for children with cancer.

# WARRIOR SPOTLIGHTS



## ERA ATTENDS CHILDHOOD CANCER ACTION DAYS

Era, a kind and thoughtful girl diagnosed with leukemia at age five, joined NNCCF in Washington, D.C. for Childhood Cancer Action Days with her mom, Cheri. Reflecting on the experience, Cheri shared what the trip meant to both her and Era.

*"Meeting with our Representatives made Era feel a little nervous since she didn't know who she was going to be speaking in front of, but she knew it was important for her to use her voice to help others understand her story. She appreciated the idea of all the other cancer survivors that would be advocating that day on Capitol Hill, because she knew they were all cancer warriors just like her."*

*Era overall felt the trip was such a special experience. Era let me know if she were ever asked to advocate again on Capitol Hill she would say yes. If she could do anything different the next time around, she thinks she would speak a lot more."*

~ Cheri, Era's Mom



## MEET LEANNE

*"LeAnne was diagnosed with leukemia in April 2024, just as she was wrapping up 8th grade. The diagnosis turned our world upside down. She missed her entire freshman year and endured numerous rounds of chemotherapy. We spent countless nights in the children's pediatric ward and the PICU, navigating the uncertainty and fear that come with such a diagnosis."*

*Today, LeAnne continues her chemotherapy treatment and takes daily chemo pills. In a beautiful turn of resilience, she's back at school part-time and recently made the JV volleyball team—playing alongside her sister, a moment that brought us immense joy."*

*Throughout this journey, NNCCF has been a steadfast source of support. They've become more than an organization to us—they're family."*

~ Jessilyn, LeAnne's Mom





THE GOLD RIBBON



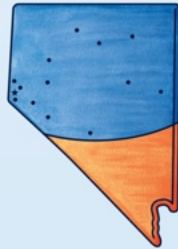
IS THE NATIONAL SYMBOL FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER



# FROM THE COMMUNITY. FOR THE COMMUNITY.

## LOCAL

NNCCF is a grassroots local organization that receives no state or federal funds. Our work is sustained by the compassion and commitment of individuals like you.



## TRUSTED

Our board of directors and financial advisors bring expertise and oversight to every financial decision. With their guidance, we remain focused, resilient, and forward-thinking.



## TRANSPARENT

Our financial reports, audits, and tax filings are available to the public. We operate with integrity and a deep commitment to ethical financial practices.



Globally, a child is diagnosed with cancer every two minutes.



Donate today to support Nevada's youngest cancer warriors

## NNCCF SIGNATURE EVENTS



Presented by Microsoft

Friday,  
May 1, 2026



Presented by PANATTONI

Monday,  
June 22, 2026



Saturday,  
September 19, 2026

Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation's



*In honor of Alyssa Carano Grant*

Saturday,  
November 14, 2026