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## About the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation

More children die of brain tumors than any other cancer. As the world's largest nonprofit solely dedicated to children and teens with brain tumors, the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation's mission is to **care** for families along their entire journey, find a **cure** and help survivors **thrive**.

Since 1991, the PBTf has funded more than \$29 million in research to increase survivorship, improve quality of life and ultimately eliminate pediatric brain tumors. We also offer families free educational resources about brain tumors, a toolkit for newly diagnosed patients, college scholarships for survivors, emergency financial assistance and other support. Our national events include Ride for Kids motorcycle charity rides, Starry Night 5Ks and Vs. Cancer fundraisers. Join the PBTf in our mission to *Care. Cure. Thrive.* by calling 800-253-6530 or visiting [www.curethekids.org/mission](http://www.curethekids.org/mission).

## Research Investments

The PBTf has invested more than \$29 million in scientific discovery at more than 50 centers worldwide. We support projects that focus on children and encourage the development of new therapies to improve quality of life, increase survivorship and ultimately eliminate pediatric brain tumors.

Our Research Advisory Network, comprised of the top childhood brain tumor experts in medicine, academia and industry, helps us strategically shape our research funding program for maximum impact.

Our progressive approach includes investments in:

- Multiyear research projects to established investigators
- Grants to attract new investigators to the field of pediatric brain tumor research
- Promising collaborative endeavors such as a clinical trials consortium, brain tumor tissue banking and a forum for experts to influence future research strategies

To advance scientific knowledge and collaboration, we fund national and international brain tumor conferences conducted by the Society of Neuro-Oncology, the International Society of Pediatric Neuro-Oncology and the International Conference on Brain Tumor Research and Therapy. We provided founding grants for the Society of Neuro-Oncology's international medical journal and the Central Brain Tumor Registry of the U.S., the country's largest brain tumor database.

## Family Support

Few challenges can compare to dealing with the news that a child has a brain tumor. The emotional burden can seem beyond anyone's ability to cope, and very difficult treatment, financial and supportive care decisions are involved. The PBTf supports these families in three ways.

### Family Support Resources:

- Emergency financial aid to families (in partnership with 23 hospitals in 11 states)
- College scholarships for brain tumor survivors
- Starfolio, a practical toolkit with information for newly diagnosed families
- Free educational materials and an online video learning series featuring top medical experts

[Working to eliminate the challenges of childhood brain tumors.](#)



## **Family Support (continued)**

### **Family Support Programs:**

- A helpline connecting families to trained staff who provide resource referrals
- Face-to-face meetings in hospitals between mentor parents and those with a child in treatment
- Brain tumor family camps offered in English and Spanish and a camp for bereaved families
- Educational programs featuring experts in the field and networking opportunities for families
- Services and programs at partner hospitals and support organizations

### **Family Engagement Activities:**

- The PBTF welcomes family participation in Ride for Kids, Starry Night walk/runs, Couture for Kids and other fundraisers

Our Georgia, California and Illinois chapters and Vs. Cancer's local hospital partnerships also provide on-the-ground support in communities across the nation.

## **Advocacy**

As a founding member of the Alliance for Childhood Cancer, the PBTF educates lawmakers and promotes the interests and needs of young cancer patients. We are also members of the Coalition Against Childhood Cancer, which works to unify the childhood cancer community through broad-based coordinated action and collaboration.

We advocate for patients and their families on issues such as survivorship, pediatric palliative care, pediatric oncology, drug development and early diagnosis.

## **Fundraising Events**

The PBTF's national fundraising campaigns include Ride for Kids, Starry Night and Vs. Cancer.

Ride for Kids is the longest-running, most successful motorcycle charity event in the nation, with 30 events across the United States. American Honda is the presenting sponsor of Ride for Kids, and *Cycle World* magazine is the lead media supporter. Motorcycle dealers, other motorcycle industry partners and local businesses provide additional event support.

In 2014, the PBTF launched our second national fundraising event. The Starry Night 5K is a walk/run that increases awareness, raises funds and inspires hope for families living with a pediatric brain tumor diagnosis. This inspirational twilight event, which includes a lantern lighting ceremony, takes place in nine cities around the country.

The Vs. Cancer Foundation joined forces with the PBTF in 2016. Vs. Cancer empowers any sports team, any athlete, any community to help kids with cancer. As a signature fundraising campaign of the PBTF, proceeds are split between child life programs in local hospitals and national pediatric brain tumor research.

To learn more about holding a fundraiser for the PBTF or becoming a corporate sponsor, email [info@curethekids.org](mailto:info@curethekids.org) or call 800-253-6530.

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