



Our Founder Alex Scott

SEPTEMBER IS CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Research Works, Ask Sonia

Sonia's bedroom wall is covered in posters of Hawaii. She traveled there in 2022 and fell in love, not just with Hawaii, but also with travel. Someday, Sonia dreams of traveling the world – and she'll get a chance to do just that thanks to a breakthrough clinical trial that has saved her life.



Sonia was 11 years old when she developed a cough so bad her parents took her to the emergency room, worried Sonia had pneumonia. Once there, scans showed something different: tumors in her lungs. They turned out to be metastasized Ewing sarcoma, a type of bone cancer with only a 15-30% five-year survival rate when found at diagnosis.



Sonia spent one month in the ICU, endured surgery after surgery, and underwent chemotherapy. This treatment seemed to work

until two years after her diagnosis, when a routine scan picked up a bright spot in her right lung. Doctors scheduled a more detailed scan to determine if the spot was cancer, which would

mean the placement of a port, a small implanted reservoir used to give chemotherapy without requiring repeated needle sticks.

"I knew if I woke up from that scan with a port, it was Ewing," Sonia said. And, unfortunately, she did.

Despite treatment, the tumors kept returning, prompting Sonia's family to move to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, an Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) Center of Excellence (COE) Grant institution. There, Sonia met Dr. Steve Dubois, who leads the COE Grant program at Dana-Farber.

"When I met Dr. Dubois, that was when my life changed," said Sonia. She began a new treatment, and when her cancer returned, this time in her big toe, Sonia began a new trial – funded, in part, by donors like you – for a targeted drug used in combination with chemotherapy.

Today, the trial is working. Sonia's toe tumor is shrinking, and she's been stable without any new tumor sightings. This fall, Sonia is traveling on her next adventure: as a college freshman studying biochemistry.



Inside: Crazy cool Crazy 8 updates, research breakthroughs you've made possible, and more!



When you give

You are lending your support to the largest independent childhood cancer charity in the U.S.

Expanding Access to Grow Hope for Families

On the cover, we introduced Sonia, a young adult whose life has been saved by a clinical trial at one of our Center of Excellence (COE) institutions. One of the ways your donations help is by funding COE grants, which play a very critical role in growing the number of pediatric clinical trials available for kids who need options if traditional treatments fail. These grants help give families more options, at more locations, and most importantly, more hope. The trial Sonia enrolled in originated at another COE, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, before expanding to other sites to help more kids.

"Because of this collaboration we've been able to participate and have our patients benefit," said Dr. Dubois, from Dana-

Farber Cancer Institute. In addition to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, we also fund COE Grants at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital in San Francisco and Texas Children's Hospital in Houston. Each of these COE locations collaborate to launch clinical trials, train doctors to open clinical trials, and explore pediatric drug development as a mechanism to advance cures and frontline treatments.



Dr. Steve Dubois

You help fund childhood cancer research

Research projects led by experts in the field are finding more cures and less toxic treatments.

Crazy Impact Incoming

In 2020, we launched the Crazy 8 Initiative. Our goal was to fund projects that helped the world's greatest childhood cancer researchers collaborate and cure the deadliest childhood cancers. Today, six teams comprised of over 100 researchers are making landmark progress, using cutting-edge science, for kids that need cures. Here's a snapshot from one researcher studying the bone cancer osteosarcoma.

When osteosarcoma metastasizes from the bones to the lungs, it becomes deadly. Using a technology called spatial biology, Dr. Ruben Dries, a Crazy 8-funded researcher, is studying the structure of osteosarcoma cells to unlock the secret behind this transformation.

This technique takes pictures of a small piece of tumor, then thousands more, each zooming in closer until it shows all the genetic components of single cells. This allows Dr. Dries and his team to create a map of the tumors. They believe this technology will help crack the code for how this cancer spreads.



To learn more about your impact, head to Crazy8Projects.org.

“I am a young dad. It's heartbreaking to know the stories of kids who have so much potential, but then don't get the opportunity.” — Dr. Dries, Crazy 8-funded researcher

“ALSF means that any family that is in need can

From Student Grantee to Scholar

Dr. Will Temple was an undergraduate at University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) when he began volunteering at UCLA hospital and a camp for kids with cancer that sparked his passion for pediatric care. He decided to put his background in microbiology, immunology and molecular genetics to good use by becoming a pediatric oncologist and attended University of California San Francisco (UCSF) for medical school. By 2013, he received a Pediatric Oncology Student Training (POST) grant from ALSF to gain field experience firsthand under the guidance of a mentor while studying MIBG transporters in neuroblastoma. More than 10 years later, Will is back to doing ALSF-funded research as a pediatric oncologist and ALSF Center of Excellence Scholar at UCSF. A key component of COE grants is helping young scientists to develop early phase clinical trials for promising new treatments. Thanks to supporters like you, Dr. Temple's work has come full circle and is helping find new options for kids fighting acute lymphoblastic leukemia.



Arianna is a firecracker of a 5-year-old!

Even while fighting stage IV high-risk neuroblastoma, Arianna remained tenacious. One of the initial tumors broke her femur bone internally. A tumor resection for the primary tumor in her abdomen left a six-inch scar across her tiny tummy. Five rounds of high-dose chemotherapy, two stem cell transplants, radiation and two special immunotherapies weren't enough to beat her cancer. At this point, she had only a 50% chance of survival. Arianna's parents made the difficult decision to try something new, a DFMO inhibitor, and the treatment worked – today, her scans still say she is clear of disease! Arianna and her family celebrate by fundraising for ALSF and participating in The Million Mile in September.



“I'm brave and I'm strong. I can do hard things!” – Arianna's hospital mantra

Which helps kids get the treatments they need

You have the power to fuel research to help kids get their cures.

Seth is the kind of kid who never misses a social event,

but when he was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia, his fun-loving childhood was forcibly put on hold. He began treatment: a whirlwind of therapies, transplants, four relapses and countless trips from his home in Kentucky to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia for treatment on a clinical trial supported in part by our Center of Excellence Grant. Our Travel For Care program was there to relieve his family's financial burden from repeated travel, and thankfully, these trips helped Seth reach remission! Today, Seth loves hosting his own lemonade stands so that support programs like Travel For Care and breakthrough research can keep helping kids like him.



receive support.” – Michelle, Seth's mom

Lemonade Days **Standout** Supporters

The Whaley Family



The Whaley family joined Lemonade Days after their son, Connor, was diagnosed with cancer. They wanted to do everything in their power to help heroes like him. They host their stand at home each June. This year, they are also celebrating Connor being one-year cancer-free!

The Courville Sisters



When Grace, Faith, and Joy were toddlers, they wanted to sell lemonade for fun. After seeing a TV feature about Alex Scott, they wanted to help kids with cancer too. The sisters combined the two and celebrated the 20th anniversary of Lemonade Days with their annual front yard stand.

The Mathis Family



Harper's family started hosting lemonade stands after she was diagnosed with brain cancer. They learned during their first Lemonade Days that another family in the area had a daughter with brain cancer. Now, the families host a stand together each June in support of their heroes!



V O L V O

- Partner since 2004
- \$13M+ raised to help kids fight cancer
- Volvo Cars has donated annual portions of car sales, sponsored special events, and participated in The Million Mile each September with teams across the globe



- Partner since 2005
- \$16M+ raised
- Hosts annual fundraising campaign in their restaurants across the country every summer, including hosting hero families, themed fundraisers and bringing Alex's to their neighborhoods

THE MILLION MILE

A Childhood Cancer Awareness Month Activity for All



Join The Million Mile to log your miles in September and raise funds to help kids fight cancer alongside thousands of other supporters. It all adds up to research, support and a future free of childhood cancer.



Scan to Register

TheMillionMile.org



- Partner since 2011
- \$9M+ raised to help kids fight cancer
- Each summer Power supports Alex's through employee payroll contributions, kickball tournaments, auctions, lemonade stands, and engaging with our childhood cancer families



- Partner since 2013
- \$2.5M+ raised to help kids fight cancer
- Every June during Lemonade Days, ACME stores ask customers to donate at the register with every purchase to help kids with cancer



Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation

3 Bala Plaza West
Suite 601
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004



@AlexsLemonade