



Annual Report

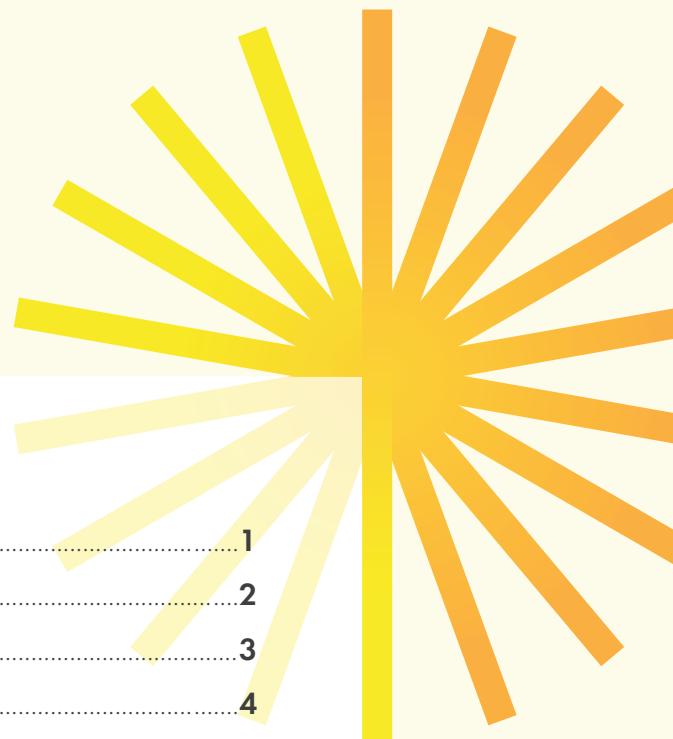
FY 2024–2025



CAC2
COALITION AGAINST
CHILDHOOD CANCER

cac2.org

Working together today for a future without childhood cancers



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Message FROM THE Board Chair



TO OUR CAC2 COMMUNITY, PARTNERS, AND FRIENDS:

As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with immense gratitude for the opportunity to serve as the Chair of the Coalition Against Childhood Cancer (CAC2). This annual report not only marks another year of our journey but also celebrates the progress we have achieved together.

This year, we celebrated meaningful accomplishments, measurable successes, and substantial growth across all our focus areas. Together, we strengthened our collaborative network, advanced resources for families and survivors, supported research and innovation, elevated advocacy and awareness, and expanded programs that help our members do even more for the childhood cancer community. By building an organization with growing influence and practical resources, we are helping translate goodwill into impact—bringing more clarity, more connection, and more capacity to serve.

Throughout this work, our compass remains unchanged: children and families are at the center of everything we do. Our commitment to transparency, neutrality, and collaborative efforts has been instrumental in bringing us closer to our vision: a world where no family loses a child to cancer and no survivor suffers from side effects after treatment.

I want to extend heartfelt thanks to our Board of Directors for their steadfast leadership, thoughtful governance, and tireless service. To our member organizations, your expertise, passion, and collaborative spirit are the engine of our progress. To volunteers, families, clinicians, researchers, and advocates, your courage and commitment inspire us every day. To our generous sponsors and supporting organizations, we are forever grateful for your dedication to our mission. Your contributions, large and small, have made this a year of real progress and renewed momentum.

As you read this report, I hope you feel proud of what we accomplished together and energized for the work ahead. With continued collaboration and a clear focus on the needs of families and survivors, we will keep building an inclusive, effective coalition that drives meaningful change—together and with greater impact.” Together, we are making a difference, and I am excited to see what we can achieve in the coming year.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication.

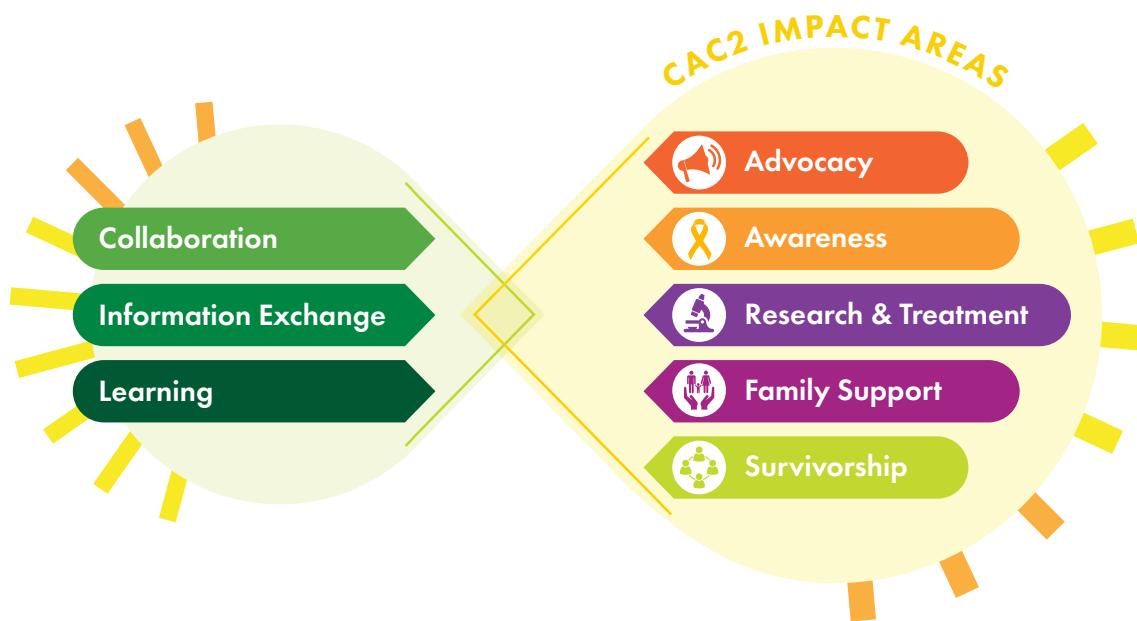
Ginny McLean
2024-2025 Board Chair

About Us



CAC2 ensures the childhood cancer community benefits from greater coordinated action and collaboration. More than 550 organizational, individual, and student members care about and invest in making an impact on childhood cancer.

We organize our initiatives and programs around our members' five fundamental impact areas: Advocacy, Awareness, Research & Treatment, Family Support, and Survivorship. We work to share information with and among our members and provide numerous educational opportunities within each impact area. We also facilitate coordinated action, broad-based collaboration, and shared projects among our members.



While our members fund research and support families, CAC2 does not. Instead, we focus on activities that can only effectively and efficiently be delivered with coordinated action. We rely primarily on the time, skills, and energy volunteered by our members to undertake initiatives that foster and sustain greater collaboration across the childhood cancer community.

Our members may operate celebratory or legacy foundations in honor or memory of a special child or adolescent affected by cancer. They may have devoted their personal or professional lives to working with children with cancer. They may have survived childhood cancer themselves. Or they may feel a close personal connection to the cause.

What unites all of us is the belief that the increased impact created and amplified by collaboration will drive progress for childhood and adolescent cancer patients. Together, we work with a burning passion and unrelenting energy to improve their lives and the lives of their families.



Our Mission

CAC2 fosters and sustains greater levels of collaboration, information exchange, and learning across the childhood cancer community through agreed upon initiatives in the areas of Advocacy, Awareness, Research & Treatment, Family Support, and Survivorship



Our Vision

We envision a world without childhood cancers.

CAC2 serves all stakeholders in the pediatric cancer space and strives to unite and amplify the collective efforts of the childhood cancer community. CAC2 ensures that the childhood cancer community benefits from greater levels of coordinated action and collaboration that leverage the unique strengths of its members, minimize waste of precious resources and expertise, and drive better outcomes for patients and their families.

Our Values

The primary values underlying CAC2 are to put the children and their families first in everything we do and to support organizations active in the fight against childhood cancer. We support our members and the childhood cancer community through action-oriented, member-directed projects and a variety of educational outreach initiatives.



RESPECT

Enable the community while respecting our members' unique missions



EFFICIENCY

Strive for cost effectiveness and efficiency with resources



INCLUSIVENESS

Emphasize inclusiveness and collaboration towards our common goals



AMPLIFY

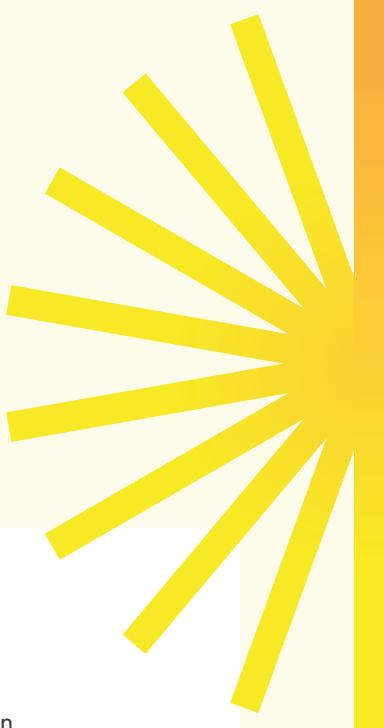
Help give voice to the community and amplify it in a coordinated fashion



DRIVE

Stay action-oriented and flexible

Leadership



Fiscal Year 2024-25 Board of Directors

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

GINNY MCLEAN

Board Chair
Gift from a Child
boardchair@cac2.org

CAITLYN BARRETT

Board Vice Chair
Individual Member

ROBIN FRENCH

Past Board Chair
The Morgan Adams Foundation

MARIAH FORSTER-OLSON

Secretary
Neuroblastoma Children's Cancer Society

VOTING MEMBERS

LORI EARL

This Star Won't Go Out

AMY GODKIN

ASK Childhood Cancer Foundation

ASHLEY GUTHRIE

Austin Hatcher Foundation for Pediatric Cancer

T.J. KOERNER

Individual Member

SUSANNAH KOONTZ

Individual Member

ANGELA LEE

Individual Member

MISHA MEHTA

Neev Kolte & Brave Ronil Foundation

ANN RAMER

Individual Member

AUBREY REICHARD-ELINE

WITH Grace Initiative

NICOLE SCOBIE

Zoe4Life

NON-VOTING BOARD MEMBERS

VICKIE BUENGER

President Emeritus
Individual Member

STEVE PESSAGNO

Treasurer
Individual Member



Strengthening CAC2 Operations

Over the past program year, CAC2 has experienced tremendous growth and strengthened operational capacity through its partnership with Riggs Enterprises. This collaboration has enhanced administrative efficiency, strategic planning, and program execution across the organization.

Riggs Enterprises played a pivotal role in supporting several key initiatives, including CureFest 2024 and the 2025 CAC2 Annual Summit, both held in Washington, DC. These events not only elevated CAC2's visibility within the childhood cancer community but also demonstrated the power of coordinated operational planning and volunteer engagement.

In addition to event success, the team partnered closely with CAC2 leadership to:

- **Support the successful transition and maintenance of the CAC2 website.**
- **Implement improved systems** for member management, communications, and social media marketing.
- **Enhance webinar coordination processes**, creating a more seamless experience for presenters and attendees.
- **Provide essential support for the Board of Directors' initiatives** focused on organizational growth and long-term sustainability.

As the program year concluded, Riggs Enterprises completed a strategic merger with Chicago Association Management (CAM). This transition will further strengthen CAC2's infrastructure and support network by providing access to expanded marketing, administrative, and financial management resources.

CAC2 looks forward to continued growth, innovation, and impact with the enhanced expertise and partnership of the CAM team as we move into the next program year.



Events

CAC2 helped plan and host a variety of opportunities for members to engage with and learn from the childhood cancer community in FY 2024-25.



CureFest & Freedom Plaza

SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2024

It was a powerful sight to see CAC2 members, individual advocates, families, and representatives from hundreds of childhood cancer organizations come together at **CureFest for Childhood Cancer** in Washington, D.C. From September 20–22, 2024, the community united for three days of awareness, advocacy, and action.

CAC2 was proud to return as a supporting sponsor of CureFest, sharing resources and connecting with families, foundations, and partners throughout the event. The weekend embodied the strength and collaboration of the childhood cancer community.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Foundation Match: FY24 Update

Foundation Match is a CAC2 Resource for Collaborative Funding of Research guided by the CAC2 mantra “Working together today for a future without childhood cancers” and grounded in unwavering commitment to children and their families. This resource is being reinvigorated with the help of the following CAC2 members, serving as Champions of Foundation Match.

- Sarah Bartosz, Executive Director, Beat Childhood Cancer Founder, Jack’s Mom
- Sarva Channarajurs, Advisor, Healthcare Product Development and Childhood Cancer Advocate Advisor, Mithil Prasad Foundation, Mithil’s Mom
- Oscar Ortiz, Executive Director, SebastianStrong, Sebastian’s Dad
- T.J. Koerner, PhD, Principal, Collaborate For All, retired researcher



The White House Roundtable on State Advocacy for Childhood Cancer

SEPTEMBER 20, 2024

On September 20, 2024 the White House hosted a Roundtable on State Advocacy for Childhood Cancer, bringing together federal and state policymakers, healthcare experts, and advocates to strengthen programs supporting children and families facing pediatric cancer.

The event, part of President Biden's Cancer Moonshot initiative, focused on developing strategies and sharing best practices to improve state-level cancer action plans and Medicaid programs, with the goal of advancing childhood cancer outcomes nationwide.

CAC2 participants (alphabetically):

- Jonathan Agin PREP4Gold	- Ann Graham MIB Agents	- Misha Mehta Neev Kolte & Brave Ronil Foundation
- Vickie Buenger Individual Member	- Mike Henry Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation	- Ann Ramer Individual Member
- Sarva Channarajurs Mithil Prasad Foundation	- Ali Hornung Glimmer of Hope Foundation	- Aubrey Reichard-Eline WITH Grace Initiative
- Dean Crowe Rally Foundation	- Leia Hunt Leia's Kids Foundation	- Lisa Ward Tough2gether Foundation (not pictured)
- Judy Fulmer Individual Member	- Bobbi Krabill Individual Member	- Steve Wosahla Children's Cancer Cause
- Autumn Gentry MACC Fund	- Kylee McGrane A Moment of Magic	



CAC2 members and childhood cancer advocates at the White House Roundtable on State Advocacy for Childhood Cancer, September 20, 2024



CureFest Welcome Reception and Awareness Celebration

SEPTEMBER 20, 2024

Co-Hosted by CAC2 and the Alliance for Childhood Cancer



On September 20, 2024, CAC2 and the Alliance for Childhood Cancer once again co-hosted one of the most anticipated events of the weekend, the **CureFest Welcome Reception and Awareness Celebration**. Nearly 150 attendees came together for an evening of energy, collaboration, and shared purpose.

The event brought together childhood cancer advocates, survivors, foundation leaders, clinicians, researchers, industry representatives, and government officials. Guests were inspired by remarks from Melissa Habedank of AstraZeneca, whose message encouraged unity and progress in the fight against childhood cancer.

Advocate Workshop: Your Unique Story Matters

SEPTEMBER 20, 2024

At the BrainStorm Summit 2024, CAC2 hosted the Advocate Workshop: Your Unique Story Matters, moderated by CAC2 Board Chair Ginny McLean and featuring a panel of passionate CAC2 advocates. This engaging session guided participants in transforming their personal experiences into compelling narratives that inspire action and influence policy.

The workshop provided attendees with practical communication tools to strengthen their advocacy and amplify their impact. This session reflected CAC2's ongoing commitment to empowering voices within the childhood cancer community through connection, education, and shared purpose.



CAC2 Board Chair Ginny McLean (*Gift from a Child*), CAC2 Board Member and State Advocacy Liaison Ann Ramer (*Individual Member*), CAC2 Member and Two-Time Cancer Survivor Leia Hunt (*Leia's Kids Foundation*), CAC2 Board Member Aubrey Reichard-Eline (*WITH Grace Initiative*), and Policy Advisor Bobbi Krabill (*Individual Member*).





CAC2 Sunrise Session at the BrainStorm Summit

SEPTEMBER 21, 2024

As part of our continued commitment to education and collaboration, CAC2 leadership hosted a Sunrise Session during the Summit to share insights into CAC2's mission and the work of its members across the pediatric cancer community.

Attendees learned about CAC2's efforts to advocate for families, support research, and strengthen partnerships that drive meaningful progress. The session provided an opportunity for connection and awareness-building among advocates, researchers, and organizational leaders.

Board Retreat: Philadelphia, PA

JANUARY 13-14, 2025

In 2025, The Children's Brain Tumor Network hosted the CAC2 Board at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia to reflect on the organization's progress and envision future opportunities to maximize impact, scale initiatives, and advance sustainability.

In its first engagement with the Riggs team, the Board collaborated with strategic planning expert Brian Riggs to identify CAC2's foundational elements and explore mechanisms to strengthen priority activities. Through a comprehensive assessment of CAC2's operations and infrastructure, governance, membership, and programs and resources, the Board articulated an aspirational future state and outlined the key actions required to achieve it.

On the second day of the retreat, the Board focused on developing a state-level advocacy strategy, introducing a state liaison model designed to drive collaboration and consistency across the country. The goal is to provide the necessary infrastructure to allow for more targeted outreach for federal initiatives, support state level advocacy prioritizing pediatric inclusion in state cancer plans, and ensure that our organizations assets that are included in the Childhood Cancer Hub are robust and up to date. This initiative will also provide well-defined opportunities for our members as they become future leaders.



The annual Board retreat continues to serve as a valuable opportunity for CAC2's fully volunteer leadership to connect, collaborate, and create greater synergy, efficiency, and scalability—strengthening CAC2's ability to support its member organizations and foster unity across the childhood cancer community.



CAC2 Annual Summit: Washington, D.C.

JUNE 15-17, 2025

The 2025 CAC2 Annual Summit brought together members, partners, and advocates from across the childhood cancer community for three days of collaboration, learning, and strategic planning in Washington, D.C.

The event featured a series of educational sessions, roundtable discussions, and networking opportunities designed to strengthen collective efforts and share best practices.

Highlights included presentations on organizational sustainability, research collaboration, advocacy strategies, and support resources for families. Attendees also engaged in interactive workshops aimed at enhancing communication, leadership, and partnership development within the childhood cancer ecosystem.

The Summit once again served as an invaluable space for members to learn from one another, explore new ideas, and reaffirm CAC2's shared commitment to improving outcomes for all impacted by childhood cancer.



KEYNOTE SESSION

The Role of AI in Childhood Cancer: From Diagnosis to Survivorship

ASHWINI DAVISON, MD, FACP, FAMIA
Chief Medical Informatics Officer (CMIO)-Oncology, AWS



The keynote speaker of the 2025 Annual CAC2 Summit, Dr. Davison explored how AI and cloud technologies are transforming the landscape of pediatric oncology from early detection to survivorship care. Her insights highlighted how Amazon Web Services' (The Welcome Reception Supporter) investment in childhood cancer research is breaking barriers, fostering collaboration, and accelerating the development of data sharing, novel therapies and tools that directly impact families and care teams. This keynote offered an inspiring vision for how technology and partnership can drive progress and hope in the fight against childhood cancer.

SUMMIT SPEAKER SESSIONS

JUNE 16, 2025

Summit Welcome

- Ginny McLean; Christa Kerkorian

The Role of AI in Childhood Cancer: From Diagnosis to Survivorship

- Ashwini Davison

State Level Leadership Initiative

- Ann Ramer MPH

Panel Discussion Uniting Voices: The Multi-Faceted Landscape of Childhood Cancer Advocacy

- Christa Kerkorian; Erica Olenski, BCPA, FACHDM; Matt Marks; Ann Ramer MPH

Innovating the Future: Pediatric Cancer Clinical Trials and Beyond

- Dr. Roger Packer; Dr. Aerang Kim; Catherine Bollard; Nicole Drezner

Medical Mis- and Dis-Information: Developing a Roadmap for Your Journey on the Health Information Superhighway

- Susannah E. Koontz, PharmD, BCOP, FHOPA; Nicole Lyons

JUNE 17, 2025

Business Meeting

Palliative Care Across the Cancer Continuum

- Jennifer Snaman

Unlocking the Potential of the Childhood Cancer Data Initiative (CCDI)

- Allison Heath; Jaime Guidry Auvil; Rachel Krieger

THANK YOU TO OUR SUMMIT SPONSORS!

Host Sponsor



Presenting Sponsor





PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Innovation Council

In 2024, CAC2 Leadership noted that as we have matured, we regularly receive a variety of requests to connect with our members. These requests vary greatly and might include:

- Dissemination of information
- A need for our members or a subset of our members to participate in an activity
- A call to action
- An invitation to make a purchase

The CAC2 Innovation Council debuted at the end of June 2024 to use our members' experiences and judgement to evaluate these opportunities and whether they might be valuable to our greater membership. It is an inclusive volunteer group within CAC2 formed to accomplish two things:

1. Solicit input about whether to present information about various opportunities to the CAC2 members, and if so, at what depth of presentation.
2. Give Innovation Council Members the chance to learn about, and if they choose, engage with the opportunities, regardless of whether CAC2 does or not.

Currently, 90 CAC2 members volunteer with the CAC2 Innovation Council. We are an open and welcoming group. Our group reviewed and made recommendations about nine opportunities during the last fiscal year (alphabetically):

1. **ArtVsCancer:** a public Facebook group where AI artists create free custom art for childhood cancer patients and other children with life threatening diseases.
2. **ARYA-2 Clinical Trial:** a Phase 1/2 clinical trial, evaluating ET140203 T Cells in pediatric patients with relapsed/refractory (r/r) Hepatoblastoma (HB), Hepatocellular Neoplasm-Not Otherwise Specified (HCN-NOS), or Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC).
3. **Cheerful Hearts:** a 30 minute per week virtual game playing session for kids battling cancer.
4. **EXTEND Study:** a study that seeks to identify caregiver-reported and AYA-reported barriers to and facilitators of clinical trial/research study enrollment and participation.
5. **Introduction to Pediatric Cancer & Mental Health training course:** a comprehensive program designed for providers, professionals, and support systems seeking to enhance their understanding of the intersection between pediatric cancer and mental health.
6. **Lions Club International:** a grant program designed specifically for Childhood Cancer projects available to Lions districts and multiple districts in amounts from US \$10,000 to US \$150,000. Projects must be implemented in coordination or collaboration with existing government or charitable childhood cancer medical facilities.
7. **My Dragonfly Friend:** a resource for families of children with cancer that is being used in children's hospitals.
8. **Social Genomic Mechanisms of Health Disparities among Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Survivors of Hodgkin and Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma:** a study that seeks to understand more about how the world that teen and young adult lymphoma survivors live in affects the outcomes of their cancer treatment.
9. **The Dot Method:** an interactive workbook to teach kids about cancer.



Impact Areas

CAC2 and its members touch every aspect of the childhood cancer space.

CAC2's five Impact Areas encourage our members to share best practices, collaborate, and take action in ways each could not on its own.

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Advocacy Drop-In Sessions

There was an Advocacy Drop-In Session in October 2024 to address key legislative updates and developments with particular emphasis on the status of must-pass legislation and possibilities related to funding for the STAR Act and other key programs that focus on pediatric and AYA programs. There was another Advocacy Drop-in Session in February 2025 to prepare for Action Days, to share information about pending legislation, and to give everyone a chance to ask questions.

Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act Sign-On Opportunities

There were two Sign-On Opportunities in support of Accelerating Kids's Access to Care Act, November 2024 and March 2025.

Community Call to Action Sign-On Opportunity

We also orchestrated a Community Call to Action Sign-On Opportunity in late December 2024 as a response to community disappointment when several pieces of childhood cancer legislation were withdrawn from the must-pass end-of-year legislative package.

We requested that "When the 119th Congress is seated and the new session convenes on Jan. 3, 2025, children with cancer must be the first order of business. Children with cancer have waited long enough—it's time to finish the job."

The bills that were cut:

- **The Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act**, which cuts bureaucratic red tape that keeps kids from accessing time-sensitive care across state lines
- **The Creating Hope Reauthorization Act**, which incentivizes critical pediatric research, but whose funding has expired due to congressional inaction
- **The Innovation in Pediatric Drugs Act**, to ensure pediatric studies for possible new treatments are completed on time—and brings us closer to cures
- **Give Kids A Chance Act**, which allows researchers to study combinations of new cancer drugs, potentially unlocking new cures for kids
- **The RARE Act**, which clarifies Congress' interpretation of the Orphan Drug Act to ensure pediatric drug research and development isn't locked out from newly approved drugs that don't impact pediatric populations.



Federal Advocacy Efforts

SEPTEMBER

CAC2 advocates headed to Washington DC for activities and opportunities associated with Curefest:

Brainstorm Summit

Organized by member organizations Tough2gether and Gift From a Child, CAC2 was one of the event sponsors (along with eight other member organizations) Many CAC2 members attended the conference and we saw four CAC2 members serve on a live-streamed panel that focused on ways to become involved in state level advocacy.



White House Roundtable

For the third year in a row, CAC2 worked with the Office of Science and Technology Policy to support a childhood cancer event at the White House. The format in 2024 was a Roundtable Discussion that included 33 participants. Of the 22 advocates, 16 were CAC2 Members. Of the eight invited speakers, three were CAC2 members.



Childhood Cancer Congressional Caucus

Many CAC2 advocates strengthen the relationships that we have with our members of Congress who are committed to supporting our legislative efforts. Gavin Lindberg of EVAN Foundation facilitated the 15th Annual Childhood Cancer Summit in the Rayburn Building with Representatives Michael McCaul, Mike Kelly, Cathy Castor and Ami Bera. Annette Leslie of the Carson Leslie Foundation hosted the Golden Toast, the annual reception with leaders of the childhood cancer caucus on a rooftop overlooking the White House.



OCTOBER

Advocacy Drop In Sessions

CAC2 organized a call in October of 2024 to address key legislative updates and developments with emphasis on must-pass legislation, funding related to the STAR Act and other key programs that focus on pediatric and AYA cancer.



NOVEMBER

Sign on Opportunity

In addition to supporting childhood cancer legislation directly with members on Capitol Hill, CAC2 advocates supported the Accelerating Kids Access to Care Act through a sign-on opportunity in November 2024. This legislation would address delays for Medicaid patients traveling outside of their state for treatment or clinical trials.



DECEMBER

Call to Action Sign-on Opportunity

As the year ended, CAC2 orchestrated a community Call to Action Sign-on Opportunity in response to disappointment with the withdrawal of several pieces of childhood cancer legislation from the must-pass end-of-year legislative package.

FEBRUARY

Childhood Cancer Prevention Symposium

Childhood Cancer Prevention Symposium was held in Houston and led by CAC2 member organization Prep4Gold. In addition to seven member organizations sponsoring the event, CAC2 members were also presenters, including two in the session on Policy, Resources, and Advocacy.

Action Days

Action Days was hosted and organized by the Alliance for Childhood Cancer. Every year, CAC2 supports the work of the Alliance as our members travel to lobby for legislation and funding that serves our community. In 2025, those efforts were bundled into the "Childhood Cancer Package" that included the Accelerating Kids Access to Care Act and the Give Kids a Chance Act of 2025.



MARCH

Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act Sign-On Opportunity #2

Second sign on opportunity for the Accelerating Kids Access to Care Act

State Advocacy Efforts

Throughout the year, CAC2 members have successfully advocated for state level research funding, establishing pediatric representation in state cancer plans and securing state policies that serve the childhood cancer communities.

To better support both state and federal advocacy efforts, CAC2 has developed infrastructure on the Bublup platform designed to inform and connect the advocacy community. The new platform was presented at the 2025 Summit in Washington DC and is available for both members and non-members.



Join the conversation and find out how you might help using the following QR code



2025 Webinars

CAC2 held a series of webinars in 2025 under its Connect & Learn / Webinars programming. These webinars have been a core part of CAC2's outreach, education, and stakeholder engagement efforts, bringing together researchers, clinicians, families, ethicists, advocates, policy professionals and industry experts. The goal has been to address a range of topics relevant to childhood cancer from scientific, ethical, regulatory, and patient-support perspectives.

Webinars have been conducted virtually and are open to members and the broader childhood cancer community. The topics are timely and reflect both ongoing challenges (such as survivorship, informed consent, and fertility) and emerging areas (like palliative care, equity, and patient experience).

FORMAT & DELIVERY

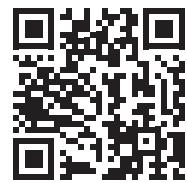
- All webinars are now virtual Zoom webinars, which provide a formalized and professional platform for delivery.
- They are typically scheduled for 60–75 minutes and timed at 12:00 PM ET to maximize accessibility across time zones.
- Promotion is conducted through CAC2's website, Community Events calendar, social media, and direct email outreach.
- Reminders being sent one week before the webinar

REACH & IMPACT

- CAC2's 2025 webinars attracted over 400 registrants in total, spanning parents, survivors, clinicians, researchers, nonprofit leaders and industry partners.
- Key issues like informed consent, survivorship, fertility, advocacy funding, AI in pediatric oncology, and palliative care resonated strongly with audiences.
- The growing attendance reflects CAC2's ability to respond to the evolving needs of the childhood cancer community, balancing scientific progress with family-centered care and policy advocacy.



**Watch CAC2 Webinars
on demand!**



2025 WEBINARS

Jan 20, 2025

N/A

Fit for Filing

Research & Treatment; Clinical Trials / Regulatory Filing | Explored how to design and conduct collaborative clinical trials (academic & industry) so that data produced can meet regulatory requirements.

April 21, 2025

115 Registrants

The Role of AI from Diagnosis to Treatment for Childhood Cancer

Technology & Innovation in Pediatric Oncology | Focused on how AI is being used across the care continuum—diagnosis, treatment decision-support, monitoring, etc.

April 30, 2025

131 Registrants

Patient Advocacy, Non-Profit Foundations, and the Changing Landscape of Pediatric Cancer Funding

Advocacy / Funding / Non-profit Sector | Featured a "pop-up" webinar with Dr. W. Kimryn Rathmell, exploring shifts in how pediatric cancer research and care are funded, and the evolving role of non-profits and advocacy.

May 19, 2025

86 Registrants

Fertility Hope for Childhood Cancer Survivors

Survivorship & Family Planning | Addressed fertility preservation and options for family building for survivors—an increasingly vital issue as survivorship grows.

June 5, 2025

37 Registrants

Beyond the Signature: Demystifying Informed Consent in Childhood Cancer

Ethics, Family-Centered Care, Clinical Trials | Panel of experts (clinician, ethicist, parent advocate) discussed how the informed consent process can be more than mere paperwork—making it meaningful, transparent, trustworthy, and family-centered.



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Childhood Cancer Survivorship Toolkit

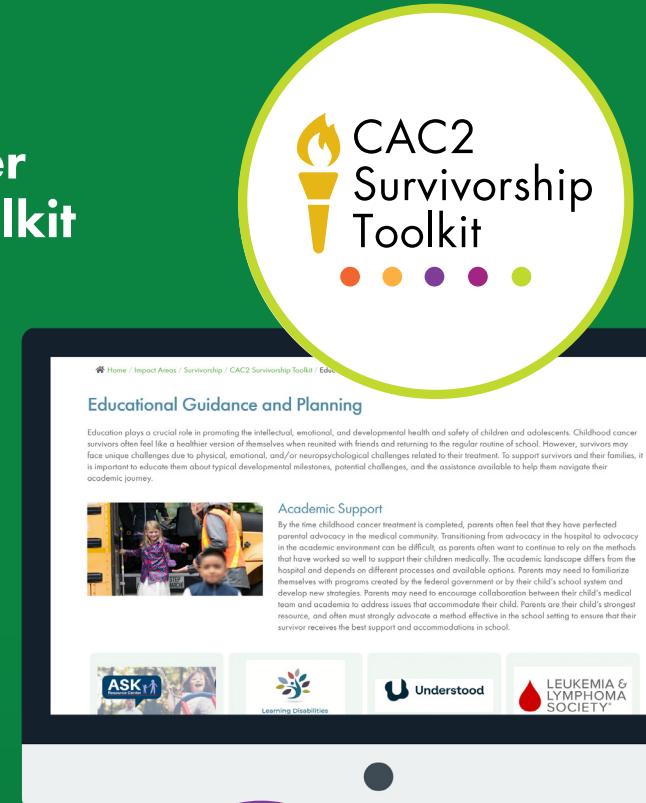
The CAC2 Survivorship Toolkit supports childhood cancer survivors and their families by providing educational resources to understand long-term effects and improve quality of life.

It is organized into six categories:

1. Educational Guidance and Planning
2. Insurance and Financial Health
3. Physical Health and Late Effects
4. Psychosocial and Emotional Health
5. Transitioning to Adulthood
6. Wellness and Healthy Behaviors

During FY 2024-2025, we continued to improve the efficacy of the Toolkit and added helpful, quality updates to enhance searches and usability. We also researched and compiled a robust list of additional resources, as well as original content created solely for the Toolkit, to address the challenges faced by childhood cancer survivors throughout all ages and stages.

Finally, we shared this resource at conferences and with survivors, parents/caregivers, siblings, other family members, and various professionals so that we could offer quality, applicable resources to satisfy their needs.



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Access
the
Survivorship
Toolkit
>



CELEBRATIONS AND AWARDS

Rookie-of-the-Year Volunteer Award

Joshua Omale

"It is a true joy to recognize Joshua Omale as CAC2's Rookie Volunteer of the Year. Joshua is a biochemistry and molecular biology student in Nigeria who joined CAC2 with a deep hunger to find meaning, to connect, and to contribute to something bigger than himself. I remember our first conversation—his passion and sincerity were immediately clear." — Ginny McLean, CAC2 Board Chair

From the moment he joined, Joshua has been a powerful force behind the scenes. He writes the beautiful social and blog posts for our Childhood Cancer Hub, helps Vickie Buenger with the weekly News Digest, and infuses every piece of content he touches with eloquence, purpose, and heart.

When our board surprised Joshua via Zoom with the news of this award, he was overcome with emotion. He shared just how much this recognition means. Joshua was \$1,000 short of continuing his education and research—this award is truly life-changing for him and his family. Because of it, his research will continue.

We celebrate not just what Joshua has done for CAC2, but the bright future he represents—for pediatric cancer advocacy, for medical innovation, and for global collaboration.

Congratulations, Joshua. We're so proud of you.



sponsored by



CELEBRATIONS AND AWARDS

2025 Bob Piniewski Volunteer-of-the-Year Award

Dr. Misha Mehta

"I remember meeting Misha and her beautiful family at their very first CAC2 Summit in Philadelphia. Even then, it was clear—Misha was someone special. She brought with her a quiet strength, a deep compassion, and a fierce commitment to making a difference." — Ginny McLean, CAC2 Board Chair

During her rookie year on the CAC2 Board, Misha has truly set a new standard. She has been instrumental in relaunching the organization's webinar series—bringing new energy, strategy, and excellence to the effort. Thanks to her leadership, CAC2 has hosted high-profile speakers who've drawn large, engaged audiences with timely topics and exceptional insight.

Misha has also served as co-lead for the Summit's educational programming, helping to shape the outstanding lineup of speakers. Many of the compelling voices CAC2 has hosted are there because Misha personally reached out, advocated, and made it happen.

But Misha's impact goes far beyond logistics or planning. She and her husband Sandeep carry with them the love and legacy of their son, Neev, who they lost to DIPG. Out of unimaginable loss, they have become powerful forces in the fight against this devastating disease. Misha brings her whole heart to this work—and to everything she touches.



sponsored by



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PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

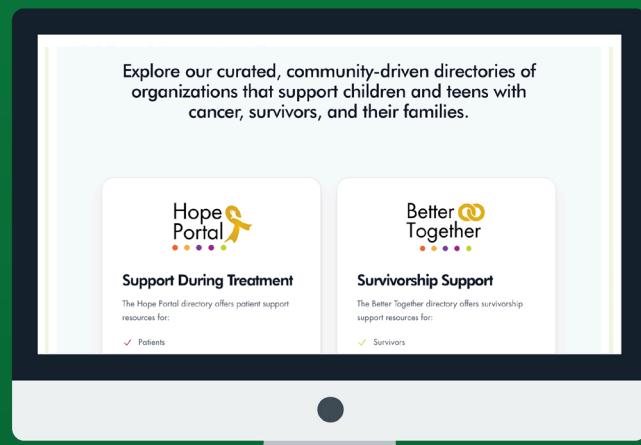
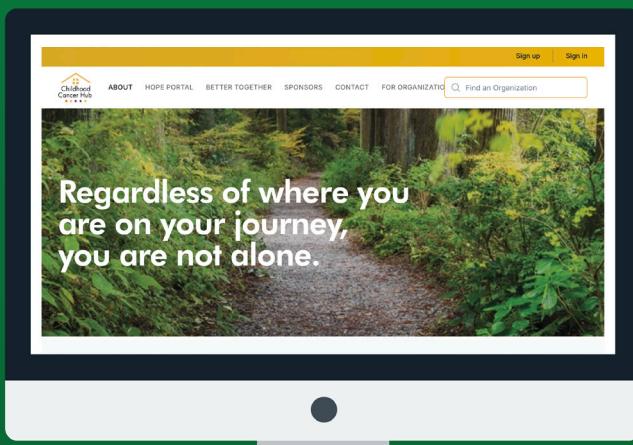
Childhood Cancer Hub

Now including the new Better Together directory and the updated Hope Portal directory!

CAC2 launched Better Together (BT), a new resource for survivorship support, on the recently redesigned Childhood Cancer Hub (CCH). This launch was conducted in collaboration with the Hope Portal (HP), a community-driven database of resources for children currently in treatment, which is now also housed within the new CCH. The CCH now features improved navigation and a more visually appealing website, resulting in a significantly enhanced user experience. These new resources and features aim to provide comprehensive support and information, making navigating a childhood cancer journey more manageable.

Together, BT and the HP connect patients, survivors, and their families with hundreds of vetted organizations nationwide, as well as several across the globe. These organizations offer a wide range of support, including financial assistance, medical travel, camps, special wishes, educational resources, and more. The CCH makes finding this support a breeze: users can filter listings based on the services they need, location, or diagnosis.

To support the launch of the CCH, our team implemented a comprehensive marketing strategy. Activities included search engine optimization (SEO), direct outreach to foundations, social media engagement, writing blog posts, attending events, presenting at conferences, and distributing promotional materials. This concerted effort successfully expanded the CCH's reach, resulting in a total of 648 unique listings—438 in the HP and 210 in the BT—including 148 newly claimed resources. We are proud of this achievement and the impact it will have on our community. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our project sponsors and partners for their support. Thank you, Day One Biopharmaceuticals, AstraZeneca, and The Neuroblastoma Children's Cancer Society. We could not have done this without you.



Membership

Over the past year, the Membership Team focused on strengthening and expanding the CAC2 community by connecting with current and new members, ensuring alignment with our mission, and fostering a diverse, engaged network.



We worked to make sure every voice within the coalition is heard, streamlining onboarding and communication while reinforcing CAC2's collaborative spirit. Important discussions around member eligibility and participation helped sustain a respectful, mission-driven environment. This year, we were proud to welcome 46 new members across 33 states.

In the year ahead, the Membership Committee will continue building a connected and inclusive community through proactive outreach, clearer communication about membership benefits, and enhanced engagement across all categories. We are exploring ways to improve onboarding and strengthen connections among both new and long-standing members, ensuring everyone feels informed, included, and empowered to contribute.

Membership in CAC2 represents more than affiliation, it's a commitment to collaboration, shared purpose, and collective impact. Together, our advocates, foundations, researchers, clinicians, and families amplify each other's efforts, share resources, and accelerate progress for children with cancer and their families.

Together, we are stronger and more effective than we could ever be alone.



See the full list of CAC2 Organizational Members



Report from the Treasurer



CAC2 ended its 12th fiscal year on June 30, 2025 (FY12) in a strong financial position to continue delivering its mission as described in these pages, thanks to:

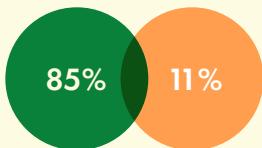
- 1 **Higher-than-average new memberships** (43 new members for the fiscal year versus an average of 35 new members per year);
- 2 **Consistent revenue base from membership renewals;**
- 3 **Ongoing generosity of our biopharma industry partners and childhood cancer organization members** to provide sponsorship support for the 2025 Annual Summit and our expanding portfolio of CAC2 deliverables to the childhood cancer community; and
- 4 **Continued disciplined expense management** by the Board of Directors.

New membership revenue is the most variable of revenue sources for CAC2, notably over-performing every 2-3 years versus the average due to additional larger childhood cancer organization and supporting organization members joining in one particular year.

CAC2's graduated dues scale is composed of 9 dues categories; the 5 highest ones are: \$600; \$1,000; \$1,800; \$3,600; and \$7,200. CAC2 welcomed the following new members in these dues categories: Children's Brain Tumor Foundation, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, LifeArc, Live Like Bella, Lucy's Love Bus, Servier, Syndax, The Medulloblastoma Initiative, and Yuvaan Tiwari Foundation.

In last year's Annual Report, I recommended that CAC2 undertake a formal assessment of the value CAC2 delivers for its membership and the community at large to ensure that membership dues are set commensurately with that value. That assessment will be completed in time for the next annual All-Member Webinar (March 2026).

FY12 BY THE NUMBERS



CAC2 spent 85% of its budgeted operating expense budget (\$294,297) and fell short of its revenue target (\$249,437) by 11%.



The new membership revenue target (\$13,000) was exceeded by 213%.



The membership renewals target (\$71,500) was missed by 5%.



The budgeted target for donations and grants (\$186,500) was missed by 25%.



The FY12 operating budget forecasted that CAC2 would spend \$21,626 more than it would take in from revenue sources; i.e., a negative net income variance (\$21,626). However, actual net income for the year was (\$7,855), resulting in a positive net income variance of \$13,767.

The CAC2 Annual Summit returned this year after a 1-year hiatus, hosted by Children's National Hospital in Washington, DC.

We had a record number of sponsors this year (16) along with four Sustaining Supporter donations (\$500+) and a Friends of CAC2 donation (\$250) in support of this year's Summit.

I invite you to read through the listing of CAC2 Sponsors, Sustaining Supporters, and Friends of CAC2 on pages 26–27 — and celebrate their generosity along with me.

As always, I'd like to thank my energetic and talented Finance & Development Team, who volunteer their time to ensure the financial sustainability of CAC2 year in and year out. Here's the team from this past fiscal year: Vickie Buenger, Jaime L. Howard, Jennifer Ivanovich, Kevin Kane, Tom Pilko, Cheryl Posavac, Matt Taylor, Amy Weinstein, and Steve Wosahla.

— Steven L. Pessagno

Treasurer, Coalition Against Childhood Cancer | treasurer@cac2.org



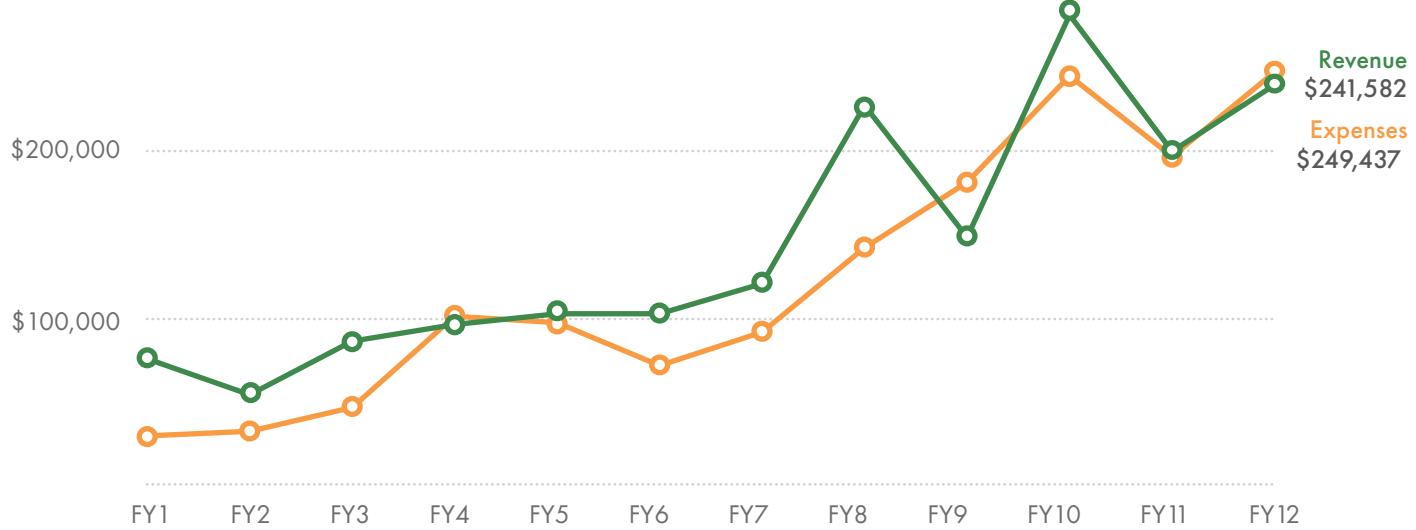
THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

Please refer to Pages 26-27 in this Annual Report for a listing of all the for-profit corporations, foundations, non-profit organizations, and individuals who provided donations and grants to CAC2 this year.

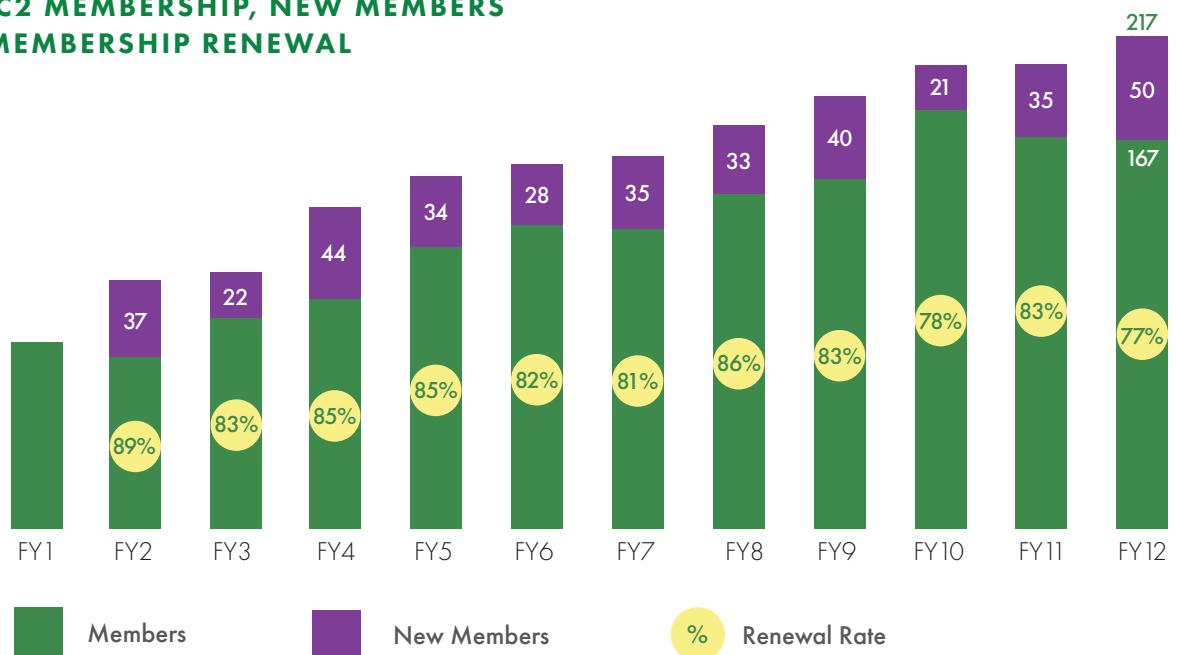
Our partners inspire CAC2 to aim higher, strive harder, and dream even bigger about what we can accomplish on behalf of children, adolescents, and their families who are impacted by pediatric cancers.

Report from the Treasurer

REVENUE AND EXPENSES OVER TIME



CAC2 MEMBERSHIP, NEW MEMBERS & MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL



CAC2 REVENUES: PERFORMANCE BY FISCAL YEAR



CAC2 EXPENSES: PERFORMANCE BY FISCAL YEAR



CAC2 Supporters

Volunteerism is at the heart of CAC2, defining its spirit and its unique ability to take collaborative ideas and turn them into real achievements. CAC2 relies on the generosity of for-profit corporations, foundations, non-profit organizations, and individuals to advance its mission. Such philanthropy is critical for enabling CAC2 to invest in new collaborative initiatives designed to deliver positive impacts for patients (children, adolescents, and young adults), survivors, and their families and caregivers well into the future.

CAC2 extends heartfelt gratitude to those who provided charitable support to CAC2 during our 2024-25 fiscal year.

Capability-Building Sponsors

UNITY SPONSOR

- AstraZeneca*

Catalyst Sponsors

BOB PINIEWSKI

VOLUNTEER-OF-THE-YEAR AWARD

- Andrew McDonough B+ Foundation*

CHILDHOOD CANCER FACT LIBRARY

- SebastianStrong Foundation*

CHILDHOOD CANCER HUB

- Day One Biopharmaceuticals*

ROOKIE-OF-THE-YEAR VOLUNTEER AWARD

- Andrew McDonough B+ Foundation*

SURVIVORSHIP TOOLKIT

- Servier*
- The Neuroblastoma Children's Cancer Society*



In-Kind Support

TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

- Altitude Webmasters

SURVIVORSHIP TOOLKIT

- Sobah Systems

CAC2 thanks those Sustaining Supporters and Friends of CAC2 who are highlighted in **bold** text for being multiple-year donors to CAC2.



2025 CAC2 Annual Summit

HOST SPONSOR

- Children's National Hospital

PRESENTING SPONSOR

- Day One Biopharmaceuticals*

EDUCATION PROGRAM SPONSORS

- Sanofi*
- The Morgan Adams Foundation*

TECHNOLOGY SPONSOR

- United Therapeutics*

TRANSPORTATION SPONSOR

- The Medulloblastoma Initiative*

WELCOME GATHERING SPONSOR

- Amazon Web Services

LUNCH SPONSORS

- Blood Cancer United
(formerly Leukemia & Lymphoma Society)*
- Y-mAbs Therapeutics*

BREAKFAST SPONSORS

- LifeArc*
- WITH Grace Initiative*

HOSPITALITY SPONSORS

- Austin Hatcher Foundation for Pediatric Cancer*
- Children's Brain Tumor Network
- Focused Ultrasound Foundation*
- Northwest Indiana Cancer Kids (NICK)
Foundation*
- Servier*
- Steven L. Pessagno*
- Syndax*

Sustaining Supporters of CAC2

Donations, grants, or gifts in kind of \$500+

- GlaxoSmithKline Foundation	- David Messina and Jabeen Yusuf	- Craig Singer and George Garmer
- Mariah Forster Olson*	- Morgan Stanley GIFT Fund	- Sun East Foundation
- Jaime L Howard	- Steven L Pessagno*	- Matt C Taylor*
- Deborah* and John Kochevar	- Joan and Tom Pilko*	
- Bobbi Krabill*		

Friends of CAC2

Donations, grants, or gifts in kind up to \$500

- Fran Andrews	- Robin French*	- Network for Good
- Christine Antis	- Kay Goodwin	- PayPal Giving Fund
- Jeremy Bliler*	- David & Becky Hancock	- Ann Ramer*
- Charles Brothman	- Jennifer Ivanovich*	- James and Nathanael Rosenheim
- Benevity Community Impact Fund	- Independence Blue Cross Foundation	- Derrick Stokes
- Margaret and Tim Chandler	- Susannah Koontz*	- John C and Jan B Taylor
- Nyree Faulkner	- Jon Lamie	- Kenneth A and Pegg J Telg
- Marylou Finch	- Lynn Leonard	- Dana Ross Ware
- Jane Finlay	- Jian Fung Loh	- Sonia Murad Webster
- Jennifer Flowers	- Katherine Luquette	- Vanguard Community Giving Fund
- Morel Francis	- Elise Morgan*	

*denotes a CAC2 member

Support Us

Supporters of CAC2 make a difference for the 47 children who are diagnosed every day with one of 12+ major childhood cancers, the tens of thousands of families who have a child currently in treatment, the families who have lost a child, and the hundreds of thousands of pediatric cancer survivors who experience lifelong, chronic health related issues.

3 Easy Ways to Support CAC2



SNAIL MAIL

Send a donation via check to: **Coalition Against Childhood Cancer**
c/o Chicago Association Management
400 E. Randolph Street, Suite 3115
Chicago IL 60601

Donate today!



ONLINE

Make a donation through our website: cac2.org/donate



Donate today!



PAYPAL

Make a donation via PayPal | Account Name: admin@cac2.org



Make a gift today to help us create a future without childhood cancers!



Join Us

CAC2 members hail from 40 different states and nine countries. They include individual advocates, survivors, health care professionals, childhood cancer organizations, corporations, and other non-profits supporting children with cancer and their families. They join CAC2 for a myriad of reasons, and many have experienced childhood cancer first- or second-hand.

Our members often express appreciation that CAC2 effectively advances a variety of childhood cancer causes by unifying the community and allowing them to learn from each other, collaborate effectively, and have a broader impact on the community. Join CAC2 and take advantage of the opportunities to establish strong relationships and participate in coordinated action and collaborations with other groups and individuals who advocate for children with cancer.

MEMBER BENEFITS

As a CAC2 member, you will have the opportunity to:

- Access member-only resources.
- Receive complimentary registration for the CAC2 Annual Summit and the Welcome Reception and Awareness Celebration (an affiliated CureFest event).
- Receive timely information about key childhood cancer efforts and opportunities.
- Meet like-minded partners, and cultivate strong relationships across the childhood cancer community.
- Coordinate information about opportunities with key partners and stakeholders.
- Collaborate with CAC2 members to address issues in the childhood cancer community that cannot be solved individually.
- Participate in and learn from coordinated action and collaborations that advocate for children with cancer.
- Serve in leadership roles through study groups, interest groups, board service, and annual events.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

– **Childhood Cancer Organizations**

For nonprofits whose primary mission is focused on childhood cancer.

– **Individuals**

For those (advocates, parents, survivors, doctors, healthcare professionals, scientists, etc.) not currently serving on the board or staff of either a childhood cancer organization or a supporting organization.

– **Supporting Organizations** (non-voting members)

For organizations that do not focus exclusively on childhood cancer but who wish to support CAC2's mission.

– **Student Members** (non-voting members)

For individuals currently enrolled in a school, college or university.



Help advance CAC2's mission against childhood cancers.
Visit members.cac2.org to join today!



Join us in working together today
for a future without childhood cancers.

cac2.org



CAC2
COALITION AGAINST
CHILDHOOD CANCER