# Hope for Miracles

## 4th Annual Report

Children's Neuroblastoma Cancer Research



#### HFM's Word of the Year

2023 will be our 5th year in existence! Over these last 5 years, Karson has chosen each and every word; and he does it in the blink of an eye. He always amazes me. As I am sitting here, I remind Karson of our previous 4 words: Heal, Faith, Thankful & Happiness. He immediately replies, "This year is Hopeful, done!". And as always, it is fitting.

This year we are hopeful... Hopeful for a year filled with good health, with love, with opportunities for growth, with breakthroughs in research for childhood cancer. ~ So much to be hopeful for.

The word hopeful, it reminds me of my favorite Bible quote ~ the one that always gives me hope, even in times of trial: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." ~ Jeremiah 29:11

"To every thing there is a season" ~ Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.
2019 was a time to Heal; 2020 was a time for Faith;
2021 was a time to be Thankful; 2022 was a time for Happiness; and
2023 is a time to be Hopeful.



March 2023



## **Board of Directors**

Holly LaBombard
Founder/CEO

Cole Hull
Founder/Co-Vice President

Nina Roumpf & Donna LaFountain Co-Vice Presidents

> Stacy LaChappelle Secretary

> > Rebecca Lacey
> > Treasurer

Roger Roumpf Advisor

Farrah Whitney
Director

Tracy Graves
Director

Kelly LaBombard
Director



# A Message from our Founder / CEO

It is extremely hard to follow our last report. Sending our first \$100,000 check to Memorial Sloan Kettering to fund our first trial is not easy to beat. Over our first three years we worked through some pretty tough times to secure such funding. Between funds raised last year and what was left in our coffers, we are starting our fifth year off with just over \$51,000! We are hopeful that by the end of this year we will be sending our second \$100,000 off to fund further research for lifesaving trials and cures. But we can't do it without you!!!

Please remember, every year since our inception, 99% of funds raised through HFM have gone straight to Neuroblastoma research. I'm proud to tell you that we have been able to do the same again this year. We were told by many that this was unheard of and couldn't be done. Yet here we are, ensuring our operating costs are below 1%! ~ Not many (if any) nonprofits can say the same!

I am incredibly proud to lead a team of dedicated volunteers who give so much of their time and effort to helping sick children and families. None of this could be done without them. I am honored to share that we have two new members who have gifted us with their time and expertise. Welcome Rebecca Lacey and Tracy Graves.

To all of you out there that support Hope for Miracles in any way, from the bottom of my heart, Thank You! Each and every one of you have blessed not only our family, but every family touched by neuroblastoma and other solid type cancers. Together, we ARE making a difference. God bless.



Holly LaBombard Founder / CEO Hope for Miracles

#### A Message from Memorial Sloan Kettering

You already know that no one works harder for patients than the people at MSK Kids—and this will never change. In fact, with Hopefor Miracles, Inc. in our corner, we will continue to advance how we diagnose and treat kids with cancer at a rapid pace.

MSK Kids, Memorial Sloan Kettering's pediatric program, is dedicated to all children, young adults, and families facing childhood cancer. With specialized expertise and care focused on the individual child, we're proud to say that more families turn to us for cancer care than any other hospital in the United States. And as pioneers in research, no one fights harder than our physicians and scientists to develop and deliver more effective strategies to prevent, treat, and ultimately cure childhood cancer—for our patients at MSK Kids, and for those everywhere.

Thank you for choosing Memorial Sloan Kettering as one of your beneficiaries – we are so grateful.



GIVING

"Myself, and the Neuroblastoma team at MSK Kids are deeply grateful to Hope for Miracles for inspiring philanthropy amongst their community and choosing us as the beneficiary of their support. This gift will allow us to research the latest treatments to help kids with cancer live longer, healthier, and happier lives."

~Stephen S. Roberts, MD Pediatric Hematologic Oncologist

## A Break Down - What do the Numbers Mean?

In 2022, we raised just over \$30,000. Here is the breakdown.

1. Our events are where the majority of funds raised came from with just under \$20,000 - 66% of total funds raised. Our Gala raised just under \$17,000 after our costs were deducted from our Sponsors. Our Annual Summer Fling at 20 Main raised just under \$3,000

Last year we held three Logger Shows ~ Wilmington and Ellenburg, NY as well as Royalton, VT ~ in which we raised a total of \$23,500. We look forward to bringing Rusty the Logger back this year to get our event totals up a bit higher. We also are excited to add two new events - a Hoedown at the Rainbow Banquet Hall and a Family Fun Day at the Fish & Game Club in Elizabethtown.

- 2. Apparel Sales were just over \$4,100 14% of total funds raised.
- 3. General Donations and Facebook Fundraisers raised just under \$4,00 at 11% of funds raised:

\*This year our Facebook Fundraisers dropped dramatically; our total raised this year was \$1,480. Last year, Facebook Fundraisers raised \$6,500 – 15% of total funds raised. These fundraisers are donations made through our Facebook posts, general donations through our Facebook page or doing a Facebook Birthday Fundraiser for HFM. Anyone with a Facebook account can create a fundraiser for their birthday and choose Hope for Miracles as their recipient. **As you can see, when you remember to choose us for your fundraising efforts, it really makes a difference. Please remember us in the future – and know that 99% of those funds raised will go directly to research**. Going forward, we feel that even more growth is possible in the future by utilizing this valuable tool. Continuing to fundraise via Facebook will be crucial to meeting our fundraising goals.

\*General Donations raised \$1,979.66. General donations are donations sent by mail or through Donorbox, our online donation platform.





# 3rd Annual Gala of Miracles Celebrating Karson

During our Gala, our Board of Directors honored Karson by presenting him with an acrostic poem that encompasses how they see him. There wasn't a dry eye and he was more than deserving of being the Man of Honor.



# What's Coming Up in 2023?

#### Save the Date

- **1st Annual Hoedown** at the Rainbow Banquet Hall on July 22nd
- End of Summer Fling at 20 Main in Au Sable on August 12th
- 1st Annual Family Fun Day at the Fish & Game Club in Elizabethtown on August 26th
- 4th Annual Gala Of Miracles at the Whiteface Club & Resort on November 4th
- Rusty the Logger Mac Truck Tour TBD

#### How Can You Help This Year?

It's as easy as sharing our posts, events and messages. Invite your Facebook friends to like HFM and remember us for your Facebook Birthday

Fundraisers.

If you are interested in sponsorships, donating an item or service, making a cash donation, or in purchasing tickets for any of this year's events, please reach out to us. If you know of someone else who might be, please share!

### Want Your Own HFM Swag?

We have many HFM items available for purchase: short-sleeved shirts, long-sleeved shirts, sweatshirts, baseball caps and beanies. Reach out for pricing; we are happy to meet to deliver or to ship.



#### **Our Mission**

Hope for Miracles is a non- profit organization bringing hope to families of children with Neuroblastoma and other cancers, by funding research for life saving trials and cures.

#### **Our Vision**

Hope for Miracles envisions a world where no family ever has to witness a child suffer from Cancer.

# Together, We CAN Make Miracles Happen!

From our family to yours, we wish you all the best of health and happiness in 2023.

With Love and Gratitude,

#### Karson Hull

Neuroblastoma Warrior, Hope for Miracles Poster Child & Hero Extraordinaire

#### Holly LaBombard

Founder, CEO & Proud Mother of a Neuroblastoma Warrior



## Hope for Miracles, Inc.

Jay, NY

Website: <u>hopeformiracles.org</u> Facebook: <u>facebook.com/hopeformiracles.org</u>

Instagram: <u>instagram.com/bopeformiracles1</u>

Linkedin:

<u>Iinkedin.com/company/bope-for-miracles/</u> **Twitter:** <u>twitter.com/HopeforMiracle1</u> **EMail:** info@HopeforMiracles.org **Phone:** (518) 572-0695

Hope for Miracles, Inc. is a 501(c)3 public charity; your donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law and can be found on the IRS Tax Exempt Organization here. Hope for Miracles, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation duly incorporated under the laws of the State of New York and can be found on the NYS Charities Bureau <u>bere</u>.



"Small things done with great love will change the world."

~ Mother Teresa