

2022
Annual Report

IMPACT
LIFE
GIVE
HOPE



Braden's
HOPE
for Childhood Cancer
www.bradenshope.org



OUR VISION is to deliver hope to children and families fighting cancer.

OUR MISSION is to raise awareness and funds for research studies of targeted therapies that shut down the activators of childhood cancers.

IT ALL BEGAN WITH BRADEN'S STORY

Braden Hofen was diagnosed with stage IV Neuroblastoma at three-years-old. Neuroblastoma is a solid mass tumor often found in the adrenal glands. Braden had extensive surgeries, round after round of high-dose chemotherapy, radiation, a bone marrow transplant and countless other treatments.

Braden's Neuroblastoma relapsed when he was 5 years old and his family was told there was "no known cure" for relapsed Neuroblastoma. His survival odds fell to less than 10%. Unbelievably, Braden's mom, Deliece, was diagnosed with stage II Breast Cancer shortly after Braden's relapse. Mother and son were now fighting cancer together.

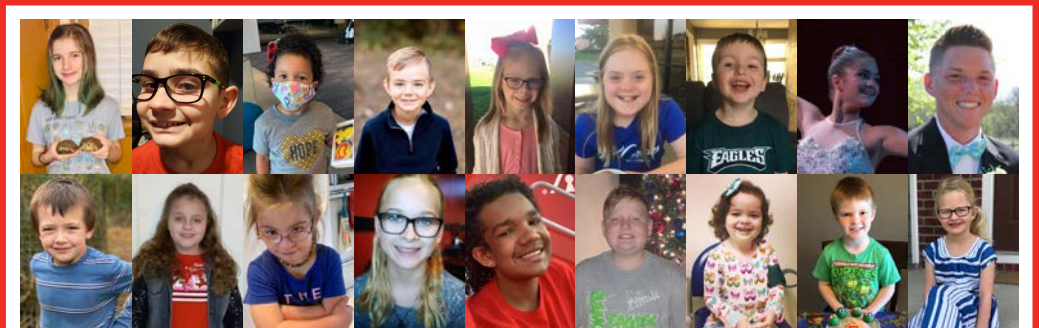
Because there was "no known cure" for Braden's cancer, Doctors ordered empirical treatments with unknown results. Despite the odds, Braden's doctors found no evidence of disease. Braden and Deliece were in remission until 2013. Braden was 8 years old and would face yet another deadly disease: a secondary form of Leukemia caused by the treatments designed to save his life from his Neuroblastoma. Doctors told the family they had never seen a child survive this form of Leukemia after relapsed Neuroblastoma. But, Braden embodies hope and he had proven them wrong before! Braden's only option for a cure was a bone marrow transplant. Braden's bother Zach, 10 years old at the time, was a perfect match. In true form, Braden survived and continues defying the odds today and remains in remission from both of his cancers.

So Many Children Have a Similar Story...

Every day 47 children are diagnosed with cancer.

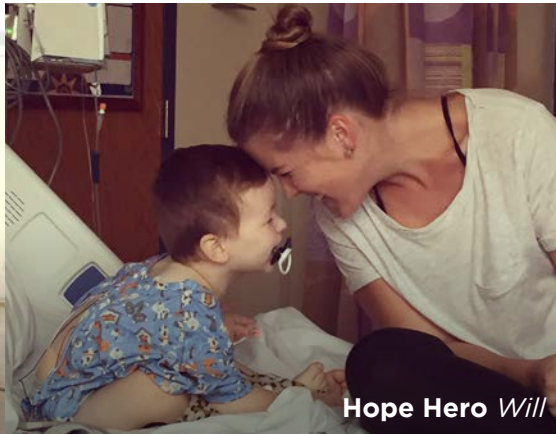
Every day a family has to hear the words,

'No Known Cure.'



IMPACT OF HOPE

We choose to focus on **HOPE**, to lead the charge in pediatric cancer research and find safer treatment options and cures for all children.



1
Pilot Trial
at CMRI
(Currently recruiting
pediatric patients)

3
Groundbreaking
research projects

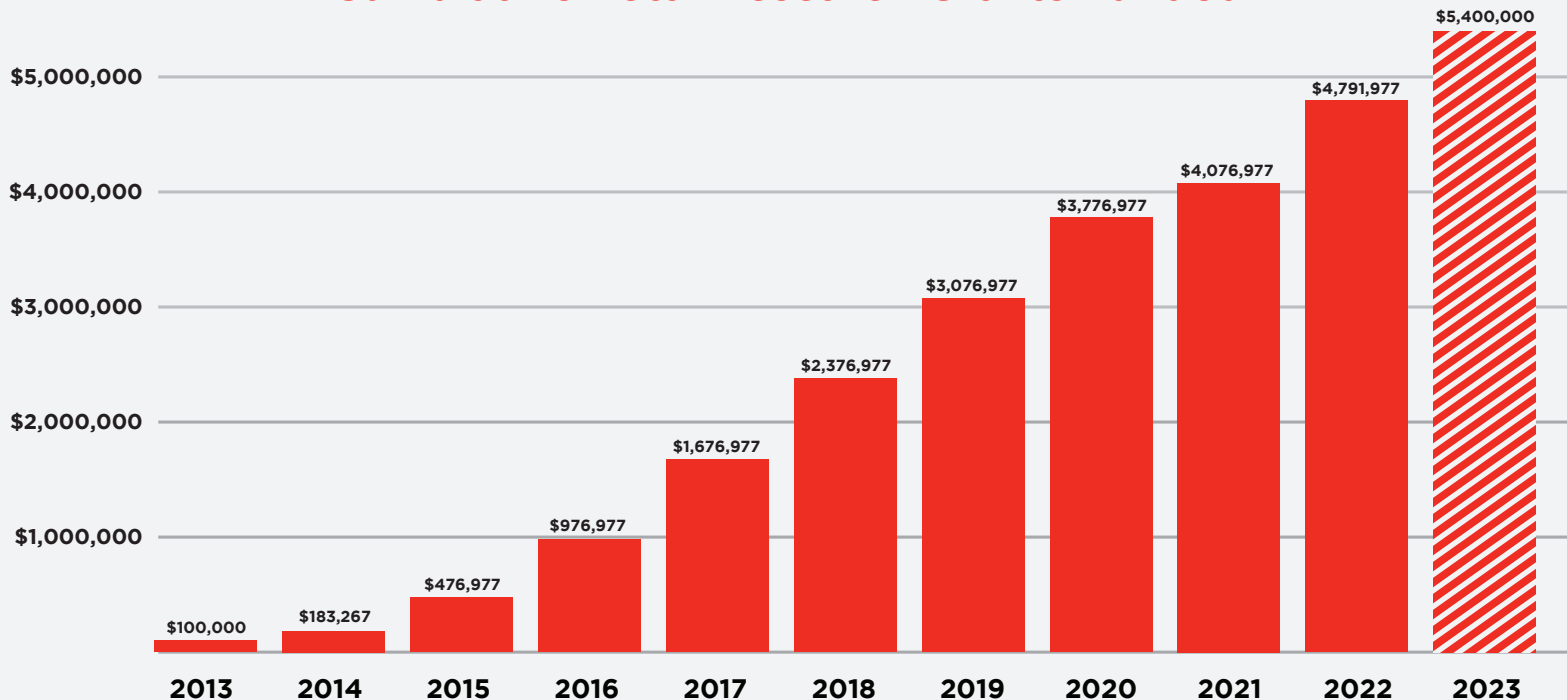
16
Participating
institutions

21
Major
findings

38
Researchers

46
Presentations
& publications

Cumulative Total Research Grants Funded



Braden's Hope supports primary research in a collaboration between these institutions:



THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
CANCER CENTER

RESEARCH IS HOPE!



Midhat Farooqi, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, Molecular Oncology
Children's Mercy Genome Center

Targeting solid tumors with multi-antigen specific T cells by identifying the genetic and epigenetic determinants of therapeutic response

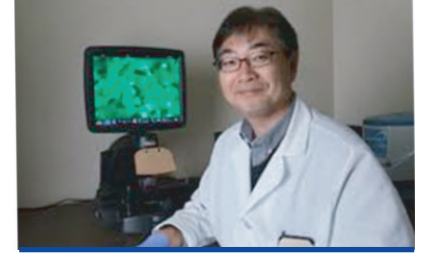
T cells, a type of immune cell, circulate in our bodies and scan for microbes as well as abnormal cells. In the laboratory, exposing T cells to small fragments of proteins ("antigens") expressed on the surface of tumor cells trains these T cells to recognize cancer cells and eradicate them. This finding led to the recent development of 'multi-antigen specific T cells' (MAS T cells), a safe and novel form of targeted therapy for a range of pediatric solid tumors including neuroblastoma, Ewing Sarcoma and Wilms tumor. Dr. Farooqi's team seeks to understand whether a tumor's genetic profile affects its response to MAS T cell infusion. With funding from Braden's Hope, his team is performing comprehensive genetic sequencing of patient tumor samples pre- and post-therapy. The project involves patients and tumor samples from Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C.; Children's Health in Dallas, Texas, and Cook Children's in Fort Worth, Texas, with plans in the near future to include samples from the Instituto Nacional de Pediatria in Mexico City, Mexico.



John M. Perry, Ph.D.
Research Faculty, Children's Mercy
Research Institute
Hematology/Oncology/BMT

Overcoming therapeutic resistance by repurposing a classic chemotherapeutic drug as a targeted therapy to reactivate anti-cancer immunity

Our immune systems normally recognize potentially cancerous cells early enough to prevent tumor development. However, cancer stem cells, which are resistant to most therapies and cause cancer relapse, are especially good at evading and resisting the immune system. Dr. Perry's team found that a long-used chemotherapy drug, doxorubicin, could be used in a more targeted manner to stimulate the immune system and replenish normal stem cells, while inhibiting cancer stem cell's immune evasion. Dr. Perry is now focused on developing a new drug, with similar properties as doxorubicin but with more potent and specific effects. With support from Braden's Hope, Dr. Perry's long-term goal is to eliminate cancer stem cells and provoke an immune response that will effectively vaccinate patients against relapse.



Tomoo Iwakuma, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, Translational Laboratory
Oncology Research Program, Children's
Research Institute
Volunteer faculty of Department of
Cancer Biology, KUMC
Co-leader of Cancer Biology Program,
KU Cancer Center

Capitalizing on p53 loss/ mutations in osteosarcoma by novel compounds

Dr. Iwakuma's team has identified a new compound that kills only cancer cells lacking a key cancer-preventive protein called "tumor suppressor p53." Since over 50% of human cancers and specifically about 80% of osteosarcoma cases lose the p53 activity, and because normal tissues have intact p53 activity, Dr. Iwakuma's compound has the potential to only kill cancer cells with minimal side effects to healthy cells. With support from Braden's Hope, Dr. Iwakuma's team recently discovered that this compound also blocks one of the key DNA damage repair machineries in cells that lose p53 activity and inhibits osteosarcoma tumor growth in mouse models. The team is modifying the chemical structure of this compound so that it can be suited for clinical use in pediatric patients. Dr. Iwakuma is quick to point out that without Braden's Hope, his research would not have progressed as far as it has in less than three years.

SIGNATURE EVENTS



11th Annual HOPE Gala

The Hope Gala is our premier fundraising event each year which brings our community together to celebrate HOPE. It's an inspiring evening with our childhood cancer heroes and greatest supporters highlighting our continued impact on childhood cancer and raising money to fund much needed research.

Our friends at JE Dunn believe in the power of HOPE. They committed to an outstanding level of support as our presenting sponsor to lead the charge in giving hope to all children who fight cancer.

Thank you to our Presenting Sponsor:



6th Annual Callyn's Course for HOPE

We celebrated 6 years on the course and hosted another sold-out event. The golf tournament is one of our signature HOPE events, named after Hope Hero, Callyn. The event continues to grow each year and these sponsors and participants make raising funds for pediatric cancer research, a whole lot of fun!

In addition to supporting the golf tournament each year, these sponsors go above and beyond to raise additional funds outside of this event. KBP Foods hosted an area coupon book program at local Kentucky Fried Chicken locations and donated \$20,000 to match our year-end donors! This is HOPE!

Thank you to our returning Presenting Sponsors:



COMMUNITY EVENTS



Jersey Mike's Day of Giving

Jersey Mike's is a special community partner of Braden's Hope. They host the Annual Day of Giving each year in March and select a charity to benefit from the proceeds of the day. In 2022, Jersey Mike's locations nationwide supported a single cause to help send athletes to the Special Olympics. However, the Jersey Mike's team still donated \$50,000 to Braden's Hope in lieu of the Day of Giving! We are back in full force in 2023 so get ready!

Braden's HOPE Home Tour

One of our most favorite events of the year because our community partners always go above and beyond for Braden's Hope! Rodrock Homes, Cami Jones Collaborative, the amazing Gillis family, countless volunteers and a generous community toured a beautiful custom build in Summerwood Estates to bring HOPE to children fighting cancer.



HOPE on the Hill



HOPE
on the HILL

HOPE was on the move! It was a fun day for families to race to make a difference. Hundreds of runners, walkers and volunteers of all ages came together to take a stand against childhood cancer during Childhood Cancer Awareness month.

Thank you to our returning Presenting Sponsor, Blue KC for their continued support each year.



Kansas City

Kansas City Royals

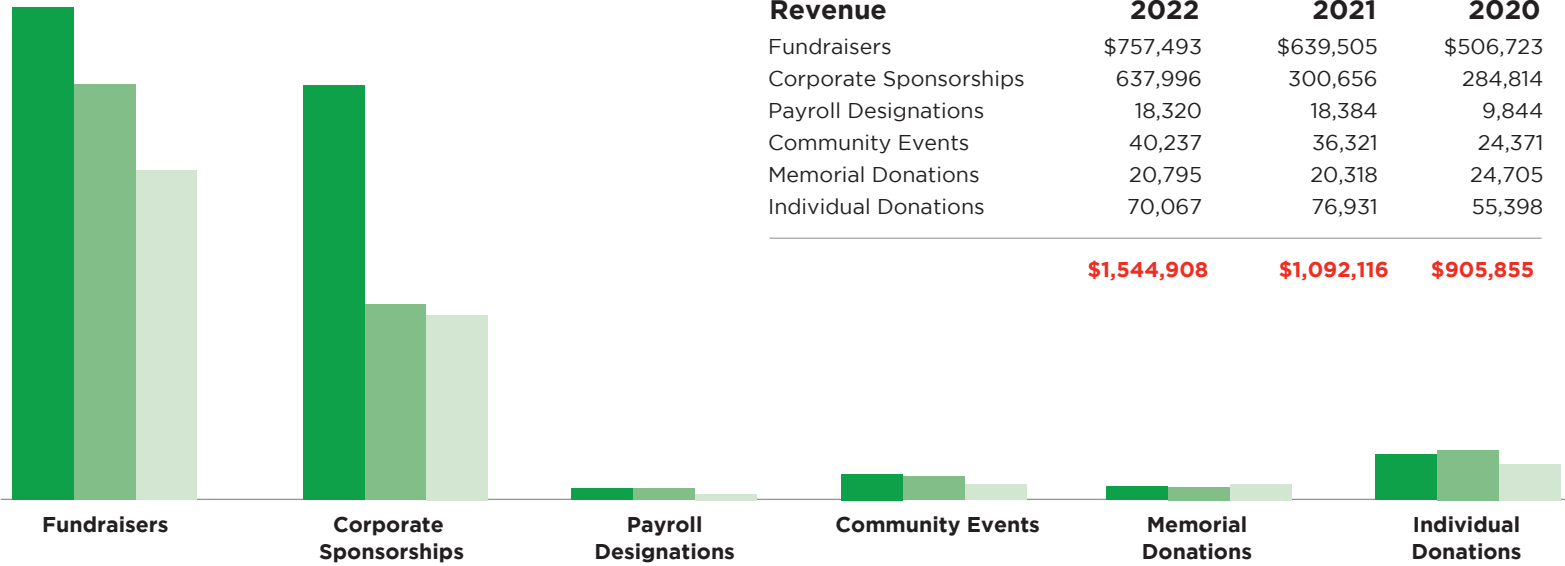
The Kansas City Royals and Royals Charities have hearts of gold! They dedicated an entire evening to shine light on childhood cancer and the need for research. They honored children fighting cancer by turning Kauffman Stadium gold while everyone in attendance, including players and coaches held signs to honor those children and families that have fought or are fighting cancer. In was an inspiring evening full of HOPE!



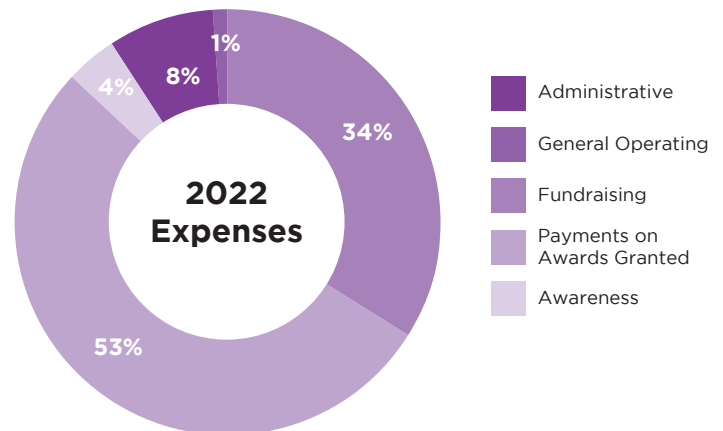
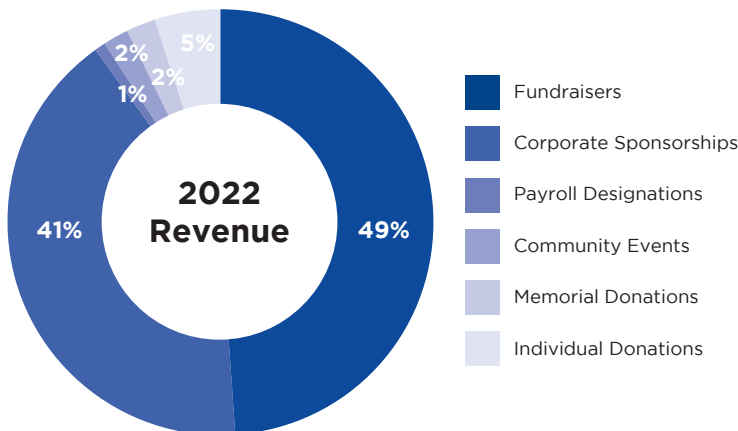
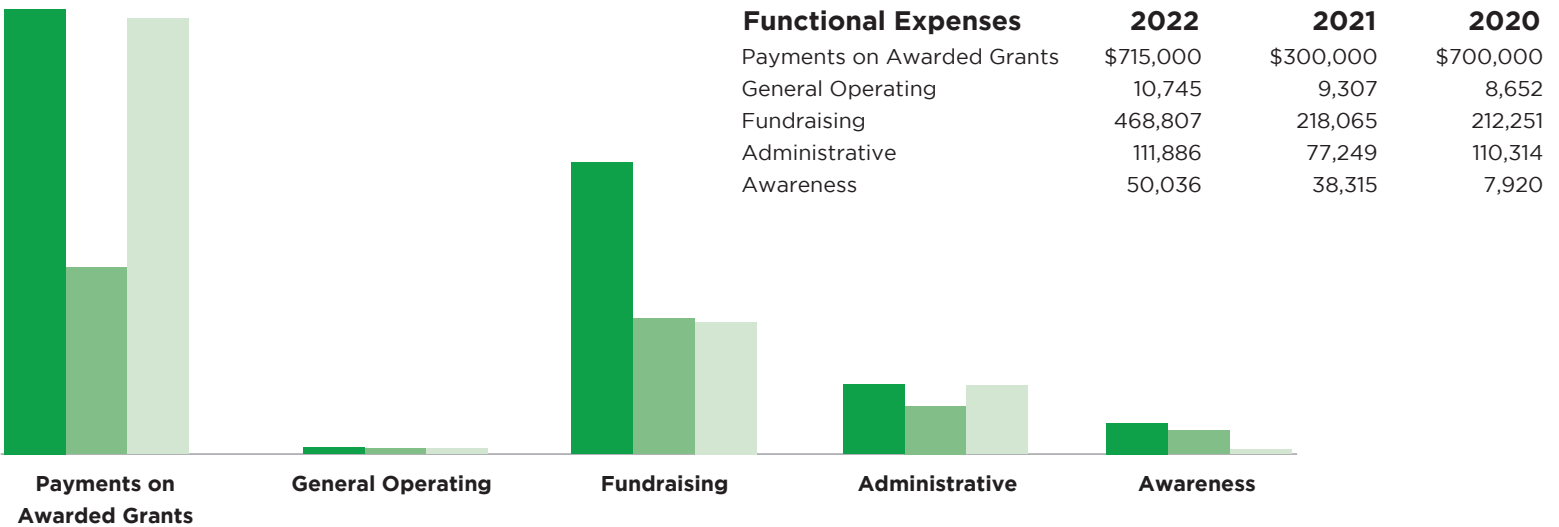
FINANCIALS

Revenue & Expenses

Revenue



Functional Expenses



BOARD MEMBERS Delivering HOPE

Executive Board Members

Stacy Albin, Secretary
Andrea Bennett
Austin Bradley
Dave Flickinger, Chairman
Rob Gorman

Deliece Hofen
Brian Hofen
Steve Linder
Mike Loritz
Bryan McGowan

Rob Rogers, Vice-Chairman
Kim Stanley
April Wasleski, Treasurer
Keith White

Advisory Board Members

Nichole Asquith
Robin Broder
Laura Buckman
Phillip Charlton
Jennifer Claar
Brian Dolezal
Laura Dolezal
Angie Ebright
Mikel Flickinger
John Fuller

Amy Gregory
Brian Gregory
Amanda Grosdidier
Charlie Hill
Stephanie Ingelhardt
Jessica Lilja
Mallory McCandless
Jill Meyer
Laurie Minard
Barry Nelson

Tom Oltjen
Jim Ondick
Laura Read
Allie Sanchez
Jennifer Utting
Lindsay Weiss
Lori Werth
Jordan Wilcosky
Ellen Wood

Braden's Hope Young Professionals Advisory Board

Bill Cross
Abby Curry
Kory Kirkegaard
Steve Lotz

Mackenzie McDonald
Will Miller
Hanna Nelson
Mackenzie Randall

Madeline Sheffield
Blake Straatmann
Blayr Studer
Brandi Thomas





Hope Hero *Quinten*



Hope Hero *Ella*



Hope Hero *Easton*



Hope Hero *Matthew*



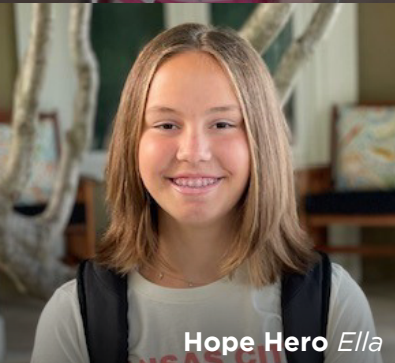
Hope Hero *Adrienne*



Because NO family should ever have to face the words, "NO KNOWN CURE"



Hope Hero *Ellie*



Hope Hero *Ella*



Hope Hero *Trevor*



Hope Hero *Karis*



Hope Hero *Garrett*



Hope Hero *Tripp*



Hope Hero *Owen*



Hope Hero *Ally*



Hope Hero *Addison*

Deliece Hofen, President
Kim Stanley, Executive Director



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