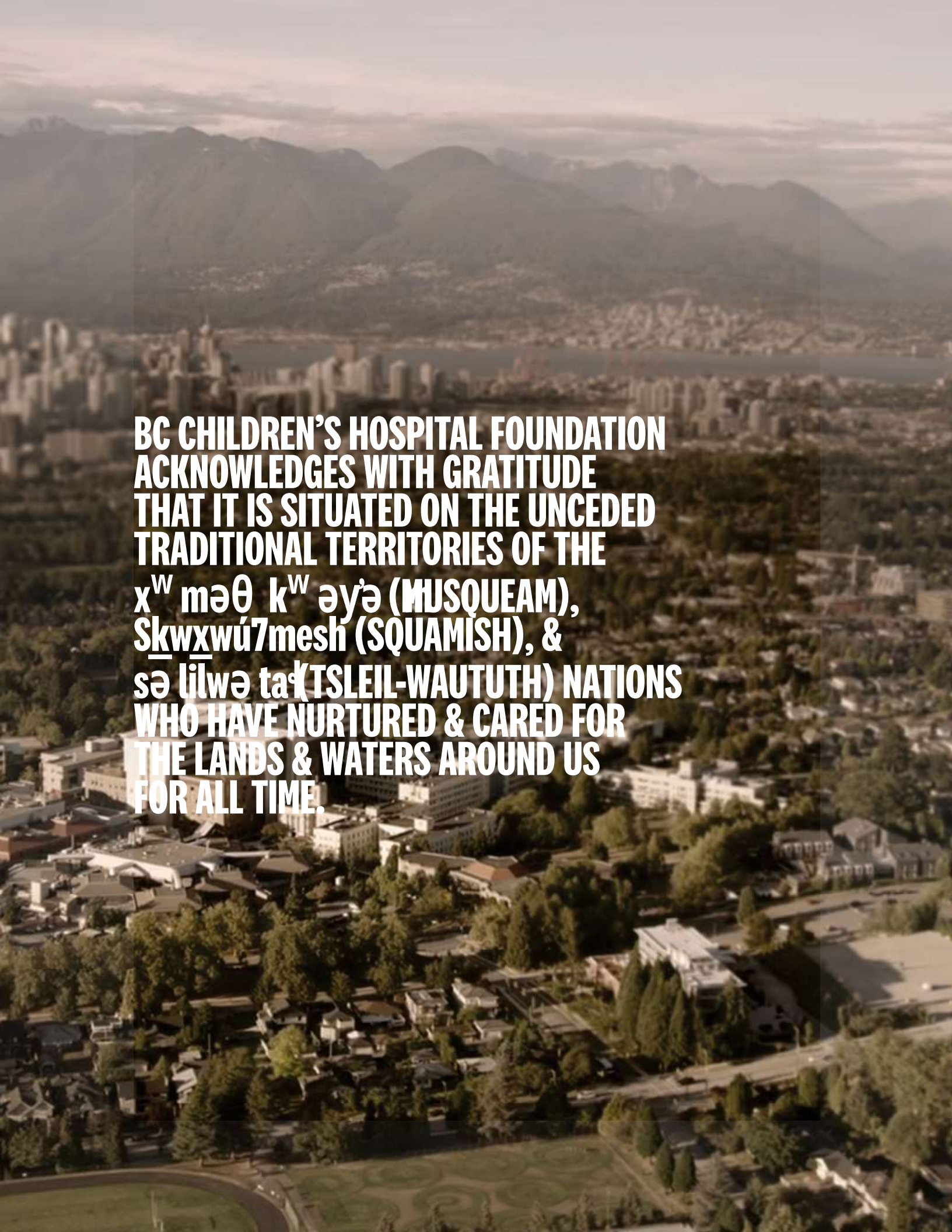


MIGHTY STRIDES START WITH YOU

presented to
BALDING FOR DOLLARS





**BC CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOUNDATION
ACKNOWLEDGES WITH GRATITUDE
THAT IT IS SITUATED ON THE UNCEDED
TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE
x^w məθ k^w əy'ə (MUSQUEAM),
Skwxwú7mesh (SQUAMISH), &
sə lilwə taʔ (TSLEIL-WAUTUTH) NATIONS
WHO HAVE NURTURED & CARED FOR
THE LANDS & WATERS AROUND US
FOR ALL TIME.**

WITH GRATITUDE

On behalf of every child and family who is living with cancer and receiving care at BC Children's, thank you.

Balding for Dollars shows what is possible when people come together for a common cause. Your generosity and commitment is helping give kids with cancers opportunities for much-needed fun and friendship. By supporting Teen Adventures, Patient and Family Practical Support, and research into more effective treatments, your help is making a difference.

Whether it was in backyards or kitchens and over Zoom in 2021, or through the in-person Main Event in 2022, people from across BC have been shaving their hair and giving together in support of Balding for Dollars. We're very happy to share highlights from the events in 2021 and 2022, inspiring stories from the Balding for Dollars community, and some of the life-changing initiatives Balding for Dollars makes possible.

2021



EVENT-IN-A-BOX

The restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic did not stop the Balding for Dollars community in their fundraising efforts. In 2021, the team decided if people couldn't come to a party, they would bring the party to them. Sending out 25 curated boxes, filled with t-shirts, balloons, mini banners, and popcorn, the team brought the fun and celebration of Balding for Dollars events into people's homes. Through the creativity of people in their homes, and the generosity of people across BC, more than \$40,000 was raised. Thank you!

Balding for Dollars also held a virtual auction & 50/50 draw which raised over \$11,000 for a total of more than \$51,000.



“We are so grateful for the support during what can be a difficult time physically and financially for so many. From those who donated prizes, to those who made bids, and of course the many event-in-a-box head shave and haircut participants, thank you!”

**– MARISSA DUNBAR, ADMINISTRATOR,
BALDING FOR DOLLARS**

BY THE NUMBERS

2022 BC CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL ONCOLOGY STATS

40

BONE MARROW & STEM CELL
TRANSPLANTS

150

NEW DIAGNOSES

7,200

CHEMOTHERAPY &
IMMUNOTHERAPY INFUSIONS

11,000

OUTPATIENT VISITS

2022

Return of the in-person main event!

After two years of virtual events, Balding for Dollars was able to host its much-missed Main Event in-person. Held at Congregation Beth Israel, a synagogue in Vancouver, the event was filled with music, head shaves, games and food, and raised more than \$82,000.

“It was amazing to see how people showed up for these events, and the difference they can make. A child can feel different, even powerless, when they lose their hair, so when they can see someone else stand up, get up on stage, and shave their head in solidarity, the effect can be extraordinary.”

– MARISSA DUNBAR, ADMINISTRATOR, BALDING FOR DOLLARS

“I remember one year, a little girl came up to us holding out her piggy bank. She wanted all the money she had saved to help kids with cancers. The contents of that piggy bank was all the money she had in the world. We made a huge celebration of how special it was and how kind she was in giving to us. At Balding for Dollars, every donor is important, because the smallest donation can mean the world to the person giving and to the kids that the money will help.”

**– SUZANNE DUNBAR, PATIENT/ PARENT ADVOCATE,
ONCOLOGY, HEMATOLOGY & BLOOD AND MARROW
TRANSPLANT, BC CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**



**JOYFUL AND GENEROUS MOMENTS AT THE
2022 BALDING FOR DOLLARS MAIN EVENT.**

A MIGHTY COMMUNITY

Over the last two years, people from across BC have come together to raise money for pediatric cancer research through Balding for Dollars. We're happy to share some stories that highlight the energy, creativity and generosity of this wonderful community.

Jayden's Run

In 2021, the Balding for Dollars team received an email from Jayden, a former BC Children's oncology patient. Jayden had a plan to run 107 km from his home in Chilliwack to BC Children's—the equivalent distance of two and a half marathons. "Whenever I am having a bad day, or I'm upset about something, I look back and think of those difficult times and tell myself to start focusing on how great I truly have it," Jayden wrote in his email. "There are kids in the hospital right now, thinking those same thoughts, and that's what this run is about."

The Balding for Dollars team set out to support Jayden and cheer him on. Respecting COVID-19 restrictions, they gathered a small group outside of the hospital, with family and friends, ready to cheer at the finish line. The atmosphere was electric with cheers, tears, and so much pride as Jayden ran through the balloon arch that marked 107 km. Jayden raised over \$125,000, which supported three oncology initiatives at BC Children's, including \$40,000 in support of Balding for Dollars.

"Ever since I got cancer in 2015, I always wanted to do something to give back to BC Children's Hospital, and with the support of each and every one of you, we did much more than that," said Jayden after the run. "Yeah, we raised a lot of money; yeah, we ran a long distance, but what was best of all was we got to give hope to kids at BC Children's—hope that things really do get better and hope that if you set your mind to it, you really can do anything and make a difference in this world."



JAYDEN'S RUN WAS AN INSPIRING EVENT FOR THE BALDING FOR DOLLARS COMMUNITY.



Bands, BBQ, Beers, & Balding

In the Okanagan, Bernie Ryan hosted the 2021 Bands, BBQ, Beers, & Balding event—a much-loved celebration that has been held for many years. Starting with a Father’s Day scavenger hunt around Kelowna’s vineyards and distilleries, Bands, BBQ, Beers & Balding attendees came together in support of BC Children’s. One highlight for everyone was young Kendall, who bravely followed his dad by having his head shaved, inspiring people to cheer, and literally shower him with cash for his fundraising efforts. Bands, BBQ, Beers, & Balding raised an amazing \$51,155 for Balding for Dollars, thank you.



CELEBRATING 24 YEARS OF BALDING FOR DOLLARS

How did Balding for Dollars begin? Marissa Dunbar, administrator of Balding for Dollars tells us how far the community has grown since the first Balding for Dollars event in 2000.

Balding for Dollars has been bringing people together and helping kids with cancers for 24 years. It began with Dan Warner and Kelly May who organized a one-day event to raise money. Kelly's daughter was a leukemia patient at BC Children's, and her brother was a firefighter, so the very first event was a group of firefighters raising funds by having their heads shaved. Over the next few years this expanded to include a hockey team, and more members of the public, until it grew into an enormous and energetic community.

Now, Balding for Dollars is a full organization, with a major event every year that attracts hundreds of people, and community events throughout BC. We also have a dedicated committee that helps direct how the incredible funds we raise can help kids and families at BC Children's—supporting research, care, bursary programs, practical support, and teen and family adventures.

It's amazing to look back and see how far we have come, and how through the generosity of people across BC, we're able to do so much for kids and their families. I am so grateful to everyone who has supported Balding for Dollars over the past 24 years!

HOW BALDING FOR DOLLARS HELPS

The difference Balding for Dollars is making can be felt at every step of a child's cancer journey. From supporting their comfort and care while they receive diagnosis and treatment, to aiding families experiencing financial hardship, to bringing joy and excitement to teens through outdoor adventures, and by supporting oncology research to help transform the future of care, the Balding for Dollars community is making a difference.

Teen Adventures

Kayaking, whale watching, ziplining, and horseback riding are only a few of the fun adventures teens have enjoyed thanks to Balding for Dollars. Teen Adventures is an outdoor program for youth aged 13-18 years old, who have been diagnosed with cancer or a blood disorder at BC Children's. These trips are kindly attended by health care and support teams to help ensure everyone is cared for as they enjoy their time in nature.

In 2022, teens were able to go whitewater rafting in Whistler. What better way to learn of their adventures than talking to one of the teens who was there?

“I’m Zoe and I went on the Whistler rafting trip this year. I just wanted to say thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to go. I really loved the more adventurous things we did like the Train Wreck hike, whitewater rafting and swimming at Porteau Cove. It was such a great experience to meet new people who’ve faced similar circumstances. After no more than an hour, I was friends with everyone! The nurses were so funny and always made sure there was never a dull moment on the trip.”

– ZOE, A PARTICIPANT OF TEEN ADVENTURES



“When I picked Zoe up, she talked all the way home about what happened. She loved the rafting. She raved about the trip and was super happy that she had a chance to go. I know these trips are a lot of work to organize, so I wanted you to know that you did an amazing job with this one.”

– ZOE’S MOM

During and after treatment, teens can feel isolated from friends and the wider world. These adventures can make all the difference, giving them the opportunity to connect with each other outside of the hospital environment and help build a community of support. Thank you for making this possible.

Child Life

A kid's time at the hospital can be daunting, where people speak a-difficult-to-understand medical language, and rooms are filled with strange machines. They might be in hospital for weeks or months, missing their friends, family and home. Fortunately, at BC Children's, child life specialists are on hand for kids, to hear and understand their perspectives, and be there for them every step of the way.

Your generosity is helping to support child life specialists like Kristina Jackson, whose role at the division of oncology, hematology & blood and marrow transplant (BMT) is to give a voice to a child's needs, care for their comfort and mental well-being, and provide support to them and their families.

Balding for Dollars is able to give child life specialists art and baking supplies for therapeutic activities, craft materials, decorations and gifts for birthdays and holidays, information to help kids understand their diagnosis, and music therapy supplies to promote coping and self-expression through music. Thank you for gifting this important kindness to kids at BC Children's.

“The child life specialist team is extremely fortunate to receive donor funding. Families often thank us for the resources we provide, and we are able to do this with your support. On behalf of the patients, families, and staff in the division of oncology, hematology & BMT, thank you for your generosity.”

– KRISTINA JACKSON, CHILD LIFE SPECIALIST

To, Kristina.

I just wanted to say thank you so much for the support and help to both myself and my family before, during and after the surgery! It means a lot to have you there and for you to always take the time out of your busy day to see us when we are at the hospital!

Love,

Bella

Patient and Family Practical Support

When a family is navigating a difficult cancer journey—involving treatments, travel, overnight stays and follow-up appointments—a helping hand can mean everything. This is why Balding for Dollars offers a range of support for families at BC Children's, from laundry soap and beverages in the family lounge in the oncology, hematology, and Blood & Marrow Transplant area, to gift cards for coffee and meals and games and activities for kids.

The Balding for Dollars team also provides fun for families who are spending time at the hospital. Throughout the year the team handed out treat and craft gift bags to families.

December can be exceptionally tough, so Marissa decided to reach out for some donations to add to what could be offered to in-patient families over the holidays. They focused on the families and siblings of patients, giving practical gift cards, and activities that could provide comfort and holiday spirit. Twenty-seven bags, made possible by donors, friends, and small business sponsors, were provided to families who were overwhelmed with joy and gratitude.

This kind of support is crucial and appreciated by families—thank you for helping provide comfort to these families during some of their most challenging days.



“Many of the families we help have received the worst news of their lives. Being able to hand them something, like a simple gift card for a coffee, can be so important in letting families know people are here for them, and they are not alone.”

– MARISSA DUNBAR

Childhood Cancer Research

It is through ground-breaking research that children and their families are given renewed hope as they navigate their cancer journey. Because of the brilliance of oncology researchers, like those at the Michael Cuccione Childhood Cancer Research Program (MCCCRP) at BC Children's, the dedication of health care professionals, and the community of donors who support them, over 80 per cent of children now survive their cancers. BC Children's Hospital has the best childhood cancer survival rates in Canada. But there is still more to do. We want survival rates to reach 100 per cent.

Researchers at the MCCCRP are on a relentless pursuit to make childhood cancers a thing of the past. In their own words, they share how their work is helping transform the landscape of pediatric cancer treatments and their gratitude for your support in making this possible.

“The support from donors provides kids in BC access to today’s newest therapies and enables the development of tomorrow’s more effective treatments. As an investigator, and as a father, I am personally very grateful to Balding for Dollars for their generosity and support.”

– DR. CHRIS MAXWELL, INVESTIGATOR, MICHAEL CUCCIONE CHILDHOOD CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM AT BC CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

“It’s really gratifying and humbling to see the support that is out there in the community for our research. Your compassion is driving us to improve treatments and find the next new approach to help end childhood cancers.”

– DR. JAMES LIM, INTERIM DIRECTOR, MICHAEL CUCCIONE CHILDHOOD CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM AT BC CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

BURSARY PROGRAM

Balding for Dollars is remarkable in its offering of bursaries exclusively for cancer survivors and young people receiving treatment. This support helps give students access to post-secondary education.

In 2021, 15 bursaries were awarded, totaling \$19,970.44, and in 2022, 18 bursaries provided \$27,000 in education support. Thanks to Balding for Dollars, a new generation of students is advancing their education and building their skills to help others.

One example of the successes made possible through the bursary program is Madeline Lauener, who was awarded bursaries in 2021 and 2022. At 12 years old, Madeline was diagnosed with stage 4 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and received treatment at BC Children's, including a stem cell transplant. Now, 23 years old and a cancer survivor, Madeline is studying stem cell transplants as a PhD student at the MCCCCRP, focusing on developing new ways to make stem cell transplantations safer for patients. Madeline is deeply grateful for the community of donors that have allowed her to pursue her dreams to help others as she has been helped.

“Balding for Dollars has supported my schooling and future endeavours through their bursary program. I truly believe the support of all these people and services have had a massive impact on how my life has turned out thus far.

— MADELINE LAUENER



MADLINE LAUENER, A RECIPIENT OF TWO BALDING FOR DOLLARS BURSARIES NOW RESEARCHES STEM CELL TRANSPLANTATION THERAPIES FOR CHILDHOOD CANCERS.

2021

1. MADELINE LAUENER*

9. HECTOR CARLOS

2. TRISTAN JAMES

10. BASSIM KIANI

3. TRISTYN RANGER

11. HANYA RIDDICK

4. NOAH STOLTE

12. TYRELL VAANDRAGER

5. EADEN VOKEY

13. AIDEN BORNE*

6. STEPHANIE LARSON*

14. JACOB GARCIA

7. KAELEY AVERY

15. EMILY WRIGLESWORTH

8. AMY DEWOLFF

2022

1. NATALIA MALAGON

9. SAVAN FRY JASPER

17. JENAI BROWN

2. ARJUN JOHAL

10. HANYA RIDDICK

18. JOCELYN KERR

3. MADELINE LAUENER*

11. ISAAC MASTROIANNI

19. MICAH BORNE

4. ANAKA HAYCOCK*

12.. BASSIM KIANI*

5. LOGAN SLOAN

13. STEPHANIE LARSON*

6. MAKAILA MACHILEK

14. LINA LE*

7. CELIA GUSTAVSSON

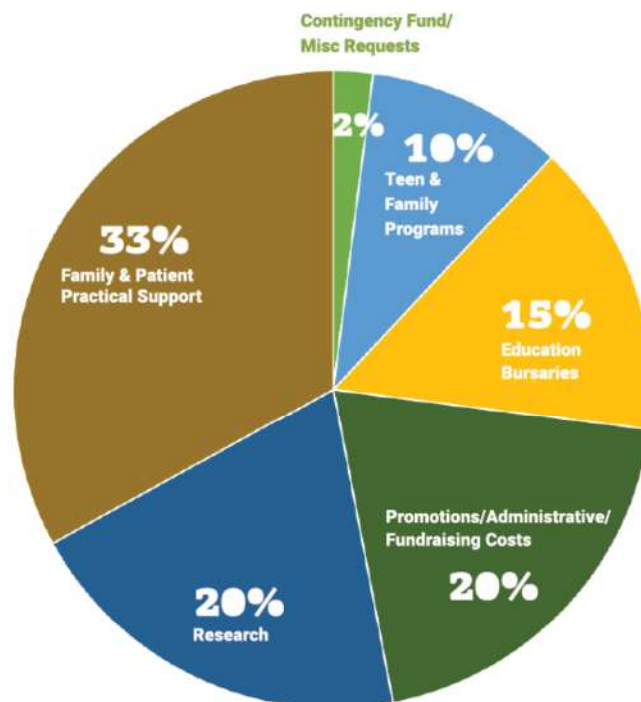
15. AIDEN BORNE*

8. DONOVAN VAZ

16. ELLIOTT DUSOME

* RECEIVED TWICE

ALLOCATION AND PROGRAMS



A MIGHTY THANK YOU

Your dedication, community and generosity gives so much to children and families facing cancer and blood disorders. Thank you for touching the lives and giving hope to hundreds of kids and teens every year.

“It has been my privilege to be involved with Balding for Dollars in the capacity of a parent, volunteer, past administrator, and as the Patient/Parent Advocate for Oncology, Hematology & Blood and Marrow Transplant at BC Children’s Hospital. I work side-by-side with the psychosocial team at BC Children’s and other regional hospitals to help support families with fun and informative programs, like Teen Adventures, Parent’s Retreats, and other family programming, to improve the quality of life for our patients and their families. I am grateful to our volunteers and our very generous donors who have supported Balding for Dollars in the past and in the future years to come. Thank you.”

– SUZANNE DUNBAR

CHERIE SPENCE
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