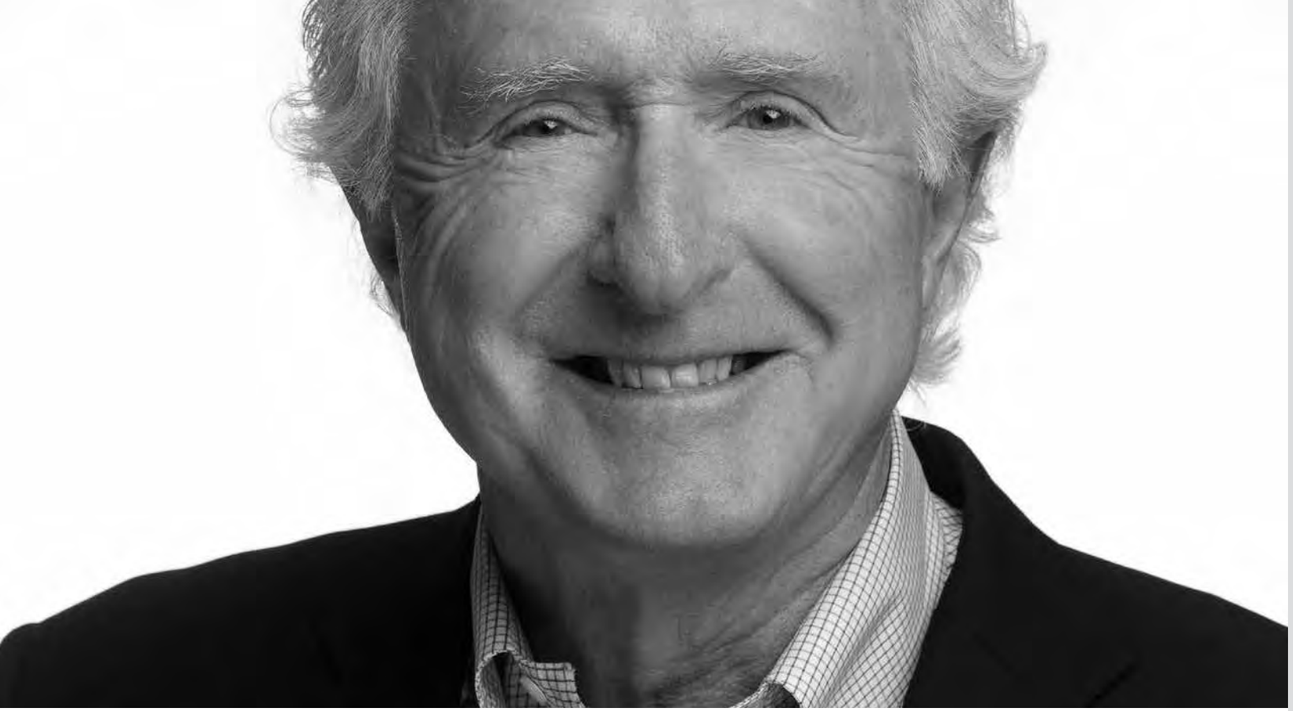
BRIDGE TO A CURE FOUNDATION, INC.

Presents

THE FIGHT OF A LIFETIME

2023

ANNUAL REPORT



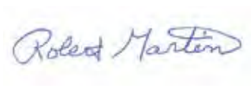
DEAR FRIENDS OF BRIDGE TO A CURE,

I am filled with determination and renewed purpose as I write this message. I'm proud of the incredible progress we've made together in 2023 toward conquering childhood cancer, and I am focused on the challenges that still lie ahead.

The field of childhood cancer has been one fraught with challenges. For smaller organizations like ours, those challenges require us to learn to punch above our weight class just to be seen and heard. Despite facing significant funding limitations compared to other areas of cancer research, the advancements we've seen in recent years are remarkable. New, targeted therapies offer hope to children who were once out of options. New discoveries are showing immense promise, and our understanding of the genetic underpinnings of childhood cancers is growing ever more profound.

However, we must not let these successes lull us into complacency. The struggle against childhood cancer is far from over. Too many children are still diagnosed with this devastating disease, and the long-term effects of treatment can be significant. We must ensure that every child can access the latest, most effective treatments, regardless of their background or zip code. Bridge To A Cure plays a vital role in this ongoing battle. Your continued support allows us to fund innovative research, advocate for better policies, and provide critical support services to families facing childhood cancer. Because of you, we can continue to outperform and make a real difference in the lives of thousands of brave children and their families.

In the coming pages of this annual report, you'll learn about the incredible impact your contributions are having and where our efforts are leading us in the future. Thank you for being a part of this vital mission. Together, we can create a future without the pain, suffering, and loss that cancer now bears on our children.



Robert Martin
Founder & President

CONTENTS

Welcome from Founder	2
Leadership & Boards	3
Rolling with the Punches	4
Heavy-Hitting Stats	6
Showing Them the Ropes	8
In This Corner	10
Not Pulling Punches	12
CBTN Member Institutions	14
Preparing For the Final Challenge	16
Sparring Partners	18
Ringside Seats	20
The Undercard	22

LEADERSHIP

2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Robert Martin, Chair
Ken Asher, Secretary
David Gibbons, Treasurer
Tricia Martin
Wendy Payton
Nan Smith

ADVISORY BOARD

Rudi Dubois
Ira Dunkel, MD
Henry Friedman, MD
Lois Juliber
Al Musella
Carolyn Rogers
Gary Tapella
Peter Tombros
Sandy Ward

OUR INSPIRATION

Foundation President Robert Martin's granddaughter Clara Ely was just six years old in 2017 when she lost her battle with a form of brain cancer. Her remarkable courage and optimistic spirit continue to inspire the work of Bridge To A Cure Foundation.

ROLLING WITH THE PUNCHES

CURRENT LANDSCAPE OF NON-PROFITS

The vast world of nonprofit charitable foundations in the U.S. faces a clear divide. While many organizations exist, only 3% are large national institutions with significant resources. These giants often generate revenue exceeding $5 million annually. The remaining 97% of nonprofits are much smaller, raising on average less than $99,000 annually.

While the fight against childhood cancer is fueled by passionate individuals, the landscape of childhood cancer non-profits is chaotic at best and fractured at worst. This fragmented system can pack a one-two punch. While numerous organizations raise awareness and funds, a lack of coordination can lead to inefficiencies. Competition for resources can create redundancy in fundraising efforts, while duplication in research areas may slow overall progress. Additionally, smaller organizations might need help with operational inefficiencies, leading to a higher overhead cost that diverts funds away from the research. These shortfalls highlight the need for collaboration and strategic consolidation within the non-profit sector. By working together, these organizations can maximize their impact and accelerate the pace of discovery in pediatric cancer research. This is another step in focusing on collaboration as the key to a cure.

Bridge To A Cure Foundation is making significant strides in its mission to unite and transform the childhood cancer research community. We prioritize collaboration over competition.
By fostering partnerships between research institutions, non-profits, and funding bodies, the foundation breaks down silos and ensures knowledge and resources are shared efficiently and to greater effect. This collaborative approach accelerates research progress and avoids duplication of efforts.

Additionally, we advocate for open science, pushing for data transparency and accessibility. This allows researchers to build upon existing discoveries and develop more targeted therapies faster. Our influence is evident in key work with the National Cancer Institute (NCI), where Bridge To A Cure is instrumental in promoting data sharing for childhood cancer research. These combined efforts hold the potential to significantly improve treatment outcomes and bring us closer to our ambitious goal of a 50% reduction in childhood cancer deaths by 2030.

HEAVY-HITTING STATS

HOW WE GOT HERE

As a member of the Children's Brain Tumor Network Executive Council, Bridge To A Cure supports quality data processing, innovative technological applications, and open science through fundraising and donations to key projects. This year alone, Bridge To A Cure contributed over $185,000 to these initiatives, providing vital resources for collaborative childhood brain tumor research.
In addition, the foundation shares strategic direction to CBTN to help guide priorities and actions, and advocates for government and industry support. Along with other partner organizations, Bridge To A Cure has supported CBTN to achieve these monumental milestones in the fight to end childhood brain tumors:

- **7000+ patients and families enrolled**
- **34 research institutions contributing**
- **70,000 pediatric brain tumor samples available**
- **400 terabytes of data available**
- **407 scientific research projects being conducted**

SHOWING THEM THE ROPES

KEY STRATEGIES

Bridge To A Cure Foundation understands that unlocking breakthroughs in childhood cancer lies in harnessing the power of data.

Our strategy revolves around three key pillars:

THE RIGHT DATA. We champion the creation of a comprehensive, national childhood cancer database. This eliminates the historical fragmentation of information and gives researchers a richer, more complete picture of the disease.

THE RIGHT HANDS. We advocate for open science practices, ensuring this critical data is accessible to researchers around the globe. This fosters collaboration and empowers a broader range of scientific minds from diverse backgrounds and viewpoints to tackle the complexities of childhood cancer.

THE RIGHT TECHNOLOGY. We believe that by harnessing the power of artificial intelligence and big data analytics, we will soon be able to ensure that every child with cancer is diagnosed and treated with the most effective personalized care possible—faster and more accurately than ever.

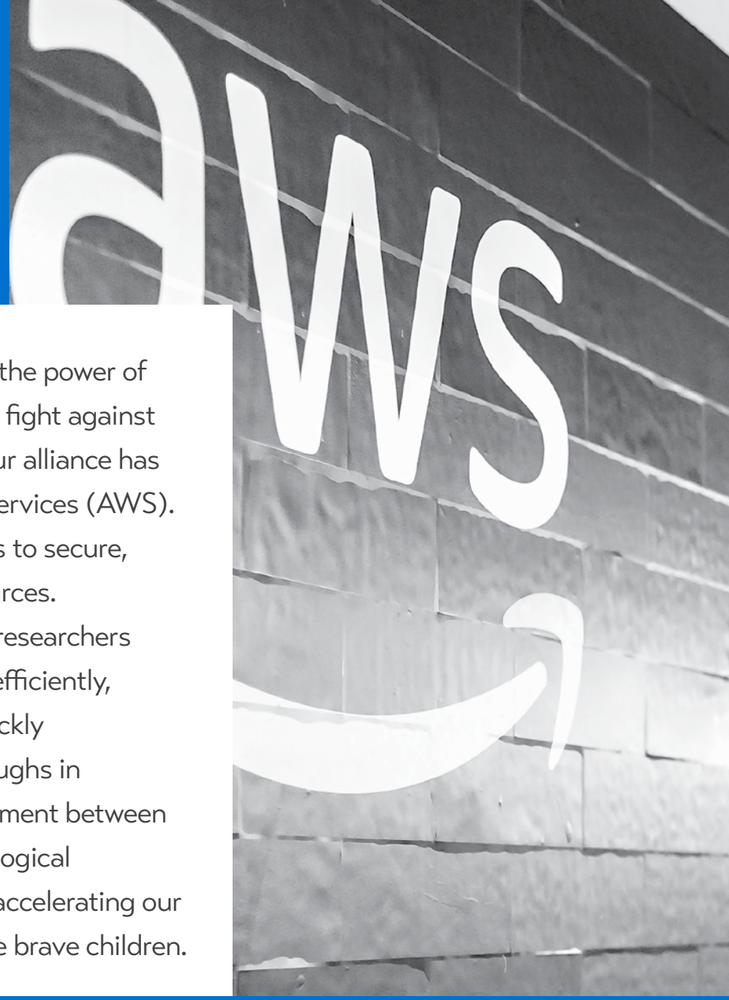
By applying these tools to vast datasets, researchers can more efficiently identify patterns and potential treatment pathways, accelerating the pace of drug discovery and personalized medicine for children with cancer. This three-pronged approach—securing the right data, empowering the right researchers, and leveraging the right technology—is the cornerstone of Bridge To A Cure's fight to end childhood cancer.

IN THIS CORNER
PEOPLE AND PARTNERSHIPS

Bridge To A Cure believes collaboration is the key to solving big challenges. It begins with finding the right people to guide our mission, like Bridge To A Cure's former executive director, Wendy Payton, who now leads communications at Children's Brain Tumor Network (CBTN), a powerful partner in our fight and helping to accelerate cures from both inside and outside our organization.

Also, by adding Nan Smith to our board, we're harnessing the knowledge and skills of a passionate advocate and fundraiser with over 30 years of experience. Nan's expertise and connections make Bridge To A Cure's impact more powerful.

Bridge To A Cure has both data and tech in our corner. We believe in the strength of collaboration, and that's why our partnership with the Children's Brain Tumor Network (CBTN) is so important. CBTN is a leader in open-source data collection for childhood brain tumors. By working together, Bridge To A Cure can leverage CBTN data resources and expertise to accelerate research and, ultimately, bring us closer to a cure. This powerful alliance allows us to share our vision with a broader audience and push the boundaries of progress in the fight against childhood brain cancer.



Bridge To A Cure understands the power of cutting-edge technology in the fight against childhood cancer. That's why our alliance has partnered with Amazon Web Services (AWS). This collaboration allows access to secure, high-powered computing resources. This empowers our network of researchers to analyze vast datasets more efficiently, unlocking new insights and quickly identifying potential breakthroughs in treatments. This powerful alignment between scientific expertise and technological innovation is a game-changer, accelerating our progress toward cures for these brave children.

Bridge To A Cure is allied with CBTN to forge partnerships with pharmaceutical companies and leverage its vast cancer research data. Through partnership agreements, drug companies access CBTN data to streamline their research for control arms in clinical studies, gather natural history data on specific cancers, and access existing cell lines. These efforts would be vastly more time-consuming and expensive to obtain independently, translating to faster development of more effective cancer therapies at lower costs. In return, these pharmaceutical companies contribute funding that helps CBTN expand its data collection and build even richer, more comprehensive cancer research records.

NOT PULLING PUNCHES

TRANSFORMATIONAL RESEARCH

Bridge To A Cure came out swinging in 2023 and positions itself at the forefront of transformative research with Project Accelerate, a collaboration with the Children's Brain Tumor Network (CBTN). This project is the largest pediatric brain tumor data release ever, making information from over 8,400 children readily available to researchers worldwide. This data, combined with the Pediatric Brain Tumor Atlas (PBTA), a comprehensive resource of tumor samples, imaging, and genetic data, is fueling groundbreaking discoveries. Together, Project Accelerate and PBTA are empowering researchers to unlock the secrets of these complex cancers, paving the way for personalized treatments and ensuring a brighter future for children with brain tumors.

The fight against childhood cancer recruits a powerful ally: Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Bridge To A Cure recognizes this potential and actively incorporates AI into its research efforts. These intelligent tools can analyze vast amounts of medical data, including imaging scans and genetic information, much faster than humans. This allows researchers to identify subtle patterns and potential drug targets that traditional methods might miss. By leveraging AI's analytical power, Bridge To A Cure is accelerating the development of more precise and effective treatments, bringing us closer to a future where childhood cancer is no longer a threat. For us, AI isn't new. Our organization introduced AI to the National Cancer Institute on October 5th, 2017, long before it was considered the hard-charging contender we see today.

Finally, it is all about attack angles in a fight of this magnitude. That's where the multiomic approach steps into the ring. Imagine studying a disease not just from one angle but from many different angles in a lab full of microscopes. That's the power of multiomics. It combines various types of biological data, like genes and proteins, and how these elements interact. Researchers can understand the complex workings of diseases like childhood cancer by looking at the big picture. This approach can reveal weaknesses in the disease and lead to the development of more targeted therapies, offering new hope for a healthier future.

CBTN MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

NORTH AMERICA WEST

- Seattle Children's Hospital
- Doernbecher Children's Hospital
- Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford
- UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital
- UC Santa Cruz Treehouse Childhood Cancer Initiative

NORTH AMERICA NORTHEAST

- Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
- Children's National Hospital
- John Hopkins Medicine
- Joseph M. Sanzari Children's Hospital
- Well Cornell Medicine
- Hassenfeld Children's Hospital at NYU Langone
- Maria Fareri Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center

NORTH AMERICA CENTRAL

- Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
- Dayton Children's Hospital
- Michigan Medicine C.S. Mott Children's Hospital
- St. Louis Children's Hospital
- Texas Children's Hospital
- Akron Children's Hospital
- UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh

NORTH AMERICA SOUTHEAST

- Children's of Alabama
- Wake Forest Baptist Health
- Orlando Health Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children
- Nicklaus Children's Hospital
- Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
- John Hopkins All Children's Hospital
- UNC Chapel Hill Children's Hospital

EUROPE

- Meyer Children's Hospital
- University Children's Hospital Zurich

ASIA

- Beijing Tiantan Hospital Neurosurgery Center
- China Nation Genebank

AUSTRALIA

- Hudson Institute of Medical Research
- Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick

The next bout will feature our body's mighty biological functions against one of the most relentless foes – high-grade glioma brain tumors. This tumor has been undefeated over the past 40 years against all challengers, including toxic drugs. But that is about to change; a new contender, The Promise, enters the ring.

PREPARING FOR THE FINAL CHALLENGE

2024 FOCUS

The Promise has a combination of punches never seen in the ring:

- Immunotherapy is a promising new counterpunch against childhood brain tumors. Unlike traditional treatments that harm healthy cells along with cancer cells, immunotherapy harnesses the body's immune system to target and destroy cancer cells precisely. This empowers the immune system to fight the disease.
- Angiogenesis: While researching treatments for childhood brain tumors, scientists are exploring specific drugs and how to disrupt the tumors' ability to grow their blood supply through angiogenesis, the natural process of new blood vessels forming from existing ones.
- Apoptosis: Innovative researchers are exploring apoptosis, a natural cell suicide process, as a tactic against cancer. By understanding how to control the self-destruction in cancer cells, they aim to develop new cancer therapies.

Fulfilling our promise, this new bout begins now. Vigorous training is crucial in preparing for 2024, and a key part is assembling a collaborative multi-institutional research team. With representatives from CBTN, Duke Cancer Center, Dana-Farber Cancer Center, and UCLA, this team will work together on an AI project for childhood brain tumors, pooling their expertise and resources for a common goal.

Bridge To A Cure joins CBTN and Amazon Web Services (AWS) to present at a conference in October 2024 and currently:

- Identifying missing data.
- Developing an AI project to test the concept.
- Creating a work plan with goals.
- Securing $1 million to finish 2024 tasks and an additional $5 million per year for the next 5 years of research.

This project paves the way for significant progress ("The Promise") in 2025.

SPARRING PARTNERS

DONATE FOR SUCCESS

Ken & Gwen Asher
Judy & Charlie Barnett
John & Candy Bartlett
Dick & Jan Bean
Ray & Barbara Beaulieu
Montague Belanger
Barclay & Scott Bowen
Jeff & Colette Brazer
Tom & Pat Callans
Henry & Mary Ellen Cavanna
Kieran Cavanna
Olivia Cavasina
Brian & Kelly Clifford
Malin & Will Clyde
Frank & Carol Ann Conway
Ian Cook
Cathy Corwen

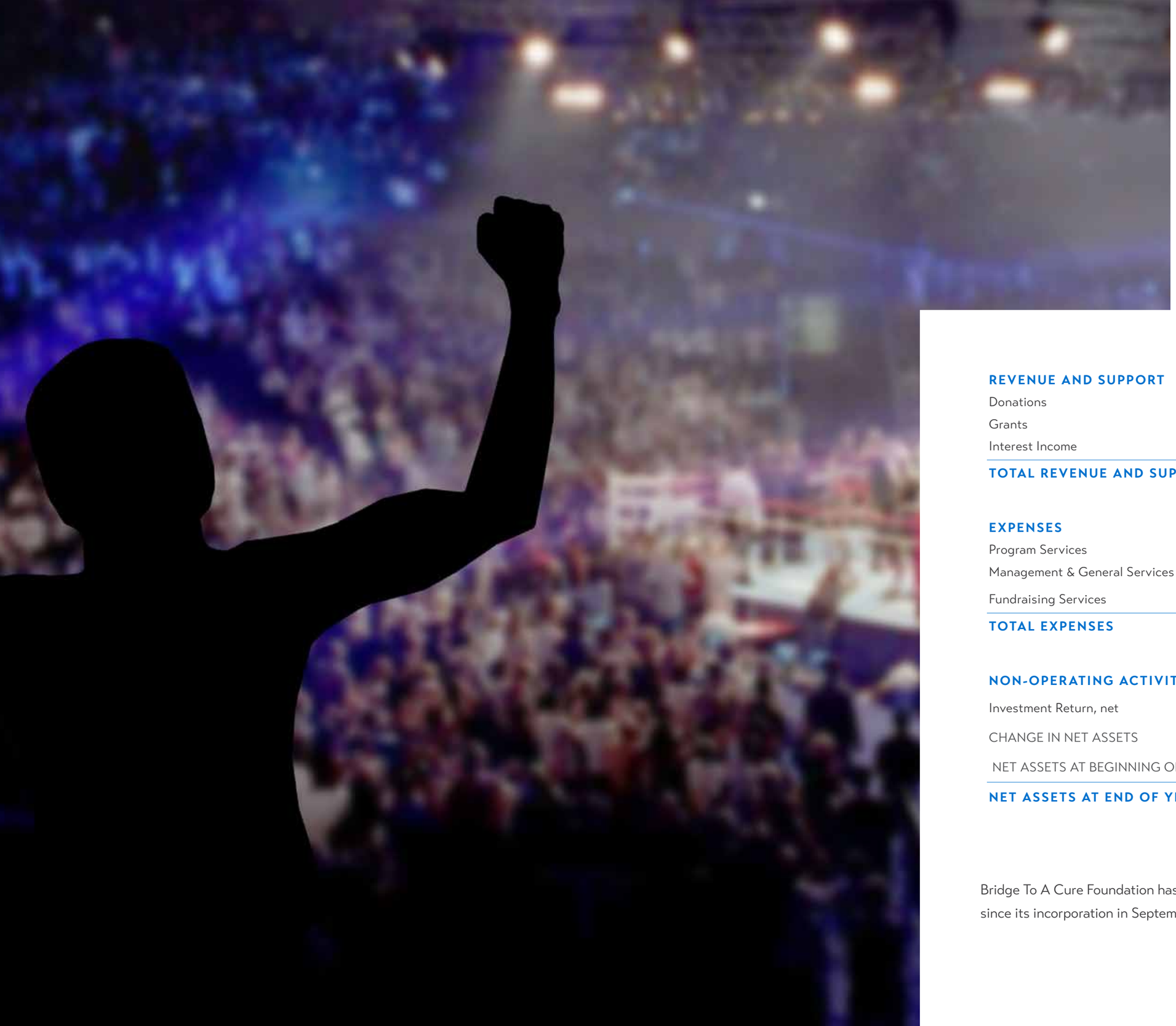
John & Carol Courtney
John Craft
Lori Cullen
Robert & Diane Curry
Bob & Cathy Curt
Jim & Susan Demark
Larry & Dale Den
Ann Deming
Chris & Sheryl Doherty
Peter & Pam Donohoe
Charles & Judy Eaton
Stan Epperson
John & Eileen Faul
Fiddlesticks Ladies 9-Hole Golf
Harris Frommer
Wouter Goedkoop
Charlie & Mary Ann Goodin

Bill & Gloria Hayes
Thomas Herbick
Ernie & Paula Horvath
Park & Sally Jackson
Lois Juliber
Elliot & Donna Katzman
Tom & Patty King
Phoebe Lamdin
Mike & Joan Lancellot
Chris Lasus
Marie & Mark Liska
Susan Lobdell
Kathy & Jeroene Lokerse
John & Ashley Long
Peter & Suzanne Loyd
Austin Lydon
Dan & Sue Mariani

Reuben Mark
Tony & Gillian Mark
Gene & Bonnie Markowski
Robert & Pam Martin
Tricia Martin & Winston Ely
Dale & Marilou Mast
Sam Mauro
Daniel Mazabras
David & Suzanne McCollum
Jim & Bess Catherine McCord
Virginia & Terry McDermott
Ray & Judy McGuire
Katherine McLeod
Ali & Doug Milne
Ed & Sharon Montero
John & Neicey Moore
Frances Moyer

Peter & Judy Nance
Tuck & Beth Nason
Tom & Celeste Niarchos
George OBrien
Lisa Passi
Wendy Payton
Kamoltip Phayakvichien
Doug & Julie Reid
Gail & Ralph Reynolds
Martha Rhein
Jack Rogers
Craig & Lois Rohner
Michael Rohrbacher
Tom & MJ Ross
Jim & Stephanie Seaborg
Maren & Frank Sharpe
Patricia Sheridan

Peter & Mary Kay Sidell
Herbert & Bui Simon
Russ & Lena Smith
Casey Spezzano
Christie & Rick Stone
Kathie Streep
Gary & Karen Tapella
Steve & Sue Teitelman
Peter & Ann Tombros
Paul & Liz Vella
Stephen Wagner
Steve & Sandy Ward
Michael & Holly Watts
Jeff & Kathy Whitley
Janice Wilkinson
Gerry & Jacque Wolken

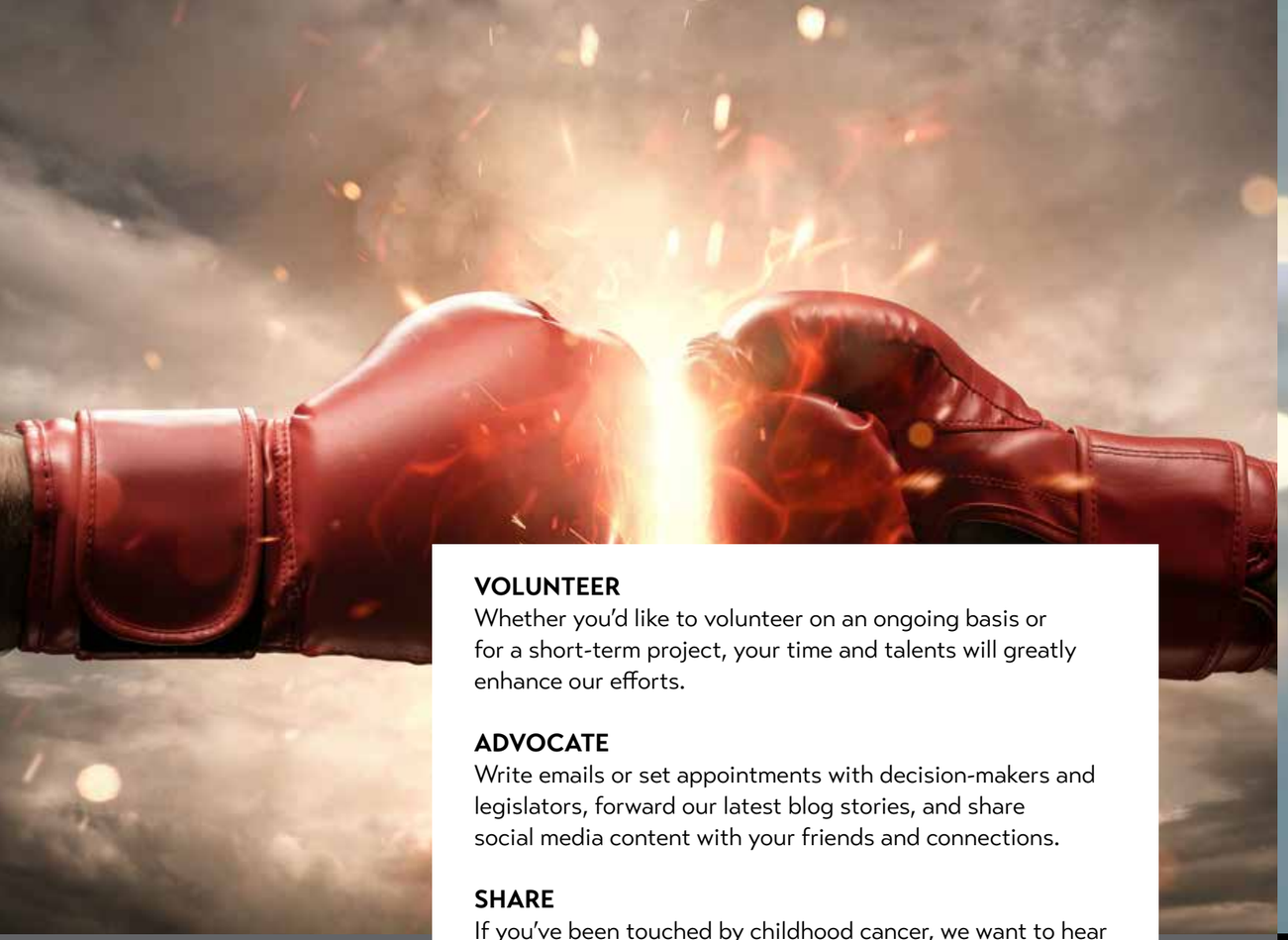


FINANCIAL REPORT

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

	TOTAL
REVENUE AND SUPPORT	
Donations	$ 254,223
Grants	27
Interest Income	3
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	254,253
EXPENSES	
Program Services	168,031
Management & General Services	31,830
Fundraising Services	8,519
TOTAL EXPENSES	208,380
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Investment Return, net	108
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	45,981
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	133,099
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	179,081

Bridge To A Cure Foundation has operated as a 501(c)3 nonprofit charitable organization since its incorporation in September 2019.



VOLUNTEER
Whether you'd like to volunteer on an ongoing basis or for a short-term project, your time and talents will greatly enhance our efforts.

ADVOCATE
Write emails or set appointments with decision-makers and legislators, forward our latest blog stories, and share social media content with your friends and connections.

SHARE
If you've been touched by childhood cancer, we want to hear your story. We're at the ready to listen with resources, compassion, and acceptance.

FUNDRAISE
Create your own campaign to support Bridge To A Cure Foundation. Make it a great time while you make a difference. Visit BridgeToACure.org for ideas that bring "fun" to your fundraiser.

DONATE
Give once or give monthly when you visit BridgeToACure.org/donate. For other ways to give, visit the website's support page to see check, stock, wire, employer matching, or legacy giving options.

SHOP
Bridge To A Cure Foundation is a registered charitable organization with some of the nation's largest online retailers, including PayPal and eBay.

THE UNDERCARD

HOW YOU CAN HELP

CONNECT
@BTACFoundation
Visit bridgetoacure.org/support
or call 877.460.2873 to learn more.

BRIDGE TO A CURE FOUNDATION IS ON A MISSION TO UNIFY AND TRANSFORM THE CHILDHOOD CANCER RESEARCH COMMUNITY TO REDUCE CHILDHOOD CANCER DEATHS 50% BY 2030.

BRIDGE TO A CURE FOUNDATION, INC.
42881 Lake Babcock Dr., Ste. 200 • Babcock Ranch, FL 33982 • 877-460-2873
39 Blueberry Ln., Darien, CT 06820

bridgetoacure.org