

A full-page background image featuring a vibrant rainbow arching over a lush green forest and rolling hills. The sky is filled with dramatic, dark clouds, and the foreground is dominated by a dense evergreen forest.

# FULFILLING THE PROMISE

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

**BRIDGE TO A CURE FOUNDATION, INC.**



## 2024 LEADERSHIP

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Dear Bridge To A Cure Family,

Our journey began with a promise—one born from love, forged through loss, and carried forward by hope.

On St. Patrick's Day 2016, my 4-year-old granddaughter Clara was diagnosed with glioblastoma, a terminal brain tumor. I promised Clara I would find a cure. Though she passed on October 8, 2017, her spirit remains, urging me each day: *"Don't stop, Papa. The promise must be fulfilled."*

Clara's compassion for others lit the way forward. Her fight opened my eyes to a devastating truth: childhood brain cancer steals not just lives, but futures. It inflicts relentless pain, emotional anguish, and lifelong scars—not only on young patients but on their families. Even survivors face a 95% chance of severe health issues later in life.

What began as a promise to one child has grown into a mission for all. A movement to transform the future of childhood brain cancer. A vision to cut the death rate in half by 2030.

At Bridge To A Cure, we've stayed focused on three imperatives:

- **Data:** Build a global, freely shared ecosystem for brain tumor research.
- **AI:** Harness the power of generative AI to fuel faster discovery.
- **Nontoxic Treatments:** Pursue therapies that heal without harming.

The transformation is already underway:

- Collaboration is replacing silos.
- Data is fueling discovery.
- Powerful algorithms are unlocking new possibilities.
- Innovation is leading us toward safer, gentler treatments.

Now, we stand on the threshold of our boldest chapter: **the Fulfilling the Promise Initiative** — finding a brain tumor cure by 2030. To get there, we must reshape the culture of pediatric brain cancer research through:

- **Collaboration:** Sharing initiatives, resources, and data.
- **Focus:** Channeling collective strength into fewer, more powerful breakthroughs.

At Bridge To A Cure, we live by one core value: **Promises Made, Promises Kept.**

As we enter a new year, we embrace the renewal that follows even the fiercest storms.



*Robert Martin*

Thank you for your continued support,  
Robert Martin, *Founder and President*





*There is a magic in a child that defies words—a radiant light that fills the world with wonder. In their laughter, the universe sings; in their eyes, the promise of tomorrow gleams. Every step is a triumph, every discovery a revelation, their smallest joys transforming the ordinary into something sacred. They are both dreamer and dream, a living miracle wrapped in innocence and love.*

*On October 8th, 2017, that miracle ended for my granddaughter Clara. Pediatric brain cancer. For decades, thousands of children have been robbed of their dreams—and thousands more will be unless we change course. I promised Clara I would not let that happen. That promise is why I founded Bridge To A Cure.*

*- Robert Martin*

## THE STORM SURGES

For decades, childhood cancer treatment has been adrift, leaving our most vulnerable—our children—without a safe harbor.

**Unprepared for the Storm:** Only three new pediatric cancer drugs have been developed in 40 years. We're still using 1970s-era treatments, exposing children to the full force of this disease.

**A Dangerously Low Bar:** Survival is defined as just five years and doesn't account for serious lifelong consequences—secondary cancers, organ damage, and cognitive impairments.

**Relentless Turbulence:** Chemotherapy and radiation inflict unbearable pain, emotional distress, and financial devastation on families.

This is unacceptable. Our children deserve better. Bridge To A Cure Foundation is accelerating research, driving innovation, and advocating for policies delivering real cures—because survival should mean a lifetime, not just five years.



# IN THE EYE OF THE STORM

The remarkable progress achieved in recent years has significantly validated the confidence in the unique collaborative approach adopted and championed by our research partners. This is due to a focused strategy that leverages robust data within a collaborative ecosystem, avoiding the drawbacks of the traditional competitive spirit that pits allies against each other. Still, something was missing within the support community. Before 2024, we experienced a period of relative stability that masked the storm ahead. However, the collaborative, data-driven methodology we champion has proven valuable to our research and commercial partners. In stark contrast, traditional foundation models ignored the value of a shared focus and data exchange that accelerated breakthroughs for children facing brain tumors.

## **The Tide Rises**

To combat the surge, a new model that addresses three key concepts needs to be realized:

- Creating a robust data ecosystem
- Leveraging generative AI
- Development of safer therapies for children







# A BREAK IN THE CLOUDS

In 2024, Bridge To A Cure saw significant strides in pediatric cancer research, fueled by collaboration and the implementation of innovative resources. These were just a few tentative steps forward, but they signal a shift in our approach to the challenge posed by pursuing these three core concepts.

## A New Data Ecosystem

Funding cloud-based, open-source research platforms like CAVATICA and PedCBioPortal provide online access to vast data collections and advanced analytics, accelerating research. As an Executive Council Member of the Children’s Brain Tumor Network (CBTN), Bridge To A Cure helped process over 800 new tissue samples this year, enriching the Pediatric Brain Tumor Atlas (PBTA) and deepening researchers’ understanding of these complex tumors.

The PBTA, a massive dataset of more than a million data points, is driving new therapies for pediatric brain tumors. This past year, the PBTA moved to a new, more widely accessible home in the NIH-funded Gabriella Miller Kids First Data Resource Center. Researchers can use the robust tools offered in this platform, plus they can cross-reference PBTA data with 34 other pediatric and rare disease data sets.

## Leveraging Generative AI

A focus on generative AI technologies, like the \$10 million RADIANT project, is transforming the future of cancer and rare disease research. Fueled by a groundbreaking partnership between government, academia, and industry, a grant awarded this past fall launched a real-time data integration model that empowers clinicians to uncover patient similarities across vast datasets—unlocking faster, smarter, and more personalized treatments that could save countless lives.

## Safer Treatments for Children

A \$200,000 gift from Bridge To A Cure helped develop critical patient data pipelines for AI applications. Backed by funding from the NIH, ARPA-H, and philanthropic partners, we’re advancing non-toxic therapies and harnessing the immune system’s power—bringing us closer to a future where all children can conquer cancer.





## WINDS OF CHANGE

Bridge To A Cure Foundation is driving a paradigm shift in pediatric cancer research by fostering collaboration and innovation. This past year saw an emergence of the M3 Approach to pediatric brain tumor research—a strategy that integrates:

- **Multidisciplinary expertise**  
*(scientists, doctors, and data specialists from different specialty areas)*
- **Multi-omics data** *(genomics, proteomics, metabolomics)*
- **Multimodal information** *(imaging, clinical data, genetic data, and beyond)*

Put, M3 leverages diverse data and expertise to tackle complex problems.

### A Clearer Forecast for Progress

Consider it like tracking a hurricane—scientists use radar, satellite imagery, and eyewitness reports to predict its path and impact. The M3 Approach applies this same comprehensive strategy to cancer research, combining every available tool to develop more precise, personalized treatments.

This approach, along with groundbreaking technology, is pushing beyond traditional treatments to unlock new, life-saving therapies. Three promising areas of study that Bridge To A Cure explored in 2024 include:

- **Immunotherapy:** Training the body's immune system to recognize and destroy cancer cells.
- **Apoptosis:** Triggering cancer cells to self-destruct.
- **Angiogenesis:** Inhibiting blood vessel creation to stop the supply of nutrients a tumor needs to grow.

By embracing these innovations, we are paving the way for a future where individualized, targeted, and nontoxic therapies become the standard of care—giving children with cancer not just a better chance at survival, but a future filled with health, hope, and brighter tomorrows.





Despite challenges, progress is on the horizon. Bridge To A Cure and our partners at CBTN continued building an innovative global coalition of scientists, doctors, foundations, technology partners, and pharmaceutical companies—leveraging data from 35+ healthcare systems to drive groundbreaking research.

We are creating a robust, integrated research ecosystem by aligning with organizations like the Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Consortium (PNOC), the INCLUDE Project, and international collaborators, alongside technological support from AWS, Mulesoft, and others.

These partnerships have the power to revolutionize pediatric cancer scientific discovery through:

- **Artificial Intelligence** – Enabling faster, more precise diagnoses.
- **Federated Learning** – Empowering local health systems to access data and resources from across the country
- **A National Data Infrastructure** – Streamlining access to critical patient insights.

By harnessing these innovations, we are accelerating treatment breakthroughs and delivering personalized, life-saving solutions to children facing cancer.





A child with blonde hair, seen from behind, is walking a small, fluffy white dog on a red leash. They are on a gravel path that leads towards a vibrant rainbow in a cloudy sky. The path is flanked by lush green bushes and trees. The child is wearing a bright yellow raincoat, grey pants, and colorful sneakers. The overall mood is hopeful and optimistic.

## A NEW DAY DAWNS

Driving these strategic imperatives forward requires a cultural shift across the pediatric cancer community—rooted in the same bold concepts that have fueled research progress.

### Collaboration and Focus

While we have weathered relentless storms, fighting childhood cancer with limited resources and fragmented efforts, clearer skies are on the horizon.

### The Storm is Breaking

The scientific community is tearing down silos, embracing unprecedented collaboration, and sharing data like never before. With Bridge To A Cure inspiring action, we are forging a new era of unity in the fight against pediatric cancer.

### Collaborators

- **Government Action** – Increased investment in programs like the Kids First Data Resource Center and public-private partnerships is fueling critical research.
- **Pharmaceutical Commitment** – Industry leaders are stepping up with unparalleled support for pediatric cancer research.
- **Innovative Partnerships** – New collaborations are emerging, promising breakthroughs in life-saving therapies.

As the storm clouds recede, philanthropy must rise to the occasion. Foundations must unite to maximize impact. Families must demand more. And the largest hospitals, with their vast resources, must answer the call to ensure every child receives the care they deserve.

The brighter future we've fought for is within reach—but only if we stand together to make it a reality.

### Headwinds on the Horizon

Just as the skies begin to clear, strong headwinds threaten to stall our momentum and unravel hard-won progress. Decades of out-of-control spending in Washington has put our national economy and security at risk — the debt level is unsustainable, and it continues to get worse. As a result, drastic measures to rein in spending are required. Unfortunately, this will include the National Cancer Institute, a lifeline for the childhood cancer community.

As is often the case, "Within every adversity is an equal or greater benefit." The community must adopt this philosophy and engage in a community-wide reengineering initiative. One that will leverage the community's collective resources and eliminate inefficient and ineffective practices. The truth is that the pediatric brain tumor community has needed reengineering for decades. Government cutbacks provide the impetus to start — now!



# THANK YOU

## RAYS OF LIGHT

Daniel Adler  
Sharon Allen  
Ken & Gwen Asher  
John & Candy Bartlett  
Dick & Jan Bean  
Ray & Barbara Beaulieu  
Montague Belanger  
Bob & Cindy Brazer  
Colette Brazer  
Tom Callans  
Charlene Caprio  
Henry Cavanna  
Kieran Carvanna  
Olivia Cavasina  
Brian & Kelly Clifford  
Malin & Will Clyde  
Frank & Carol Ann Conway  
Ian Cook  
John & Carol Courtney  
John Craft

Lori Cullen  
Bob & Diane Curry  
Bob & Cathy Curt  
Larry Den  
Christopher & Sheryl Doherty  
Peter Donohoe  
Tracy & Peter Drippe  
Stan Epperson  
Charles & Judy Eaton  
Guillermo Fernandez  
Harris & Jessica Frommer  
Angles George  
Wouter Goedkoop  
Charlie Goodin  
David Groener  
Janienne Hackett  
Bill & Gloria Hayse  
Thomas Herbick  
Lynne Hochstadt  
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Sally Jackson  
Lois Juliber  
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Richard Krauss  
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Mike Lancellot  
Chris Lasus  
Marie Liska  
Susan Lobdell  
Peter Loyd  
Austin Lydon  
Barbara Lyski  
James Major  
Daniel Mariani  
Tony & Gillian Mark  
Reuben Mark  
Gene & Bonnie Markowski  
Tricia Martin  
Deborah Martin

Robert & Pamela Martin  
Dale & Marilou Mast  
Sam Mauro  
Daniel Mazabras  
David & Suzanne McCollum  
Bess-Catherine & Jim McCord  
Virginia & Terry McDermott  
Ray & Judy McGuire  
Katharine McLeod  
Ed & Sharon Montero  
John & Neicey Moore  
Kathleen Moss  
Frances Moyer  
Peter & Judy Nason  
Tuck & Beth Nason  
Thomas Niarchos  
Lisa Passi  
Wendy Payton  
Glen & Pat Rauch  
Douglas Reid

Gail & Ralph Reynolds  
Martha Rhein  
Jack & Sue Rogers  
Craig & Lois Rohner  
Michael Rohrbacher  
Thompson Ross  
Kerri Ross  
Vicky Ross  
Chip & Susan Schroeder  
Jim & Stephanie Seaborg  
Maren & Frank Sharpe  
Patricia Sheridan  
Mike Sherman  
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Paul & Liz Vella  
Steve Wagner  
Stevenson Ward  
Michael & Holly Watts  
Mallory Weymann  
Janice Wilkinson  
Gerry Wolken  
Peggy Yardis  
Vicki Zellner



EXTENDED  
FORECAST

FINANCIAL REPORT  
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024.

	TOTAL
REVENUE AND SUPPORT	
Donations*	\$ 216,616
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	216,616
EXPENSES	
Program Services	290,307
Management & General Services	30,454
Fundraising Services	5,286
TOTAL EXPENSES	326,047
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Investment Return, net	[103]
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	[102,452]
NET ASSETS, START OF YEAR	185,971
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 83,519

\*The decline of \$37,634 from 2023 attributed to donations made in 2024 but not recorded by bank until 2025 and two one-time donations in 2023.

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





# A BRIGHTER COMMUNITY

### 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.

### 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](http://BridgeToACure.org) for ideas that bring “fun” to your fundraiser.

### 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.

### SHOP

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

### SHARE

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

### DONATE

Give once or give monthly when you visit [BridgeToACure.org/donate](http://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.

### CONNECT



@BTACFoundation  
Visit [bridgetoacure.org/support](http://bridgetoacure.org/support) or call 239.469.1755 to learn more.



**BRIDGE TO A CURE FOUNDATION, INC.**

12557 Brittany Blvd. • Suite 3V-14 • Fort Myers, FL 33907 • 239.469.1755

[bridgetoacure.org](http://bridgetoacure.org)