

BLAZE OF HOPE

SPREAD HOPE LIKE 🔥

BIANNUAL REPORT 2023





Blaze of Hope Biannual Report - 2023

This biannual report is prepared for the Louis and Gloria Flanzer Philanthropic Trust to outline the utilization of funds and growth in donor engagement as a result of the Flanzer Matching Donation Program. Blaze of Hope remains committed to its mission of providing financial assistance to families facing the challenges of childhood cancer.

Funding Overview

Total Amount Received from Flanzer Trust in 2023: \$17,000

Allocation of Funds:

The funds received in 2023 have been allocated directly to financial aid for families with children undergoing cancer treatment.

Amount Distributed: \$17,000 (34 families x \$500)

Impact of Funding

The contributions from the Flanzer Trust have enabled us to support 34 families, a 48% increase compared to the previous period. The financial relief has been crucial in allowing these families to focus on their child's recovery rather than financial distress.

Donor Engagement and Growth

Our collaborative endeavors with various events and partnerships like, Thunder by the Bay, Sarasota Fair, and Blaze Pizza have reached thousands of new individuals. These platforms have been invaluable for educating a wide audience about our mission. Remarkably, at these gatherings, we often encounter individuals who have been personally touched by cancer—some by the specific tribulation of childhood cancer. It is during these profound connections that we share the exciting opportunity offered by the Flanzer Trust to have their donations matched, amplifying their impact.

Looking forward, Blaze of Hope aims to expand its reach further, increasing both family support and new donor acquisition. We are committed to enhancing our efforts in community engagement.

In closing, Blaze of Hope extends profound gratitude to the Flanzer Trust for their support. Your matching program has been a catalyst for growth, encouraging new donors to step forward and contribute. We look forward to continuing this partnership, championing our cause, and bringing hope to families facing the hardships of childhood cancer.

Sincerely,
The Board of Blaze of Hope

Lisa Moore, April Barnes, Ben LaLande, Myra Moore, Coreen Wilde, Bettye Restle, Meghan Houlihan, Christine Dodge

MESSAGE FROM FOUNDER

Welcome to our biannual reflection on a time filled with triumphs. Blaze of Hope was born from personal loss and the kindness of a community that stood by us when we needed it most. This organization is my tribute to my son Blaze and every family facing the overwhelming battle against childhood cancer. Through your support, we provide not just financial assistance but a community that cares deeply. Thank you for helping us spread hope like fire."

— Lisa Moore, Founder



Baby Blaze was diagnosed with liver cancer at 7 months old. Blaze endured aggressive chemotherapy and multiple surgeries. Sadly, Blaze passed away at 13 months old.



**WOMEN
WHO ROAR**
SRQ MAGAZINE
COMMUNITY ★ ★ ★ LEADERSHIP

THE FACTS

CANCER

is the leading cause of death among children in the U.S.

(By disease past infancy.)

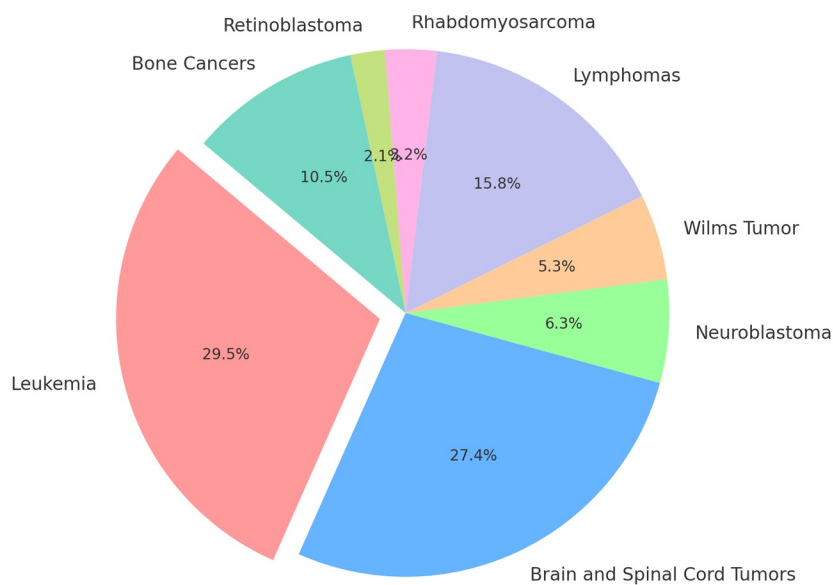
15,780*

children diagnosed with cancer yearly.

(Approximate number. Aged 0 to 19.)

*American Childhood Cancer Organization.
"US Childhood Cancer Statistics. ACCO.*

Breakdown of Childhood Cancers



THE FACTS

“Childhood cancer imposes a severe economic impact on families, leading to 'financial toxicity' as many struggle to cover treatment costs and basic needs like food and housing.”



MISSION

Blaze of Hope is committed to reducing the financial burden for families fighting childhood cancer in the Suncoast area.

We help cover expenses such as mortgage payments, utilities, and cell phone bills, allowing parents to concentrate on what matters most—the health and recovery of their child.

Our goal goes beyond providing short-term relief is to create a supportive network that fosters the overall well-being of families during their most challenging times and create global awareness of childhood cancer.

TESTIMONIALS



"Thank you so much for helping us! We appreciate it more than we could ever express! **Life hasn't been easy for us in a very long time.** Thank you for letting us lean on you for the support! Wyatt says: Thank you Blaze!"

- Crystal I.



"**Blaze of Hope has truly blessed us with some financial relief,** and we are entirely and forever grateful. We are so thankful to Blaze of Hope and the social worker that referred us to them, as we had no idea what to do or where to turn! Our little angel is three weeks old today, and getting stronger every day as she fights here in the NICU! We are so thankful for the blessing that Blaze of Hope has been!"

- Christan



"Huge thank you to Blaze of Hope for helping out with our bills. They are an amazing organization, and we are so blessed to have received their generosity. **The last thing we want to worry about now is how we are going to pay all these bills.** Thanks to them, we don't have to worry as much. It's such a huge relief."

- H.B.

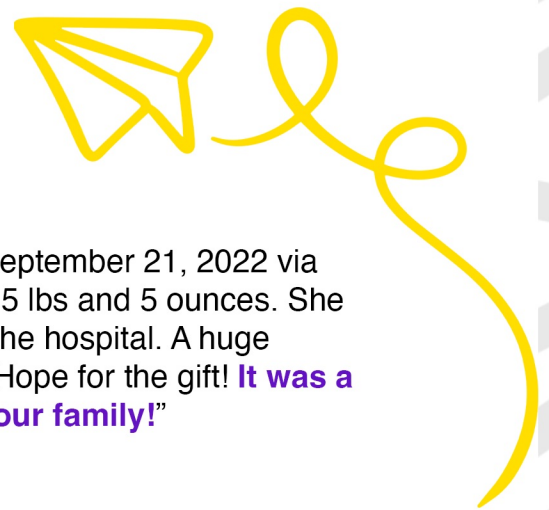


TESTIMONIALS



"My sweet boy Kale was born diagnosed with pulmonary interstitial glycogenesis. The financial stress has been so hard on my family. We would like to thank Blaze of Hope **for taking a little bit of that financial burden off of our shoulders.**"

- Tailor R.



"Denali was born September 21, 2022 via c-section weighing 5 lbs and 5 ounces. She spent 2 months in the hospital. A huge thanks to Blaze of Hope for the gift! **It was a huge blessing to our family!**"

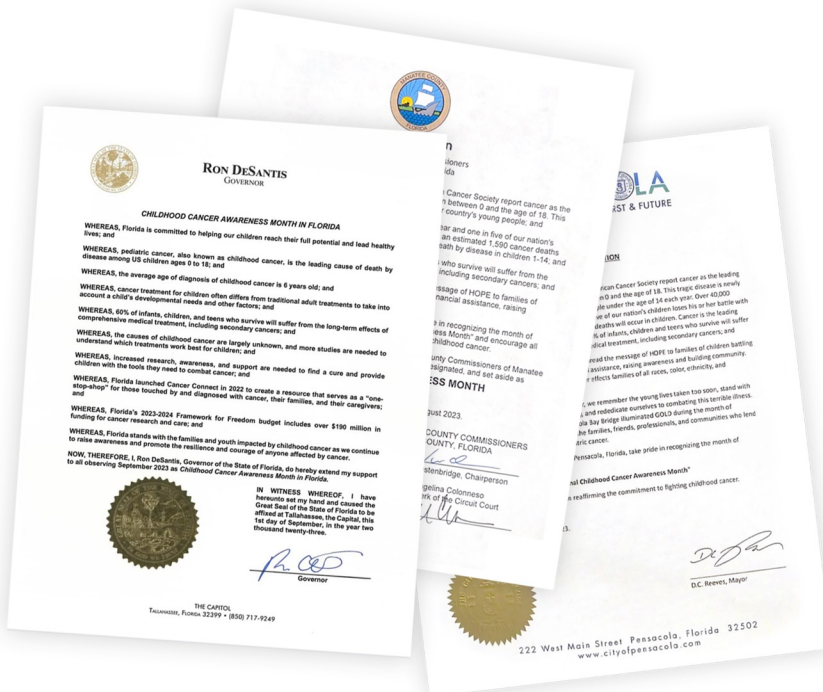
- Emily W.



"Blaze of Hope was so beyond generous to help us. **We're able to go see our sweet baby girl everyday without worry.** Thank you so much!! I appreciate you guys beyond words!! Our baby girl has a long road ahead of her but some weight was lifted off our shoulders!"

- Addy L.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



5

PROCLAMATIONS

During 2023, Blaze of Hope received official recognition through proclamations from several cities and a personal commendation from Governor Ron DeSantis, acknowledging September as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. These endorsements help pave the way for future initiatives and enhance our credibility, allowing us to help even more families in need.

150+

WALKERS FOR HOPE

Blaze of Hope hosted our annual 'Walk for Childhood Cancer' during September to demonstrate a vibrant show of solidarity and awareness. Starting from Hart's Landing and crossing the iconic John Ringling Bridge. Participants dressed in gold shirts, carrying signs and flags creating a procession that drew the attention of the community, emphasizing the importance of childhood cancer awareness.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



*Matagarup Bridge
Western Australia*

75

WORLDWIDE LANDMARKS LIT GOLD

Blaze of Hope orchestrated an awe-inspiring campaign to light landmarks gold around the world during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September. This global display of solidarity spanned from the City Hall in Tallahassee, Florida, to the Joondalup Drive Bridge in Western Australia. Each light represents our commitment to making childhood cancer a recognized and collectively fought battle worldwide.



Icon Park Ferris Wheel - Orlando, FL



SCAN TO WATCH
VIDEO OF
BILLBOARD

BILLBOARD IN TIMES SQUARE

Blaze of Hope's proudly displayed a billboard in the heart of New York City—Times Square to spotlight our mission on one of the world's biggest stages. The billboard served as a beacon of hope and a call to action, reminding countless individuals about Childhood Cancer Awareness.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Throughout the year, Blaze of Hope has engaged in numerous events and initiatives, significantly increasing public awareness of childhood cancer and of Blaze of Hope. These activities have provided platforms for education, discussion, and fundraising.

196,000
Local Audience Exposure*



Blaze of Hope is proud to partner with the Flanzer Trust. The Flanzer Trust matches donations, effectively doubling the impact of individual contributions.



Realtor Coreen Wilde, generously donates 35% of her commission to Blaze of Hope, providing invaluable support to our mission and the families we serve.



Blaze of Hope was featured in Macy's Mission Every One program in October. Customers at Sarasota Macy's stores were invited to round up purchases for our cause.
Transactions: 19,000



Blaze of Hope partners with the Sarasota Fair in March. Our volunteers manage entry gates and in exchange, the fair contributes generously our cause.
Attendance: 140,000+



On the last Thursday of each month Blaze Pizza in Sarasota donates 20% of their proceeds to support Blaze of Hope.
Customers Reached: 24,000



Blaze of Hope partners with Thunder by the Bay. Our volunteers contribute their time and in return, event organizers donate a portion of the event proceeds to our cause.
Attendance: 10,000+