



# HOPE Street

News from **Hope Street Kids**, a pediatric initiative of the Cancer Research Foundation of America.

## Caroline's vision



Nine-year-old Caroline Pryce Walker, who lost a courageous battle in September 1999 against neuroblastoma.

**T**he tragic death from cancer of nine-year-old Caroline Pryce Walker was the beginning of a personal crusade against the disease by Caroline's parents, Congresswoman Deborah Pryce and Randy Walker. The program they founded in 1999, Hope Street Kids, grew out of lively banter between the courageous, beautiful Caroline, and other children undergoing treatment for cancer in the activity room of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Hospital. A mutual desire to spare other families the fear, anger and isolation that a diagnosis of cancer can mean ignited this small group of people into action. Among them was Caroline, who was fighting neuroblastoma — a rare form of childhood cancer. They named the program that day and proclaimed its mission. **“Just think how many kids we could save if we had a million dollars,”** Caroline said.

**“We never imagined that the program would grow so rapidly in such a short period of time,” says Pryce.**”

Today, under the auspices of one of the nation's leading cancer research and education organizations, the Cancer Research Foundation of America, Hope Street Kids has been shaped from Caroline's idea, and her parents' heartfelt desire to continue the fight they began together. Pediatric cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children. An estimated 12,400 children will be diagnosed with cancer and nearly 2,300 will die from it this year. Each school day, 46 children — two classrooms of kids — will be diagnosed with cancer.

Despite these alarming statistics, just a small fraction of the dollars spent on research in this country is directed to pediatric cancer. Even in terms of cancer research dollars, children are at the bottom of the ladder. New therapies for childhood cancer have been slower to develop and very few medications created solely for children have been made available in the last two decades.

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# Hope Street Kids

## *Names First Awards in Pediatric Cancer Research*

**H**ope Street Kids held its first press conference in Columbus, Ohio in July to announce its inaugural grant recipients. The organization provided an impressive \$420,000 in grants and fellowships to young investigators in support of pediatric cancer research in its first-ever awards program. Hope Street's Scientific Advisory Council, a prestigious panel of pediatric cancer experts, reviewed the proposals and selected eight innovative projects from academic medical centers throughout the country, awarding four one-year grants and four two-year fellowships.

Congresswoman Deborah Pryce, founder of Hope Street Kids, called the eight projects, "the highest caliber research in childhood cancer. We are so encouraged by the proposals we received and by the quality of research we have been able to fund. These projects truly represent what Randy and I had envisioned for Hope Street Kids when it was founded – the best chance to make a critical difference in the lives of children with cancer and their families."

Among those awarded was a two-year grant in the amount of \$70,000 to the Children's Research Institute at Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio for research on tumors in children. Children's Hospital physician Reginald B. Ewesuedo's cutting-edge research will focus on improving the treatment of solid tumors found in children. In adults, these tumors are sometimes resistant to treatment because of the overabundance of a protein that repairs the DNA of cancer cells after chemotherapy destroys them. Dr. Ewesuedo will study this effect in pediatric tumors to determine whether or not the same protein is found in children, making their tumors difficult to treat. If this is true, a drug now being used in adults to stop the protein may also be utilized to more effectively fight childhood cancer.

Additional Hope Street Kids' inaugural grant and fellowship recipients include:

### **Children's Hospital of Los Angeles Los Angeles, California**

Hiroaki Goto, M.D., (Fellow)

and Charles Patrick Reynolds, M.D., Ph.D.

Neuroblastoma is a tumor of the nervous system that is often fatal in children. Drs. Goto and Reynolds are investigating two genes that seem to be overexpressed in neuroblastoma cancer cells. The overabundance of these two genes also makes some neuroblastoma cancer cells resistant to one form of treatment – a drug called 13-cis-RA, a derivative of vitamin A. In the lab, the researchers will create these cells and test this drug and another called fenretinide, to see how the genes affect treatment. This may lead to clinical trials for new therapies.

### **Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

Qun Wang, Ph.D., (Fellow), and

John M. Maris, M.D.

Drs. Wang and Maris's research is hoping to improve treatment for children with neuroblastoma – more than half of young patients with this cancer die despite intensive therapy. They are examining the genetic changes that occur in tumor cells and how they relate to a high-risk patient's chance for survival. They hope to classify the mutations of tumor cells so that more effective drug treatments can be developed in the future.

**Dana-Farber Cancer Institute  
Boston, Massachusetts**

Charles M. Roberts, M.D., Ph.D., (Fellow), and  
Stuart Orkin, M.D.

Drs. Roberts and Orkin are investigating malignant rhabdoid tumor (MRT) — a very aggressive pediatric cancer in which tumors appear in various locations, including the kidney and brain.

Recently, it was found that a gene called SNF5 is inactivated in this cancer — the gene was not previously known to play a role in the disease. This research is examining SNF5 in MRT in mice, in hopes of better understanding how the gene functions and its role in cancer development. This information may lead to useful treatment for MRT and other tumors in children.

**Georgetown University Hospital  
Lombardi Cancer Center  
Washington, DC**

Yvonne Bush, MSW, LICSW

Bush, a pediatric social worker who works with cancer patients, is developing a program to support children with brain tumors and their families, helping them cope with schooling, the trauma of bone marrow transplant treatment and any lasting effects that result from therapy.

**University of Louisville  
Institute of Cellular Therapeutics  
Louisville, Kentucky**

H. Leighton Grimes, Ph.D.

Dr. Grimes's research examines the role of a protein in the development of T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia. We know that leukemia is a disease, in which too much of a protein is produced, causing abnormal cell growth. There are a number of different kinds of leukemia and each seems to be caused by a specific key protein. Identifying these proteins is important for the development of effective treatments. But there is some confusion about T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Dr. Grimes has already identified a protein that may be the problem and is studying the cancer in mice so that he can learn how it causes this form of leukemia.



Founders of HSK, Congresswoman Pryce and Randy Walker, visit recent grant recipient Dr. Reginald Ewesuedo at the Children's Hospital of Columbus, Ohio

**University of Utah  
Salt Lake City, Utah**

Robert E. Goldsby, M.D.

Every time a cell divides, an enzyme called polymerase copies the DNA of that cell. Sometimes during this replication, a mutation occurs — mutations in DNA can lead to cancer. To help ensure that DNA is copied correctly, the enzyme contains “proofreaders” that check for any errors. Dr. Goldsby's research in mice has shown that when the polymerase enzyme makes a proofreading mistake, cancer develops. Now he will examine this phenomenon in the tumor samples from children diagnosed with cancer to determine if this discovery is a key mechanism in the development of human cancer.

**Vanderbilt University  
Nashville, Tennessee**

Zhixiong Xu, Ph.D., (Fellow)  
and Stephen Brandt, M.D.

In this research, Drs. Xu and Brandt are studying a protein called SCL in the development of childhood cancer, T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia. SCL is not only essential for the formation of blood cells in embryos, but also stimulates the expression of a gene called CDK6. The gene is critical to normal blood cell growth, but plays a role in the development of this type of leukemia as well. The goal of this investigation is to learn more about the role of the protein and gene in abnormal blood cell growth — knowledge that could lead to better treatments.

**MARK  
your Calendar**

**Second Annual “Children  
for Children” Choir Event**

March 10, 2002  
Southern Theater  
Columbus, Ohio

**Third Annual “Swinging for  
Caroline” Golf and Tennis  
Invitational**

Monday, June 10, 2002  
Landsdowne Resort  
Leesburg, Virginia

**Third Annual Caroline  
Pryce Walker Memorial  
Event**

Saturday, August 17, 2002  
Columbus Zoo and Aquarium  
Powell, Ohio

*Reserve your tickets early.  
All events are expected to sell out.  
For more information or sponsorship  
opportunities please contact  
Cynthia Duncan at 1-800-227-2732.*

# Caroline's vision, from page 1

Not only has pediatric cancer research traditionally been under-funded in this country but information about current treatments has not been readily available to patients and their families. Hope Street Kids was formed to change this reality by supporting innovative research that can quickly be translated into therapy and to support young cancer patients and their families. It is one of just a few programs with such a targeted mission. Says Congresswoman Pryce, "We are continuing the fight Caroline began, and we are dedicated to honoring her memory and to honoring lives of each child affected by cancer."

## \$1.2 Million Raised

In 2000, Hope Street embarked upon a hopeful journey to reach an ambitious goal: A world without childhood cancer. The program has raised an impres-

sive 1.2 million dollars since its inception. "We never imagined that the program would grow so rapidly in such a short period of time," says Pryce.

A generous gift from The Limited Inc. and Intimate Brands, Inc., provided start-up support for the program. Additional funds have been raised through individual, corporate and foundation gifts and through three signature events: "Swinging for Caroline" Golf and Tennis Invitational in Virginia, the Caroline Pryce Walker Memorial Event at the Columbus, Ohio Zoo and the "Children for Children" choir event in Columbus.



"Hope Street Kids has made great strides in a short time," says Randy Walker. "We are delighted to be able to provide this critical support. For too long, childhood cancer has been an orphan when it comes to funding. We are encouraged that many breakthrough treatments for the thousands of children who are diagnosed with cancer each year will be discovered on *Hope Street*."

To learn more or to become our Partner in Hope, contact: Cynthia Duncan at 1-800-227-2732



# kids helping kids

## New York City Teens Raise \$35,000 for Pediatric Cancer Research

On Saturday, May 12, the Packer Walk for Pediatric Cancer Research took place in Prospect Park in New York City. The walk was organized by young teens — 20 girls in two

eight grade homerooms at Packer Collegiate Institute in Brooklyn Heights, NY. What began as a homeroom community service project was transformed into an extraordinary and inspiring experience for all involved.

Students of all ages, teachers, parents and friends, gathered for the 3.5 mile walk and raised \$35,000 to benefit Hope Street Kids. "The fact that 20 thirteen and fourteen year-olds have organized

this event and raised this amount of money is astounding and gives us all hope for the future," said a mother of a young cancer patient who attended the walk.

New York City Council Representative Ken Fisher spoke to the participants before the walk and presented the school with an official proclamation from the City Council honoring the Packer Collegiate girls for their outstanding community service. Dr. Michael La Quaglia, Chief of Pediatric Surgery at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and a member of the Hope Street Scientific Advisory Council, also spoke.

Proceeds from the walk enabled Hope Street Kids to award a grant in pediatric cancer research to Dr. Nai-Kong Cheung at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Dr. Cheung's research is aimed at



# Action

## for Awareness

### September — National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Childhood Cancer Month, observed each September, provides an annual opportunity to recognize childhood cancer patients, survivors, families and caregivers and honor those young people who have lost their lives to this disease. Each year, communities nationwide sponsor events to increase awareness of childhood cancer, the life-saving benefits of research and the important work that needs to be done to



advance research, treatment, access to care, prevention and early detection.

To find out more about next year's national activities planned for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, please visit [www.childhoodcancerawareness.org](http://www.childhoodcancerawareness.org).

### Columbus, Ohio, Childhood Cancer Awareness Day

Hundreds of childhood cancer patients, families, caregivers and public officials, gathered on the steps of the Statehouse in downtown Columbus, Ohio, on September 7, 2001, to show support for and draw attention to childhood cancer. Governor Bob Taft signed a proclamation declaring September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in Ohio. This day was a unique opportunity for the Columbus community to unite and honor those whose lives have been touched and forever changed by this disease, to raise awareness and actively advocate for additional support

to address the greatest needs of pediatric cancer patients, caregivers, survivors and families.

We extend warm thanks to Beverly Circone, Founder of Ohio based Kids 'N' Kamp, for her tireless efforts to bring together the Columbus community for this commendable effort. Hope Street and its supporters were honored to be part of such a moving occasion.

### Washington, DC, Childhood Cancer Awareness Days Cancelled Due to National Tragedy

Due to the tragic events that occurred on September 11, all activities planned on September 12-15, 2001 for National Childhood Cancer Awareness Gold Ribbon Days in Washington, DC, were cancelled. We extend our most heartfelt sympathy to those who have been deeply impacted by these unspeakable events.

finding innovative treatments that will save the lives of thousands of children touched by this disease.

The young organizers of the walk plan to broaden their efforts on behalf of children with cancer through a coalition of students from several New York City schools. Plans are already underway for next year's Walk, which will be held in May 2002 in a New York City park.

Thanks to all involved in the Packer Pediatric Research Walk and to the young crusaders, who are inspirations to us all.

### Children for Children Choir Event

A new Columbus, Ohio event took place on May 19, 2001 at The Ohio Theater. "Children for Children" brought together more than 400 of Columbus' most talented young performers for an evening of music and song. Anchored by the Columbus Children's Choir, the program was attended by nearly 1,800



people in support of pediatric cancer research and raised over \$75,000 to benefit Hope Street Kids. Special guests included Mayor and Mrs. Michael Coleman of Columbus, Ohio and mistress of ceremonies Gail Hogan, anchor and reporter for WCMH NBC 4.

Event sponsors included: Pathlore, Giant Eagle, Cardinal Health, Honda of North America, The Huntington National Bank, Nationwide, Procter & Gamble and Vivendi Universal.

Hope Street Kids, in cooperation with the Columbus Children's Choir, will host its Second Annual "Children for Children" Choir Event on March 10, 2002 at the Southern Theater.

For information on supporting next year's event please call 614-228-4820.

# Spotlight

## on Special Events

**T**his year dozens of corporate and individual donors made Hope Street Kids signature events a resounding success, raising a half million dollars in support of pediatric cancer research. We are grateful for their continued generous support.

### Second Annual "Swinging for Caroline" Golf and Tennis Invitational

**H**eld on June 11, 2001 at Belle Haven Country Club, Alexandria, VA, the Second Annual "Swinging for Caroline" Golf and Tennis Invitational was a sold-out event, raising a record-breaking \$300,000. The tournament was co-chaired by Senators John Breaux and Blanche Lambert Lincoln and Congressmen Jim McCrery and Fred Upton and featured a VIP face-off exhibition between bipartisan members of Congress and the Pro Circuit. The Invitational included a round-robin tennis tournament and golf scramble. The day came to an exciting end with a fun-filled family awards reception, with a special guest appearance from Mickey and Minnie Mouse and Scooby Doo.

Proceeds raised at the event support innovative programs to eliminate childhood cancer through cutting-edge research, advocacy and education.

Event sponsors included:

**Underwriter**  
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Due to the popularity and tremendous success of this event, next year's tournament will be re-located to the Landsdowne Resort in Leesburg, Virginia. Make sure to "Save the Date" for Monday, June 10, 2002!

### The Second Annual Caroline Pryce Walker Memorial Event

**T**his spectacular family affair features music, great food and of course – the animals. This year's Second Annual Caroline Pryce Walker Memorial Event took place at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium in Powell, Ohio, on August 25, 2001. The event drew a crowd of over 1,300 people and raised \$185,000 in support of pediatric cancer research. Event sponsors included:

### Underwriter

*The Limited Inc. & Intimate Brands, Inc.*

### Event Partners

*Bob Evans Farms  
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### Event Sponsors

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### Event Friends

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The Edwards Foundation  
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### Event Contributors

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Join us for the Third Annual Caroline Pryce Walker Memorial Event scheduled for August 17, 2002 at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. For more information on any of these events or for sponsorship opportunities, please contact the Development and Special Events Manager at 614-228-4820.

## A Special thank you

To all our dear friends, we are so very grateful for your heartfelt support and commitment to our vision. You have made a difference in our hearts and in the lives of so many children.

We hope you will continue to invest in our work and in a healthier future for all children. To learn more or to become our Partner in Hope, contact:

**Cynthia Duncan,**  
Executive Director  
Hope Street Kids  
1600 Duke Street, Suite 110  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
1800-227-2732

or

**Julie Barry,**  
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Hope Street Kids  
145 East Rich Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
614-228-4820

[www.hopestreetkids.org](http://www.hopestreetkids.org)

## A Tribute to Katie Westbrook

On June 5, 2001, Katie Westbrook lost her battle to cancer only hours before she was to receive an honorary law degree from Duquesne University Law School in Pittsburgh, PA. Katie was just 15 and her life-long dream was to become a lawyer.



In early 1999, Katie, the oldest of Shawn and Beth Westbrook's three children, was on her way to becoming a solid soccer player. But a persistent pain in her left leg nagged at her. Her parents took her to her pediatrician — soon after Katie was diagnosed with osteogenic sarcoma, a rare, malignant tumor.

Through the harsh reality of chemotherapy at Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh, Katie remained filled with good spirits. She demonstrated a wry sense of humor, even in the face of the agonizing decision to amputate her leg. On that difficult day, Katie's surgeon found a note written in black magic marker on her right leg: "Do not cut this leg," the sleeping Katie cautioned. On her left leg, she had written, "Good-bye cruel world. See you in heaven."

Sadly the amputation proved unsuccessful in stopping the spread of tumors. Katie, confined to a wheelchair, had three wishes: drive a car, be kissed by a boy, and wear a wedding gown. Before she died her wishes were fulfilled.

During her life, Katie became an articulate and courageous advocate for pediatric cancer research.

She and her mom began a quest together, determined to let people know that kids get cancer every day. "People say that kids are the future, if this is true then people should put their money where it counts — towards pediatric cancer research," she said, in a cameo appearance made in the Hope Street Kids "Healthy Solutions" segment, which aired in May on national television.

Katie and her family helped to break down barriers of understanding between the public and young cancer patients and their families. In her short life, she demonstrated enormous courage and determination — we are honored that Katie shared with us her experiences and extend our most heart-felt sympathies to her family.

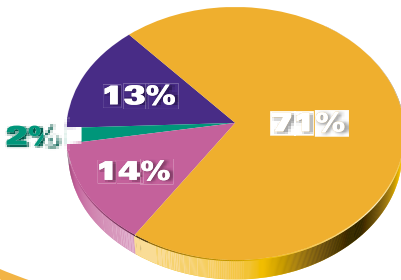
The Hope Street Kids video featuring Katie can be viewed online at [www.hopestreetkids.org](http://www.hopestreetkids.org).

# 2001 Financial

## highlights

The Hope Street Kids program expenses fall into two categories: research and education. Research and education grants are awarded to institutions, individuals and organizations and are selected through a peer-review grant process approved by the National Institutes of Health. At the end of each grant competition, programs are evaluated and a progress report is submitted to Hope Street Kids. Educational expenditures include all of Hope Street Kids' efforts to reach the public with information about pediatric cancer and include the publication of the Hope Street Newsletter, brochures and other materials, as well as the Hope Street Kids Web site.

### Allocation of Funds



- 71% Research and Education grants
- 14% Education and public awareness
- 2% Management and General
- 13% Fundraising

## Scientific Advisory Council

The Hope Street Scientific Advisory Council is a panel of leading cancer experts from across the United States who review dozens of proposals for research in treatment and prevention of childhood cancers. The Scientific Advisory Council's review process meets the National Institutes of Health grant-review standards. The Hope Street Kids grant and fellowship program is non-federally funded and is privately supported through individual, corporate and foundation contributors. The distinguished Advisory Council members include:

### Chairman

*Stephen J. Chanock, M.D.*  
National Cancer Institute  
Bethesda, Maryland

### Members

*Robert Arceci, M.D.*  
The Johns Hopkins Hospital  
Baltimore, Maryland

*Garrett Brodeur, M.D.*  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

*Mary Dinauer, M.D.*  
Herman B. Wells Center for Pediatric Research  
James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children  
Indianapolis, Indiana

*Lee Helman, M.D.*  
National Cancer Institute  
Bethesda, Maryland

*F. Leonard Johnson, M.D.*  
Doernbecher Children's Hospital  
Oregon Health Sciences University  
Portland, Oregon

*Michael Laquaglia, M.D.*  
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center  
New York, New York

*Richard O'Reilly, M.D.*  
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center  
New York, New York

*David Poplack, M.D.*  
Texas Children's Cancer Center  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Houston, Texas

*Susan Shurin, M.D.*  
Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital  
Cleveland, Ohio

*David Wilson, M.D.*  
Washington University School of Medicine  
St. Louis Children's Hospital  
St. Louis, Missouri

*Hope Street* is published by Hope Street Kids, a pediatric program of the Cancer Research Foundation of America. Its mission: to eliminate childhood cancer through advocacy, education and cutting-edge research, and to help support children with cancer and their families during and after treatment.

The Cancer Research Foundation of America is recognized by the IRS as a 501 (c) (3) public charity and meets all standards of the National Charities Information Bureau. Your gifts are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Hope Street Kids is registered as a "DBA" under CRFA.

### Founders/Publishers

Congresswoman Deborah Pryce  
Randy Walker

### Executive Director

Cynthia Duncan

### Development/Special Events Manager

Julie Barry

### Cancer Research Foundation of America

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**Hope  
Street  
Kids**

LEADING THE FIGHT  
AGAINST CHILDHOOD CANCER