



ALSF Founder Alex Scott

Inside: a neuroblastoma breakthrough, the buzziest terms in research, helping heroes and more.

Childhood Cancer Research: Powered by Lemonade Stands



At just 18 months old, Caroline was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Six months later, her 2-year-old cousin was diagnosed with neuroblastoma. After more than two years of chemotherapy, Caroline entered remission. Sadly, her cousin passed away.

Caroline missed her cousin and wanted to honor her fight. She had also made friends with other kids who had cancer while in the hospital and wanted to support their fight too. So in 2017, Caroline had the idea to hold a lemonade stand. She was going to raise money “to buy toys for her friends still in the hospital.”

That same summer Saturday, she hastily threw together her first lemonade stand with help from her sister, Charlotte, and raised \$54. The next year, friends and neighbors helped them raise more than \$800. By the third stand, Caroline and Charlotte had garnered national media attention. That year, donations came in from over 30 states, Canada, England, and Ireland. They raised more than \$13,000.

They also discovered Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF), and the story of Alex Scott was too familiar to forget. They decided that all of donations they raised would not only go to the hospital that treated Caroline, but ALSF as well.

Through the following years, Caroline and Charlotte made their lemonade stand available virtually, and raised thousands more. This year they can’t wait to hold another traditional lemonade stand for their 7th year – and neither can we!

Lemonade stands are at the heart of all we do at ALSF. The research into better and safer treatments, family support programs, and ultimately, cures for all kids with cancer started with Alex’s stand and continues today with donations to fundraisers all over. Stands like Caroline and Charlotte’s go up during Lemonade Days each June, kicking off a movement to make a difference, and a summer full of hope. It is stands all year long that give kids a second chance at childhood and fund the research breakthroughs that lead to their cures.



See more inside about what stands and supporters like you make possible.

ALSF-funded Researcher Finds Treatment for High-risk Neuroblastoma



Philip was 3 years old when doctors told his parents that his neuroblastoma was incurable. His parents never gave up hope, which took them to a clinical trial for a drug called lorlatinib led by ALSF-funded researcher Dr. Yael Mossé. The trial worked. Today, Philip is 9 years old and is currently cancer-free.

The trial worked for other kids, too. Funded in part by ALSF, the Phase I trial showed that lorlatinib was safe and tolerable. Those enrolled in the trial all had refractory or relapsed neuroblastoma, meaning their cancer didn't respond to treatment or came back after initial treatments. The results were published in a premier science publication, *Nature Medicine*.

One group of children was treated with a combination of lorlatinib and chemotherapy, leading to 63% of them having their cancer shrink or disappear. Now lorlatinib is in a Phase 3 clinical trial, one step closer to FDA approval for all children fighting this type of neuroblastoma.

"Philip wouldn't be here," said Wendy, Philip's mom. "This was his last shot at helping him survive."



Liz Scott, Alex's mom, embraces Philip's mom Wendy.

Crazy Trends in Childhood Cancer Research

Did you know that researchers studying osteosarcoma are using a "**molecular time machine**" to study what happens when the disease spreads throughout the body or that researchers are creating a library of **molecular glues** capable of breaking down the proteins driving cancer?

All of this cutting-edge science is happening in projects funded by the Crazy 8 Initiative, which we started to bring together leading researchers to solve the most difficult problems facing childhood cancer today. With your support, ALSF has provided \$25 million in grant funding to six projects led by researchers at 21 institutions all over the world. This special grant category brings together multidisciplinary teams who are **studying oncogenes** (mutated genes that give rise to tumors), using cellular barcodes (like a UPC symbol at the grocery store, but for tracking cells as they develop) and working on **drug development** (process of bringing a new compound to the clinic as drugs for patients) for **undruggable targets**, like MYCN, a driver of many cancers, including neuroblastoma.

Want to learn more about the crazy trends in childhood cancer research? Check out our guide on the ALSF blog at [AlexsLemonade.org/Blog](https://www.alexslimonade.org/blog).

Big Data Breakthroughs

ALSF's Childhood Cancer Data Lab empowers pediatric cancer researchers poised for the next big discovery with the knowledge, data, and tools to reach it. Here's a snapshot of a few accomplishments since launching in 2017:

- refine.bio has provided more than 5,000 datasets to users across the globe, saving an estimated 100 years of researcher time.
- The Open Pediatric Brain Tumor Atlas is a global open science initiative, which brought together multidisciplinary experts from 20 institutions along with the Data Lab. Together, they analyzed over 1,000 pediatric brain tumors and made the results available in real time.
- Data science workshops have trained 250 researchers from over 65 institutions around the world.

Learn more at [CCDataLab.org](https://www.CCDataLab.org).



Travel For Care: Helping Kids Like Diego

Your support helped start our Travel For Care program, covering travel and lodging costs to ensure kids, like Diego, could reach treatment they needed. In early 2021, Diego started looking unusually pale. Then low energy, a fever, and strange bruises on his leg led the teenage boy to the ER, and not long after, he was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. His second round of chemotherapy caused his bone marrow to shut down, which meant he couldn't heal easily from infections. He needed a transplant, but getting his family and his donor to the hospital in California was challenging. When they were connected to our Travel For Care program, everything fell into place – lodging and travel expenses were provided to Diego's family, including his 6-year-old stepbrother who was going to be his donor. The transplant was successful, and today Diego is happily in remission!



“I will be forever thankful for the help and relief that ALSF provided for our family! We weren't able to afford so much, and you were able to make this possible! Your support was invaluable since we were still trying to get our life together!”

-Alma, Diego's mom

Spring Into Action



Find your favorite way to get involved this year!

Lemonade Days (June 3-11)

This week-long lemonade stand movement encourages people across the country to kick-off summer by hosting their own stand to raise funds for childhood cancer research.



Champions For Kids with Cancer

Join student athletes in turning their season's stats into lifesaving research dollars through the Champions program.



The Million Mile (September 1-30)

Sign up for this fitness challenge to help us reach our goal of moving a million miles and raising millions of dollars during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.



Alex Guarnaschelli at The Great Chefs Event Philadelphia

With more ALSF culinary events returning across the country this year, try your hand at this quick and easy recipe shared by one of our Great Chef supporters Alex Guarnaschelli!

Butterless Spring Biscuits

3 cups flour

1 tablespoon + 1½ teaspoons of baking powder

2 teaspoons salt

2 tablespoons sugar

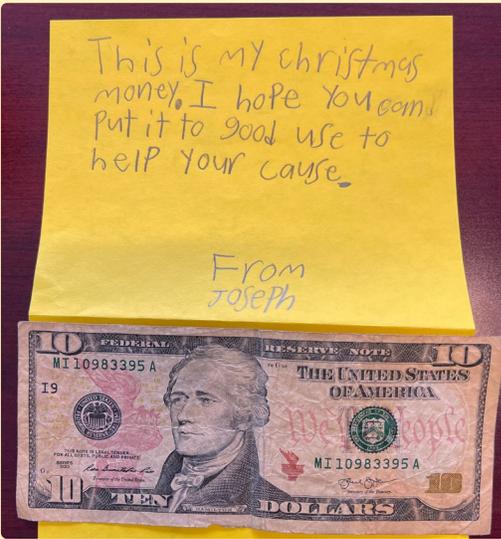
~2 cups heavy cream

Mix as little as possible (otherwise dough will be tough). Cut into about 8-10 round biscuits 1½ inches high. Bake 12-15 minutes at 375°F.

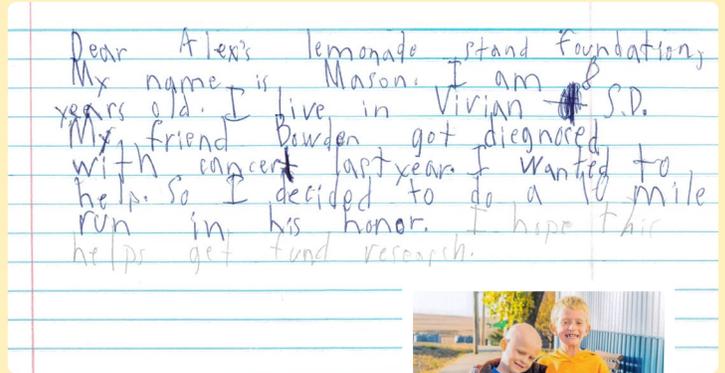
Then check out the ALSF culinary events coming up for the year at [AlexsLemonade.org/Culinary-Events!](https://AlexsLemonade.org/Culinary-Events)

Get started at AlexsLemonade.org/Get-Involved.

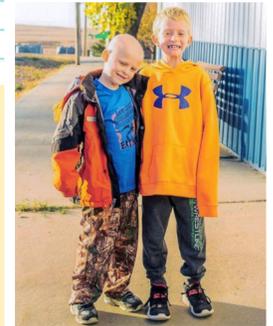




Joseph is a selfless kid, who gave his Christmas money to ALSF to “put it to good use” to help kids fighting cancer.



Mason decided to do a 10-mile run to honor his friend's battle with cancer and sent this letter to ALSF filled with donations from his fundraiser.



Since 2019, ALDI has been proud to support ALSF in the fight against childhood cancer. With in-store promotions like selling lemonade kit essentials this June to encouraging employees to host their own fundraising events, ALDI remains determined to reach their goal of raising \$10M for ALSF by 2027.



Since 2006, Five Below has raised more than \$10 million to help change the future of childhood cancer. Between May 22 – June 18, Five Below will collect donations for ALSF during checkout at all of its stores nationwide and when shopping online at FiveBelow.com. Thank you Five Below and their WowCrew for joining us in the fight against childhood cancer.



In the last 10 years, Northwestern Mutual has contributed more than \$27 million to ALSF, supported over 590,000 hours of research into childhood cancer, and been an early funder of the Crazy 8 Initiative & Data Lab. Northwestern Mutual employees at over 80 network offices go above and beyond each year by hosting fundraising events such as golf outings, galas, cornhole tournaments and more!

Watch Your Donation Grow with One Cup

Living in the Philadelphia area, Bill and Camille were already familiar with ALSF when a close friend's son was diagnosed with leukemia. As a mathematics professor, Bill decided to get involved with ALSF's Childhood Cancer Data Lab. Today, Bill and Camille are retired and living in Virginia, but as members of the One Cup Club, they use their monthly donations to keep fighting childhood cancer.

“You know, we have two grandchildren. **ALSF is working to keep them safe from cancer, and the way to help is to give them the money and the resources they need to do their work.**”

Join now at AlexsLemonade.org/One-Cup-Newsletter.



Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation
3 Bala Plaza West
Suite 601
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004



@AlexsLemonade