A question we’re often asked is, “how do you keep doing this?” Meaning, after losing a child to cancer, how do we relive the story day in and day out of our amazing daughter who is no longer with us. The answer is quite simple - this is Alex’s mission, how could we possibly do anything else? Now, 13 years after her first lemonade stand, it’s become so much more than honoring our daughter - it’s about ensuring that every penny our supporters so generously donate is helping to fund incredible research projects led by the brightest scientists in the country; it’s about supporting families going through the journey of a childhood cancer diagnosis with the resources they need; it’s about finding a cure - so that someday, no other family has to lose a precocious, funny, smart and loving son or daughter to this devastating disease. Thank you and happy lemonade season!

-Liz & Jay Scott (Alex’s Parents)

MIX. POUR. FIND A CURE.
NATIONAL LEMONADE DAYS (JUNE 7-9)

Our unofficial tag line for National Lemonade Days says it all - mix up some lemonade, pour it for visitors to your stand and help us raise money to find cures for kids with cancer. Worried about perfecting your batch of lemonade? We’re here to help! This year, we’ve enlisted the support of celebrity chefs and regulars on the Food Network, Melissa d’Arabian and Alex Guarnaschelli, who are providing kid-friendly recipes in the free kits offered to anyone who signs up to hold a lemonade stand during National Lemonade Days, June 7-9.

In addition to the recipes, the kit includes banners, posters, balloons, wristbands, literature and more to make holding a stand easy and fun! National Lemonade Days commemorates the time of year that Alex held her annual stand. Help us honor our founder and all kids battling the disease! Sign up to hold a stand and get your free kit at: AlexsLemonade.org/LemonadeDays.

Join us for the first worldwide childhood cancer event - the Million Mile Run! During the month of September, Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, supporters across the globe will help us collectively run or walk 1 million miles. We’re asking each individual or team to set a goal of logging 100 miles over the course of the month. Just think, if your team of 4 walked 1 mile a day during your lunch break - you would reach 100 miles in no time!

One million miles is a long way, but a parent of a child with cancer would go that far (and then some) to find a cure.

Are we crazy? Maybe, but Alex set a goal to raise $1 million through her lemonade stand, which we thought was ambitious at the time, and she surpassed it. We think we can too.

Learn more and sign up at MillionMileRun.org!

FIGHTING childhood cancer
ONE CUP AT A TIME
A REPORT CARD OF OUR GRANTS PROGRAM

We recently completed an analysis of our grants program to formally assess its impact. The results were overwhelmingly positive and speak volumes to what your support has helped to accomplish. We’ve highlighted a few results below. We are more encouraged than ever that we will find a cure.

The 2 main objectives of our grants program:

1) Find new or improved cures and/or treatments for pediatric cancer.
2) Create a sustaining and productive community of researchers focused on pediatric cancer research.

• 95% of ALSF grantees say they advanced the field of pediatric oncology research
• 72% of grantees received subsequent funding related to the work performed with the ALSF grant
• 50% of grantees published their findings from their ALSF grant
• 37% reported that their research led to the commencement of a clinical trial or hope one will commence in the next few years
• 52% reported that their research either led to a less toxic treatment or believe this will occur in the coming years
• 94% of ALSF grantees remain active in pediatric oncology research

SNAPSHOTS OF SUCCESS

From that first glass of lemonade, more than 300 pediatric cancer research projects have been funded across North America led by some of the best and brightest researchers urgently pushing for breakthroughs. Read just some of the stories below, given to us directly from our researchers, on how your support is making a difference in the lives of children with cancer.

Sarah Tasian, MD
Young Investigator Award
Development of Targeted Therapies in High Risk Childhood ALL

I recall fondly a patient whom I treated, “Daisy,” who was 3-years-old when she was diagnosed with leukemia. Daisy’s leukemia had the kind of “good” genetic changes that usually result in a cure, so we were optimistic. She went through months of chemotherapy and into remission. Daisy relapsed when she was 5, underwent more treatment, but relapsed again and died. To this day, I still don’t know why her leukemia was so hard to treat. Daisy’s memory and her smile will always inspire me to work fervently to study pediatric leukemia in the lab.

ALSF’s support has allowed us to figure out how certain protein networks within leukemia cells are hyperactive and “miswired,” and we are studying how to interrupt those miswired networks with new drugs. We tested a targeted therapy for the first time in children with relapsed leukemias through a Phase I trial, and it has proven safe and well-tolerated. We’re now developing the next clinical trial to combine this treatment with chemotherapy, with the goal of improving cure rates. We simply must continue to work hard for our cherished patients who fight so valiantly and, for me, for Daisy.

Emmanuel Volanakis, MD
Young Investigator Award
Targeting polycomb-mediated epigenetic silencing in T cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia

One of the toughest conversations we have to have with families is telling them that a cancer that had responded to treatment has come back. This can often mean the unwelcome prospect of more treatment.

We don’t know why some cancers come back and some don’t. One possibility is that the cells in a tumor, which all look superficially the same when examined by conventional methods, really have inherent differences that allow some of the cells to escape the effects of anti-cancer drugs, while most of the cancer cells die.

Our lab has used an experimental model of a type of childhood leukemia to show that these differences can exist when the cancer first presents. It’s too early to know if the specific finding will prove to be a useful target for new treatments for kids, but it gives us reason to believe we can crack this problem if we keep working on it.

Terry Vik, MD
Epidemiology Award
Childhood Leukemia in Kenya Identified Through Malana Slide Review

Our epidemiology project in Kenya to identify cases of leukemia is already developing some “side effects.”

The lab staff of the small district hospital we are based in is learning how to detect leukemia on their own by examining slides in real time. On our team’s last visit, one of our co-investigators was asked to see a young girl with low blood counts in the hospital ward. The girl had signs of leukemia, but the hospital didn’t have the capability to do a bone marrow test to confirm the suspected leukemia diagnosis. My colleague bundled her and her mother up in the study vehicle and brought her back to our hospital to complete the diagnostic workup and begin treatment for her leukemia. She is now receiving treatment for ALL and is alive and doing great.

This project is allowing us to teach the Kenyans that leukemia exists and can be diagnosed and treated early, making a difference in these children’s lives.

Ki Moore, PhD, RN, FAAN
Nurse Researcher Award
Effects of CNS Treatment on the Hippocampus

Children with ALL, the most common pediatric tumor, receive chemotherapy directed at the cancer cells in the brain tissue, however very little is known about the effect this treatment has on healthy brain tissue.

Our goal is to protect normal brain tissue from the damaging effects of chemotherapy by developing interventions to improve cognitive abilities and quality of life outcomes among these children. One of our patient’s mothers summed up the importance of this research:

“Don’t realize the profound effects of research until it hits you and your family, and you see the long term differences that can be made. This research is vital to knowing the real effects of the chemo blasts that our son must endure for the next 4 years. Our son will not be cancer-free until April 18, 2015. Until that date we are wondering how this will affect his growth, his learning, his fine motor skills, his speech...his life. This research will help us help others, what a gift to be a part of this invaluable experience.”
“Remission...bring on the lemonade stand!”

This is part of the email we received from Elizabeth Edwards of Homestead, FL after she received the wonderful news that her son Patrick's scans were clear. In 2011, Patrick was diagnosed with Wilms' Tumor, a type of kidney cancer. Just six weeks after completing treatment, spots were found on his lungs followed by another Wilms' Tumor on his abdomen. Although understandably apprehensive, Elizabeth remained positive that Patrick's latest rounds of scans would be clear and with the news that they were, decided to move forward with holding a lemonade stand at a food truck rally.

“We came home as high as kites,” is what we heard from the Edwards family after their lemonade stand, which was a success in terms of raising more than $300 for ALSF, as well as a priceless amount of awareness of the need to support childhood cancer research. Elizabeth and her family are already planning their next stand to honor their heroic little boy.

THE REASONS BEHIND THE LEMONADE STANDS - OUR CHILDHOOD CANCER HEROES

“CANCER WON'T BEAT ME!” - ELIJAH CLARK
Information provided by Marvin & Alishia Clark, Elijah’s parents

Fourteen-year-old Elijah Clark is no stranger to adversity. Born without hands, Elijah exhibited independence and competence at a young age. When his kindergarten teacher called his parents, Alishia and Marvin, to let them know that he was the only student able to open his milk box by himself, they knew their outgoing son would persevere and not let his lack of hands hamper his ability to succeed.

A passionate soccer player, Elijah thought he had pulled a muscle in his back and was given a muscle relaxer. Diagnosed with high blood pressure, the muscle relaxer caused his blood pressure to drop, resulting in a concussion on the soccer field. While recovering from the concussion, Elijah’s parents noticed he began sleeping excessively, losing weight and a rash on his face appeared. After he recovered from his concussion, he began to complain of nausea, ran a low grade fever and was sweating at night. When Elijah began having abdominal pain and trouble walking, he was admitted to the hospital where x-rays, CT scans, more blood work and ultimately a biopsy revealed that he had Hodgkin’s Lymphoma.

Elijah began a 21-day treatment cycle and his prognosis is great – his doctors expect a full recovery. The chemotherapy has caused Elijah to have both good and bad days, limiting his social life, but his positive attitude remains. Elijah continues to strive for excellence in everything that he does, and his parents feel secure that he will grow into a happy, successful adult, embracing the joy in life considering the battles he’s fought at such a young age.

KAYLI HOSTETLER
Written by Judy Hostetler, Kayli’s Mom

When Kayli was 8-years-old, she went to the doctor for her well child check-up. Upon examination, our doctor felt a large mass in her abdomen and sent us to Akron Children’s Hospital. After a whirlwind of tests and then surgery, Kayli was given the diagnosis of ganglioneuroblastoma. Her tumor was the size of a grapefruit and they were not able to resect all of it, due to it lying along the vena cava. For the next four and a half years, she was followed closely with scans and tests to monitor the residual cells.

Almost five years after diagnosis, she had another tumor grow, which required removal again. Another year later, she had 3 tumors come back at once. More surgery, but a complete tumor resection this time. She then began chemotherapy, which her body did not tolerate well at all. She had to end her chemo early due to her body’s inability to handle more and then completed 16 radiation treatments.

In September 2012, we received word that Kayli’s cancer was back for the fourth time. The cancer is spreading and is not only in her spine and back, but in her shoulder and hip as well. It is determined to be Stage 4.

Kayli is almost 19 and has battled her disease for over 10 years. She has opted to try and slow her disease to grant her quality of health with whatever time that she has. Why be sick and not able to enjoy the things that you want to do? We are fully supportive of her decision. She wants to make the most of her days and is fighting hard to prevail against her disease. In light of the current situation something beautiful has happened - Kayli and her boyfriend Ian became engaged and were married. Together, they are making the most of their time together and experiencing all the love and joy that marriage brings.
ALEXSLEMONADE.ORG GETS A MAKEOVER
Notice anything different about our website? We’ve redesigned the site in an effort to make it cleaner and easier to navigate, as well as enhance our registration process. Stay tuned - more updates to come! Questions? Give us a call at any time at (866) 333-1213.

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT
Our sponsors continue to come up with fun ways to get everyone in the spirit of lemonade season. Visit our website for a full list of our sponsors’ events.

Applebee’s Restaurants
From July 1-28, Applebee’s 700 restaurants nationwide will be selling paper lemons and/or donating 25 cents for every frozen lemonade or spiked Bacardi lemonade sold.

Rita’s Italian Ice
Purchase a paper lemon at your favorite Rita’s from June 5-18 and help to ice out childhood cancer! All donations will benefit the newly established Rita’s Fund of Hope. This fund is meant to ensure that the travel needs of families whose children are battling cancer are met.

Volvo - Buy a Car, Win a Car!
Buy a new Volvo and participating dealers will donate $10 to ALSF. The Volvo raffle is also back! Raffle tickets for a chance to win a brand new Volvo XC60 are $25 each or a book of 10 is $200. The winning ticket will be drawn at Alex’s “Original” Lemonade Stand on Saturday, June 8 - winner need not be present to win. To purchase raffle tickets, call our office at (866) 333-1213.

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EAT, DRINK, BIKE OR RUN - SPECIAL EVENTS FOR EVERYONE

- Midwest Lemonade Days (May 31-June 1)
- Alex Scott: A Stand for Hope Phone Bank (June 6)
- National Lemonade Days (June 7-9)
- Alex’s “Original” Lemonade Stand (June 8)
- The Great Chefs Event (June 11)
- The Lemon Ride (July 21)
- Million Mile Run (Sept. 1-30)
- L.A. Loves Alex’s Lemonade (Sept. 28)
- Lemon: NYC (Oct. 8)
- The Lemon Run (Nov. 10)

Visit AlexsLemonade.org/special-events to learn more about any of the events above.

RANDOM ACTS OF GRATITUDE
“SHOUT OUTS” to some of our dedicated supporters.

Jeremy Jacobus in California, who is on his way to completing 1,000 hikes in 1,000 days as part of Team Lemon. Kudos also to Jeremy’s children who hold Alex’s Lemonade Stands at the trailhead of the hikes.

Littlebrook, NJ’s “Girls on the Run” group, who held a lemonade stand and wrote motivational messages such as “You Can Do Anything!” on each cup they sold. They raised $61.90, not to mention the spirits of everyone who visited their stand.

The Beer Financial Group, a Northwestern Mutual office in Woodland Hills, who raised more than $7,500 by holding a lemonade stand at the Northwestern Mutual Cheeseboro Half Marathon in Agoura Hills, CA.

The cast and crew of “Dr. Horrible’s Sing-Along Blog” (yes, that’s the name of the play!) from Chapel Hill High School in North Carolina, who raised more than $3,000 from donations collected at the show.

Kate Franklin of Florida, who celebrated her 7th birthday by holding an Alex’s Lemonade Stand at her party and asked for $7 donations so that kids with cancer can have the same fun experiences that she gets to enjoy every day. Go Kate!

DONATE TODAY, HOLD A STAND, OR VISIT OUR GIFT SHOP!
ALEXSLEMONADE.ORG