

# 25 Years & Counting: Big Dreams, Bold Moves!

Looking ahead, we have so many exciting events and initiatives planned! Whether you've been with us since Stanley's at the very beginning or just joined us, we're grateful for your support.

Officially <u>founded</u> in 1999, but let's be real — those COVID years don't count, right? So as we gear up to mark this amazing milestone, we can't help but feel excited for what's coming next. But before we get ahead of ourselves, let's take a moment to look back at how it all began.

Over 20 years ago, brothers Dave, Greg, and Pete McMurray were roommates in Chicago looking for a reason to gather family and friends. Their brother Ed said, "Let's raise money and celebrate!" And just like that, The Brothers' McMurray Family Charity was born, starting with a fundraiser in the basement of Stanley's.

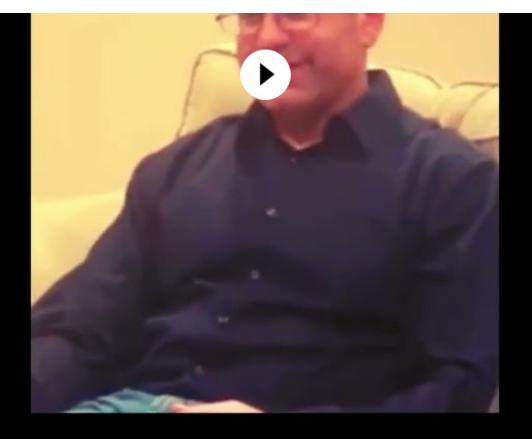
Since then, we've grown into a powerful force for good, supporting medical research and access to care. Our family's journey — with four cancer survivors and their father Ed's courageous battle with the disease — continues to inspire our mission.

Here's to 25 years of love, laughter, and giving back — and to the next 25 years of making an impact!









In this clip, Mark McMurray shares the heartfelt journey behind **The Brothers' McMurray Family Charity, LTD.** and why giving back means so much to their family.

#### Did you know?

Kidney cancer is one of the 10 most common cancers in both men and women in the United States. It accounts for about 4% to 5% of all cancers. (Source: <u>American Cancer Society</u>)

March is Kidney Cancer Awareness Month. World Kidney Day is March 29, 2025 and check out what is happening in Peoria in recognition of the day.

### **Introducing McMurray Moments: Our New Interview Series!**

An Interview with Mark McMurray

We're thrilled to launch **McMurray Moments**, a series featuring inspiring stories from the McMurray family, supporters, and those we've helped.

Kicking things off, meet **Mark McMurray**—Number 7 of 12 siblings and a proud cancer survivor—as he shares his journey and the impact of our mission.

**Watch the Full Interview** 

## **Introducing Partners in Impact Spotlight**

Partners in Impact is a spotlight series celebrating the incredible organizations, sponsors, and donors who help drive our mission forward.

This issue features 2024 Hospitality Partner: Hardly Water™ LLC



#### Hardly Water: Elevating Flavor, Community, and Impact

In a city overflowing with bubbly beverages, <u>Hardly Water</u> is making waves by doing things differently. This female-founded, Chicago-based brand is redefining the ready-to-drink space with full-flavored, non-carbonated spiked water—a refreshing alternative for those who prefer a smooth sip without the fizz.

Founded by **Tonya Romin** and **Jason Therrien**, Hardly Water was born from a need for a clean, gluten-free beverage that fits into an active lifestyle. Since launching in 2023, the brand has quickly expanded to 50 metro-Chicago locations, including Goddess and the Grocer and Binny's Beverage Depot.

But Hardly Water is more than just a beverage—it's a brand with a mission of giving back at its core. With personal connections to those whose lives have been changed by life-saving treatments, Hardly Water is honored to support the Brother's McMurray Foundation and their support of cancer research in Chicago.

From their bold design to their community advocacy, Hardly Water is here to burst the carbonation bubble—one sip at a time.





### Save the Date: Mctoberfest in Peoria, Illinois

Join the McMurray family in our hometown for a fun-filled day supporting a great cause. The event will feature raffles, a silent auction, live entertainment, and much more, all at our family-favorite venue.

Saturday, September 20, 2025 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

**Jimmy's Bar** 2801 W Farmington Rd. West Peoria, IL 61604

#### **Proceeds Benefitting Organization:**

OSF HealthCare Cancer Institute

It's a day of community, fun, and giving back — and we can't wait to celebrate with you! Stay tuned for more details!

**Learn More** 



### Spreading Cheer & Making an Impact: Our Annual Holiday Fundraiser!

We're thrilled to announce that our 25th Annual Holiday Fundraiser, affectionately known as the 'Brothers Party', is getting a brand-new name!

As we celebrate this incredible milestone, we wanted to give our signature event a fresh twist while still keeping the spirit of fun, family, and giving back at its core.

Saturday, December 6, 2025 7:30 PM - 11:30 PM House of Blues Chicago

#### **Proceeds Benefitting Organization:**

Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University

The event is incredible night filled with live entertainment, delicious food, drinks, silent auctions, raffles, and so much more.

Stay tuned for more details — we can't wait to share what we've been planning!

**Learn More** 

### **Share Your Memories with Us!**

With celebrating 25 amazing years, we want **YOU** to be part of the fun! We're putting together something special to highlight the memories, moments, and good times that have made this journey so special.

We'd love to see any photos from past Brothers McMurray events or other amazing moments over the years — whether it's a fundraiser, a gathering, or just a fun time shared with us. Your photos will help tell our story!

#### A few guidelines:

- Photos should be appropriate for a public presentation.
- High-quality images are preferred for the best viewing experience.

**Submit Your Photos** 





## 2025 Event Sponsorship Opportunities: New & Improved

### Partner with Us to Make a Lasting Impact.

At the heart of our mission is giving back. With four McMurray siblings who are cancer survivors, our family's journey inspires us to support medical research, enhance care, and strengthen communities. We believe in the power of partnership to achieve even more — and we'd love for you to join us.

By becoming a sponsor, you'll support life-changing initiatives while aligning your brand with impactful events that make a real difference.

We're excited to offer new partnership opportunities this year and believe it could be a rewarding experience for your organization.

More information coming in April!

**Learn More** 

View the 2024 Photo Album

## Support The Brothers' McMurray Family Charity While You Shop!

goes directly to our cause—at no extra cost to you.

- ✓ Download the ShopRaise app
- ✓ Share with family & friends
- ✓ Shop online and give back effortlessly

Get started today and help us make a difference at <a href="https://shopraise.com/support/brothersmcmurray">https://shopraise.com/support/brothersmcmurray</a>.





### **Donate Today!**

#### **Why Your Donation Matters**

**Your Impact is Personal:** By donating, you're helping us continue the work that's close to our hearts. With four cancer survivors in our family, every dollar you give supports medical research and care that makes a real difference.

Tax Benefits for You: All donations are tax-deductible, so you're giving back and benefiting too.

Create a Lasting Legacy: Your generosity helps us improve lives, strengthen communities, and honor the legacy of those we've lost.

Join Our Family: When you give, you're not just a donor – you're part of the McMurray family, working together to drive positive change.

Thank you for your support!

Make a Donation



Learn How





#### **About Us**

The Brothers' McMurray Family Charity, LTD. is a Chicago area based 501(c)(3) charitable organization, Tax ID 84-2507208. Our mission to further medical research and care in Chicagoland and beyond.

#### Contact

#### [email protected]

Visit BrothersMcMurray.org









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