



PETITION TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER RESEARCH

My son AJ is 4 years old and was only 3 weeks old when he was diagnosed with Acute Myloid Leukemia (AML). My son spent the first 3 months of his life in the hospital. I hate that we didn't know how harsh the treatments would be on his tiny body.

The biggest hardships have been the not knowing any outcome and the financial loss that we experienced. He was deemed a survivor at 4 years old. Although he is a survivor of this childhood cancer, there are still continued tasks that have to be done for the rest of his life. He still has labs once a year and we are constantly worried about it returning.

I'm passionate about finding a cure because no child or family deserves to fight childhood cancer. Children should be able to play and not have to worry about going to hospital for painful procedures and toxic chemo treatments.

Simple research from the National Cancer Institute on statistical data about childhood cancer explains how childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in the United States. It has been formally estimated in 2022 that over 15,600 children will be diagnosed with childhood cancer, and 1,780 will die of the disease in the United States. Further, brain cancers are the second most common form of childhood cancer, accounting for over 20% of all cases.

By signing this petition, you will be sending a compelling message to Congress to pass federal laws that mandate relevant federal institutions and agencies to increase their spending on childhood cancer research from 4% to 8%.

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