



PETITION TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR
CHILDHOOD CANCER RESEARCH

My son Greyson Veal was diagnosed at 13 months old with B-Cell Acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Greyson fought for 20 months before he died. My son bravely fought the beast of cancer.

He fought during the worldwide pandemic. We spent months in the hospital with no visitors, playrooms closed. He endured so much in his short period from needle sticks to biopsies to chemotherapy to neuropathy to sepsis to CAR T Cell therapy to cytokine release syndrome to the ventilator and to eventual death. He faced it all with a smile on his sweet face.

Our family's world was turned upside down. My son did online school for a year and a half. He was isolated from the world for fear of him bringing something home that would infect his

brother. It has been almost a year since Greyson died. He died six weeks before he would have turned three years old. We are still picking up the pieces and figuring out how to carry-on. I am still in counseling and struggling every day. We miss our sweet boy so much. There has to be more. These babies endure so much. Watching your child suffer. They endure more than most people do in their lifetime.

Medications and treatments are decades-old. Protocols dictate outcomes. We need newer therapies and treatments! Greyson was diagnosed with leukemia when he was 13 months old. He was in remission for 11 months before he relapsed in December, 2020. He fought for another four months before he died in April 2021. His leukemia was so aggressive. Chemotherapy stopped working and even car T cell therapy did not work. I don't think anything more could have been done.

I hate how much he went through and how much he suffered. It blows my mind how hard he fought and how he always had a smile on his face. Nothing has been the same since he left.

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.

Simple research from the National Cancer Institute on statistical data about childhood cancer paints a gruesome picture of how childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease past infancy among children 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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