



**PETITION TO INCREASE FEDERAL FUNDING OF CHILDHOOD**  
**CANCER RESEARCH**

I would like to share a story with you about my daughter Preslie. At two years old she was limping and we did not know why. It took a couple of months and several doctors appointments before we got answers.

We received life changing news that Preslie has acute lymphoblastic leukemia(ALL). ALL is caused by cancer of the blood and bone marrow. According to the American Cancer Society, leukemia is the most common childhood cancer. It has been two years and she is still fighting it. There are no words to even describe it. The amount of time for treatment is long and hard.

I have no choice but to believe in the treatment whether I think it is awful or not, it is keeping my child alive. Treatment for ALL involves the need for intensive supportive care. This care includes chemotherapy, radiation, and stem cell transplants to name a few. Preslie has to see her primary care physician, oncologists, hematologists, surgeons, and nurses along with many others. Not to mention the numerous number of hospital stays from spiked fever and concerned test results.

As a parent you have to help your child and family cope during these difficult times. We live in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan so our resources are few and far between. Only certain hospitals specialize in the treatment of childhood cancer. The time and costs of travel are insane. Thank goodness for family and friends and many charities or we would not have been able to financially afford our life along with treatment. No one should

ever have to worry about costs, but unfortunately that is not the reality we live in.

These kids deserve so much more. Watching your child hurt and not being able to take that pain away is indescribable. Approximately 1 in 185 children in the U.S. will be diagnosed with cancer before the age of twenty. Childhood cancer statistics show that one out of six children do not make it five years after initial diagnosis. There needs to be a change, starting here. By signing this petition we are standing together to increase federal funding for childhood cancer research from 4% to 8%. There are twelve million signatures needed to begin lobbying for these funds. Each and every signature matters in being a voice of support for childhood cancer. Please sign and share this petition.

**[CLICK HERE TO SIGN](#)**