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***The ChadTough Foundation and Michael Mosier Defeat DIPG Foundation Announce Union to Form  
ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation***

The two leading organizations are tougher together in battling the deadliest form of pediatric cancer by increasing funding toward a faster cure.

Saline, MI (January 12, 2021) – Two leading foundations in the field of pediatric brain cancer research funding, The ChadTough Foundation and Michael Mosier Defeat DIPG Foundation, are uniting as one organization, ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation, to elevate and amplify their impact on finding a cure for diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG), which is responsible for almost half of all pediatric brain cancer deaths. The new foundation will remain committed to inspiring and funding game-changing research in the field of pediatric brain cancer with an emphasis on DIPG. Both organizations' founding members, Jason and Tammi Carr of Michigan and Mark and Jenny Mosier of Maryland, parents of children who passed away after battling the terminal disease, will be actively involved in the combined ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation's governance and operations.

"DIPG is an incredibly tough cancer, but we are tougher, and we're tougher together by teaming up with Jenny and Mark Mosier, having more impact by combining our two foundations than we ever could with separate efforts," says Tammi Carr, co-founder of the ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation. "We have a shared passion for curing DIPG – the disease that took our boys – and other pediatric brain tumors by funding and inspiring more game-changing research."

As funding partners, the organizations have granted \$7 million in research across 21 institutions. In addition to their joint funding, they each supported additional research opportunities, bringing the total amount of research funded by their combined efforts to over \$12 million. Considering that less than 4% of government cancer research funding is directed to pediatric cancer in total, with less than 1% directed to pediatric brain cancer, funding from private foundations is critical for enabling researchers to work toward a cure. Funding will continue to be guided by a Scientific Advisory Council composed of the leading national experts on DIPG.

"We admired the impact the Carrs were making on pediatric brain cancer research through The ChadTough Foundation," said Mark Mosier. "Given our shared mission for finding a cure, we realized that combining our resources provided an opportunity for both organizations to more efficiently amplify our research funding to fund more projects at a higher level."

"This merger is an exciting and natural step, from my perspective," says Dr. Carl Koschmann, a pediatric neuro-oncologist in the Department of Pediatrics at Michigan Medicine and an advisor to the foundation. "The Carrs and Mosiers both approach DIPG research with a similar emphasis on collaboration, transparency, and improving outcomes in real time. Those of us doing research and clinical care in this space know that these two families/foundations are 100% with us with every step. Coming together will move the needle even faster."

With this merger, the ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation is excited to announce that Ann Friedholm has been named Chief Executive Officer of the combined foundation. Ann has led The ChadTough Foundation as Executive Director since its inception in 2015 and guides her team with the knowledge and compassion necessary to ensure success.

The coming together of these two foundations, of these two families, marks an inflection point in the field of pediatric brain cancer research funding. What started out as tributes to two sons has evolved to be about much more. The families share a deep commitment to honoring every child who has fought DIPG and fighting for every family facing a DIPG diagnosis in the coming weeks, months, and years. And these two families are not alone in that commitment. They are joined by fourteen official family partners from across the country committed to the mission. This combined power will lead to more funding of more research, with the goal of a cure for DIPG and other pediatric brain cancers sooner than would otherwise be possible.

### **About ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation**

The ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation inspires and funds game-changing research to discover effective treatments for pediatric brain cancer, with an emphasis on diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG), which is underfunded compared to most cancers. Powered by parents who have faced a pediatric brain cancer diagnosis, many of whom have lost a child, and guided by a Scientific Advisory Council made up of the leading experts in the field, the foundation ensures every dollar possible funds the most incremental, promising research available anywhere in the world.

The ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation believes a collaborative approach is the only way a cure will be found. They therefore welcome the help of other families who want to join in funding pediatric brain cancer research (with an emphasis on DIPG) in honor of their children through their Family Partner program.

#### **CHADTOUGH DEFEAT DIPG FAMILY PARTNERS:**

The Albom Family: Team Chika  
The Boivin Family: Team Julian  
The DelVerne Family: #ColtStrong  
The Jones Family: Team Carter  
The O'Brien Family: Team Caroline  
The Olympia Family: Connor Man  
The Petrzelka/Shaker Family: Team Owen  
The Reinhold/Hatzivasilis Family: Team Benjamin  
The Ruddy Family: Team Tommy  
The Sawtelle Family: Team Arden  
The Sieck Family: Team Lucy  
The Steensland Family: Team Grant  
The Thompson Family: Team Emma  
The Varney Family: #SophieStrong  
The Weaver Family: Vivian Rose

For more information, visit [www.chadtough.org](http://www.chadtough.org).