



2023 ANNUAL REVIEW

Unleashing Hope. Empowering Help.

Founded by the families of Chad Carr and Michael Mosier and fueled by 40 Family Partners

 **\$29.5M**
COMMITTED

 **39**
INSTITUTIONS

 **75**
RESEARCHERS

 **262**
FAMILIES SERVED



A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDERS

In honor of our sons, Chad and Michael, and so many others who have faced a devastating diagnosis like DIPG, we are so happy to share the incredible progress we made in 2023. Our goal to improve the prognosis for children facing DIPG is becoming a closer reality. While there is still so much work to be done, new treatment options are emerging that we believe will one day change the landscape of childhood brain cancer.

As world leaders in DIPG research funding, supporting projects from nearly 40 institutions around the world, we are inspiring more brilliant minds than ever before to turn their attention toward curing this deadly disease. Hope is on the horizon, and with our My DIPG Navigator program, we are able to help families understand and choose the best treatment options available for their child.

Working together with our ChadTough Defeat DIPG Family Partners from 19 states (plus Mexico), we stand tougher than ever before. With your help, we will Defeat DIPG and change the future for those facing this cruel disease.



Jason Carr, Pam Carr

The Carr Family

Malcolm Mosier, Jenny R. Mosier

The Mosier Family



OUR MISSION

In the fight for a DIPG/DMG cure, we give HOPE to families in the fight by funding game-changing research and provide navigation to HELP them throughout their journey.

Led by our values, we are working hard for a world where kids diagnosed with DIPG/DMG can have bright futures and can live out their dreams.

COMPASSIONATE. COLLABORATIVE. TOUGH.

MY DIPG NAVIGATOR

DIPG/DMG Nurse Guidance

Helping the Finkel Family in the Fight

Over the last few months, people have often heard Tim Finkel saying, "Today is a good day."

As a comedian in the metro Detroit area, Tim has always looked to the brighter side of things, but after his 7-year-old son Ryder received a devastating DIPG diagnosis on October 19, 2023, Tim has an entirely new perspective on life.

"It all started when Ryder's left eye began to turn inward," Tim recalls. "We also noticed a decline in his speech and motor skills."

The concerning symptoms led them to the pediatric intensive care unit at C.S Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, where Tim and his wife, Angela, heard the words diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma (DIPG) for the first time. They were devastated to learn that the tumor was inoperable and that there was no cure.

The family left the hospital feeling hopeless.

The Finkels quickly learned about the ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation and were introduced to co-founder Tammi Carr. Tammi, understanding all too well the anguish of a childhood cancer diagnosis, connected the family with My DIPG Navigator, a ChadTough program designed to guide families, step by step, through their DIPG journey. Working with a nurse navigator, the Finkels learned more about the disease and what options were available.



Ryder began treatment at Mott in October and, under the care of Dr. Carl Koschmann, is part of a ChadTough-supported initiative called DMG-ACT (Diffuse Midline Glioma-Adaptive Therapy). Through this platform, Ryder is one of the first patients in the world to combine the oral drug ONC206 with 30 rounds of radiation. With confidence in their medical team, the Finkels have a renewed sense of hope.

"We need a miracle and believe it can happen," said Ryder's mom, Angela. "We have a lot of hope and are confident in our team. Ryder is doing really well right now and continues to be filled with JOY, smiles, and silliness!"



Scan the code to visit
My DIPG Navigator now.



CEO Ann Friedholm
with our Nurse Navigators

As I reflect on our journey as a foundation, I am in awe of how far we have come. Each step forward, every milestone achieved, is a testament to the dedication of our supporters.

At the heart of our mission lies a commitment to providing hope and help in the face of a DIPG diagnosis. Among our many accomplishments last year, our My DIPG Navigator program truly emphasizes this commitment, serving as a lifeline for families when they need it most. With years of experience in pediatric oncology, our nurse navigators provide personalized assistance and compassionate guidance to ease the burden of uncertainty in the midst of devastating circumstances. By the end of 2023, My DIPG Navigator empowered 262 families with information and resources to make the most informed decisions throughout their cancer journey.

As we look toward the future, we hope you will stand with us in our quest to Defeat DIPG by funding the most promising research available while offering unwavering support to families in the fight.

With gratitude and determination,

Ann Friedholm, CEO



THANK YOU TO OUR NAVIGATOR PARTNERS WHO HELP MAKE THIS FREE PROGRAM POSSIBLE.

WWW.CHADTOUGH.ORG/ABOUT-US/OUR-PARTNERS



LEADER IN CHILDHOOD BRAIN CANCER RESEARCH FUNDING

 **39**
INSTITUTIONS

 **75**
RESEARCHERS

 **\$29.5M**
COMMITTED

Inspiring More Research Than Ever Before!

For decades, little was known about DIPG, largely because there was not enough funding for researchers to fully study the disease. Our founders were struck by the glaring lack of knowledge and dearth of treatment options when their own children, Chad and Michael, were diagnosed. Since then, the foundation established a comprehensive grant program that inspires new researchers to focus their efforts on DIPG, while also supporting the work of seasoned researchers to ensure we fund the most promising projects around the globe.

This past year, ChadTough Defeat DIPG experienced a **50% increase in top notch research grant applications**, reflecting our success in attracting more brilliant minds working to Defeat DIPG. Awards are based on a rigorous review by the foundation’s Scientific Advisory Council composed of leading experts on DIPG to ensure funds are used for the most incremental and promising research studies.

Your ongoing support is crucial at this time to ensure we can meet the increasing demand for funding qualified grant applications that could one day lead to a cure.



SUCCESS STORY

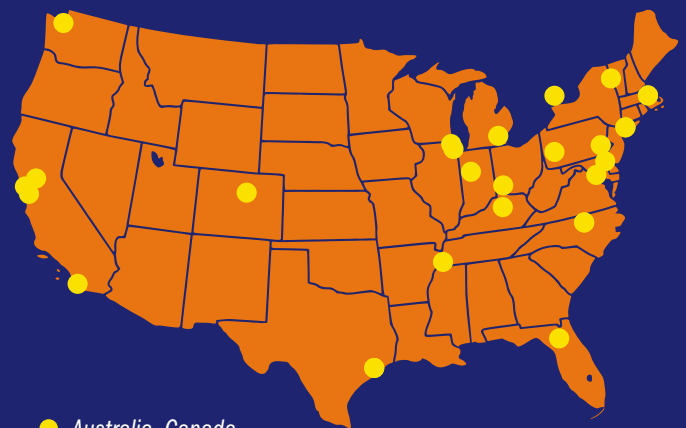
Dr. Zach Reitman is the first to receive three awards from our grant program. He was first awarded a Fellowship Grant in 2017, followed by two New Investigator Grants in 2019 and 2022. He has opened up his own lab and has remained committed to his work on DIPG, now studying the resistance that some brain tumors have to radiation and other therapies.

“Early support from ChadTough inspired me to focus my work on DIPG research. This type of funding is critical for encouraging young investigators and ensuring that top labs are prioritizing the study of this disease.”

—Dr. Zach Reitman, Duke Health

SUPPORTING THE MOST PROMISING RESEARCH FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Baylor College · Boston Children’s Hospital · Brigham & Women’s Hospital
Broad Institute · Children’s Mercy Hospital · Children’s National
Columbia University · Dana Farber Cancer Institute · Duke Medical
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center · Hospital for Sick Children
Toronto · Hudson Institute of Medical Research · Icahn School of Medicine
at Mount Sinai · Johns Hopkins University · Lurie Children’s Hospital
Northwestern University · Oncoceutics · Princess Máxima Center
Purdue University · Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute
Seattle Children’s Hospital · Stanford University · St. Jude Children’s
Research Hospital · University Children’s Hospital Zurich · University of
California at Davis · University of California at San Francisco · University
of Cincinnati · University of Colorado · University of Cork College
University of Florida · University Hospital of Navarra · Spain · University of
Kentucky · University of Michigan · University of Newcastle · University of
New South Wales · University of Pittsburgh · University of Texas · University
of Vermont · Weill Cornell Medical



● Australia, Canada,
Ireland, the Netherlands,
Spain, & Switzerland



THANK YOU TO OUR RESEARCH PARTNERS!
YOUR SUPPORT ACCELERATES OUR PROGRESS TOWARDS A CURE.
WWW.CHADTOUGH.ORG/RESEARCH/RESEARCH-PARTNERS

CHANGING THE LANDSCAPE OF CHILDHOOD BRAIN CANCER



ChadTough Defeat DIPG Research Workshop *Collaborating for a Cure*

Our inaugural 2023 Research Workshop united more than 70 DIPG and DMG researchers from around the world, creating synergy amongst some of the most brilliant minds in the field of childhood brain cancer.

This distinctive two-day event provided researchers with the opportunity to showcase their latest findings in the world of DIPG/DMG. The format fostered meaningful discussions among top investigators and created avenues for new collaborations, with the common goal of accelerating advancements toward a cure.

The workshop included breakout sessions enabling small group discussions that led to the development of the first ever road map for the treatment of DIPG/DMG. Findings have now been published in the medical journal *Cell Press*.

Due to the success of the 2023 event, ChadTough Defeat DIPG is thrilled to again co-host this workshop with the Chad Carr Pediatric Brain Tumor Center in the spring of 2024. With nearly 100 researchers already confirmed, we're excited to see how the group can again drive advancements to Defeat DIPG.



A new study was published last year in *Cancer Discovery*, written by Carl Koschmann, MD, and Sriram Venetti, MD, PhD,

from the Chad Carr Pediatric Brain Tumor Center at Michigan Medicine. The study evaluated the efficacy and mechanism of the oral drug ONC201 in certain patients with DIPG/DMG. The paper reported that specific patients in the study treated with ONC201 had a median survival of nearly 22 months. Historically, DIPG/DMG patients have lived an average of 12-15 months post diagnosis. This is the first time researchers have found a potential drug candidate to improve outcomes for patients with this type of childhood brain tumor.

“These findings represent the largest group of DIPG/DMG patients to show an improvement in survival. This work was supported by ChadTough Defeat DIPG and signifies an incredible step forward in the quest to defeat DIPG.”

—Dr. Carl Koschmann

DMG-ACT

ChadTough Defeat DIPG continues to proudly support the first-of-its-kind trial platform called Diffuse Midline Glioma - Adaptive Combinatorial Trial (DMG-ACT), committing more than **\$1.9 million** to this promising project so far. A collaboration between the world's leading brain cancer experts, DMG-ACT encompasses 30 research groups from 7 countries around the world. By the end of 2023, 130 patients had been enrolled in DMG-ACT, and researchers have investigated more than 100 drugs in the lab. Twelve different drugs are now being vetted for addition to the trial. **The grants provided by ChadTough for preliminary research through DMG-ACT helped lead to an additional \$6.4 million in federal grants, thus magnifying the impact of the dollars we are investing in this critical work.**



One day, DIPG will have a cure.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT OUR FIGHT SO THAT ONE DAY CAN BECOME TODAY.

2023 Highlights



Superhero 6K
1951 participants
\$225K raised



ChadTough Gala
850 participants
\$1.7M raised



RunTough
1747 participants
\$232K raised



Brunch with Babs
200 participants
\$127K raised



Chicago Golf Outing
145 participants
\$196K raised

Grateful for Our 2023 Playmakers

A collection of donors and organizations supporting our mission at \$100,000+



DEKM Fund



Weiser Family



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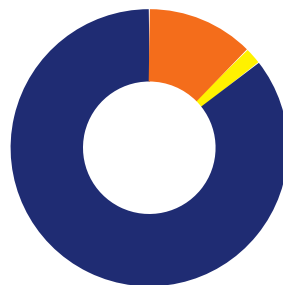
GIVING TUESDAY

Thanks to the support of 2,106 donors, we raised \$655,341, allowing us to continue our work to give HOPE and HELP to families fighting childhood brain cancer.

We express our heartfelt gratitude to **Covington & Burling LLP** and **Select Equity Group Foundation** for their significant and unwavering support.

2022 AUDITED FINANCIALS

Total Revenue	\$5,936,274
Total Expenses	\$8,035,975
Program	\$6,868,649
Fundraising	\$1,004,599
Administrative	\$162,727



■ Program: **85%**
■ Fundraising: **13%**
■ Administrative: **2%**



IN HONOR OF OUR CHILDREN

We are joined by families from 19 states plus Mexico in our quest to find a cure.



Visit our website to learn more about our Family Partners.

"By forming a common alliance, our impact becomes exponential. This cancer is too smart and devious for any other approach."

*—Tim McKone
father of William*



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Tennessee



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New York



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Michigan



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Ohio



Connor
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Founding Families



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Look inside to see how your support has offered **HOPE** and **HELP** to families facing **DIPG**.

HELP US EMPOWER HOPE IN 2024

Create a lasting impact and become a monthly donor. For as little as \$19 per month, your ongoing support will amplify our ability to fund additional research and provide vital assistance to families along the way.

Give Hope Today



MORE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED...



Host a Fundraiser

From bake sales to social media fundraising, your efforts play a vital role in making a meaningful difference in the lives of children battling brain cancer.



Participate in an Event

Throughout the year we have several runs both locally and virtual, so you can make a difference anytime, anywhere!



Follow and Share

Help us raise awareness in the fight against the deadliest disease known to kids!