



**therewithcare**<sup>®</sup>  
For Families and Children Facing Critical Illness

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2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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## FOUNDER AND CEO

Dear Friends,

**When a family** suddenly finds themselves in a medical crisis involving their child, the cascade of fears and unknowns can be almost too much to bear. While there is no simple response to such a situation, there are multiple ways to help a family—immediately, personally, and with care. And since 2005, thanks to friends like you, families who rely on There With Care have been surrounded by heartfelt and meaningful services.

This fall, There With Care will celebrate the milestone of providing 20 years of essential support to families with critically ill children. This journey has been one of community and compassion, touching the lives of more than 50,000 family members whose wholeness has been threatened.

**As Crystal's mom shared** recently, "We waited 402 days after Crystal was added to the heart transplant list. I was constantly worried that if I didn't have my car, I wouldn't make it to the hospital in time if an emergency happened. We always got a gas card from There With Care, so having gas in my car was one of the biggest things that helped me be prepared for that possibility. I also knew I would get groceries to cook, toiletries, and snack bags, which helped me not to worry about going to the store. **I knew I could depend on them,** no matter what."

From our inception, supporters who believe in our mission, give their time, and entrust us with their donations continue to show up, willing to help others whose worlds have been upended. From the basic needs of food stability, housing security, family essentials, and transportation, the generosity of our community is delivered directly to a parent and child at their hospital bedside or home and always with personal notes for an extra touch of encouragement and kindness.

Our inspiring community of care now supports more than 300 families daily, ensuring they are not alone through their child's medical crisis. It's humbling to spend time with families we've come to know, hearing both their struggles and the difference There With Care makes in their lives. Their stories are stirring reminders of the meaningful and crucial work we do.

Your dedication is truly felt throughout our agency and community. **Thank you** for making this work possible.

With gratitude,



**PAULA DUPRÉ PESMEN -  
FOUNDER AND CEO**



**Owen | Oncology Patient**



**Adela | NICU Patient**



**Nova | NICU Patient**

## PRESIDENT – COLORADO and EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – BAY AREA

We are proud to present the 2023 Annual Report for There With Care. The past 12 months saw significant achievements and growth, driven by our unwavering commitment to the families we are honored to serve.

This last year also offered opportunities to collaborate between our There With Care locations, streamlining processes, strengthening programs, and building on our mission—a mission that has been around for nearly two decades, serving more than 12,500 families and 50,000 individuals.

As we look to the future, we remain steadfast in our mission of serving children and families during the critical phase of a medical crisis. Our trusted hospital partners, dedicated team, generous supporters, and passionate volunteers have been the cornerstone of our success, and we are deeply grateful for their constant support.

We are excited about the possibilities ahead and are confident that together, we can **continue to make a meaningful impact** for the families we serve. Thank you for your continued commitment and partnership in this **vital work**.



**LAURIE PETERSON - PRESIDENT AND COO, COLORADO  
KATHY HANSEN SWEENEY - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BAY AREA**



**Crystal | Transplant Patient**

# COLORADO IMPACT

9,471  
TOTAL NUMBER OF  
VOLUNTEER HOURS  
\$325,427  
VALUE



7,448  
TOTAL NUMBER  
OF CARE PACKAGE  
DELIVERIES

FAMILIES SERVED  
1,191

# BAY AREA IMPACT

67%  
Lucile Packard Children's  
Hospital Stanford families  
32%  
UCSF Benioff Children's  
Hospital families



95  
AVERAGE DAYS  
A FAMILY IS  
IN OUR CARE

96%  
FAMILIES SERVED  
IN FINANCIAL  
DISTRESS



93  
AVERAGE DAYS  
A FAMILY IS  
IN OUR CARE

\$690,464  
VALUE OF SUPPORT IN-KIND



604  
TOTAL NUMBER OF  
FAMILIES SERVED

44%  
NICU FAMILIES

"There With Care was *amazing*.  
Keep doing what you are doing."  
- Family Served

185  
MENTAL HEALTH  
FAMILIES



184  
PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY  
FAMILIES

120,960  
DIAPERS DELIVERED



496  
NEW FAMILY  
REFERRALS RECEIVED

65%  
FAMILIES AWAY  
FROM HOME



## DAY IN THE LIFE

### PROGRAM COORDINATOR, MISSION DELIVERY

There With Care Program Coordinators directly support families going through a medical crisis. While every day looks different, there are some constants.

Typically, each Program Coordinator is responsible for helping 30 to 40 families each week, including reaching out to determine what support is needed to help ease the family's stresses. Our compassionate Program Coordinators can spend more than 30 minutes on a call. They listen to updates on how a child is

doing in the hospital or during treatment, hear about the toll this time has on the parents and guardians, discover how siblings are dealing with a scary and uncertain time, and learn how life feels like it will never be "normal" again.

On any given day, there are many ways the team puts the **THERE** and **CARE** in There With Care with responsibilities, including:

Responding to messages from families who need help or a **LISTENING EAR.**

**"TAGGING"** items for a family based on their unique needs.

Working with a family to provide **SUPPORT** for essential items

Finding and **CONNECTING** families with other resources outside our mission.

**COORDINATING CARE** with social workers at partner hospitals.

And **SO MUCH MORE!**

No day is the same for a There With Care Program Coordinator but each is filled with the goal of making a *family's situation better.*



## DAY IN THE LIFE

### FAMILY STORY



Managing the care of a sick child is daunting enough without worrying about how to manage day-to-day tasks. ***There With Care is ready to provide:***



**Transportation Assistance** ensures that a family can reliably take their child to and from treatments and activities and, when necessary, visit their child at the hospital.



**Home Stability** supports a family with household supplies and financial assistance for rent or mortgage, utilities, hotel stays near a hospital, and more.\*



**Food Security** provides families with grocery deliveries, Easy Meal Care Bags, food gift cards, and food delivery gift cards.



**Patient & Family Essentials** provides a family with toiletries, baby items, activity bags, books, toys and games, and professional assistance, including family or individual counseling.\*

\*services vary by location

***We're grateful Benny's mom shared her story and that There With Care could support the family when they needed our help.***

In the weeks leading up to Benny's cancer diagnosis, we noticed a big change in his behavior and overall health. He would barely eat, wanted to sleep all the time, and had zero energy, which was not like my baby. After several trips to different ERs, we took him to a children's hospital, and our lives were forever changed. Benny's O2 sats were so low he was immediately put on oxygen. X-rays confirmed that fluid built up in his lungs and around his heart. Benny was transferred to a bigger hospital that was better equipped as he needed surgery to remove the fluid immediately.

I hugged and kissed my baby, tears streaming down my face, as I watched him being taken away to an operating room.

Hours later, Benny's doctor came out and said the surgery went well, but despite her best efforts, she couldn't remove all of the fluid, so drains were placed in both his lungs and chest cavity. Benny was transferred to the Cardiac ICU to keep him stable.

Meanwhile, the fluid was sent for testing to understand why and how Benny got this sick. When we were reunited with our son a little while later, nothing could have prepared me for what I saw: Benny's tiny, fragile, unconscious body, hooked up to monitors, breathing apparatus, drains, and other things I cannot remember. The nurse told us he received morphine

for pain management, and I lost it. I could not fathom the thought of my baby being in that much pain and discomfort and suffering. I laid my head next to my son's body and tried to hold myself together.

The next day, the oncologist shared Benny's test results. She placed her hand on my knee and told us both that the results confirmed Benny had cancer. I sat there in disbelief, weeping. I barely strung together the words to ask what she meant and whether she was positive. The doctor said he had already started chemotherapy last night. I've never felt so helpless and hurt in all my life.



Benny was diagnosed with ALL T Cell Leukemia just days after graduating Kindergarten. How could this happen to him? He's such an amazing little boy with the biggest heart, and it wasn't fair! Why him?!

Dad and I decided to shield Benny from as much of this as possible, but he knew something was wrong. Be-

tween being constantly poked and prodded; he got his PICC line, he had biopsies and spinal taps, and he figured it out. He said, "I know I have cancer. I knew something was wrong with me. I didn't say anything because I didn't want to scare you." I pulled my son close and hugged him as tight as I could. My sweet baby knew he had cancer but he wanted to spare the feelings of his parents and protect us. He had such maturity and grace for a 6-year-old boy—especially one who just found out he had cancer.

Benny is currently in the maintenance phase of his treatment plan. He routinely gets chemotherapy

infusions, and we administer oral chemotherapy medications at home every day. Some of the medicines have led to additional challenges and side effects. We are not out of the woods yet. Benny was recently admitted to the hospital due to his ANC (absolute neutrophil count) being low while actively fevering. He received blood products for low hemoglobin.

We know that as each day passes, we are one day closer to the end of the treatment plan. Some days are better than others, but by no means easier. It's extremely difficult to balance being a full-time caregiver to a very sick child of your own while trying to be a parent to their siblings while trying to work and earn a living to keep a roof over their heads and food in their tummies. It is stressful and emotionally, physically, and financially draining, but we make the sacrifices because ***our babies deserve nothing less***





Dashun | NICU Patient

“Your *caring*,  
checking in, cards and gifts  
were all so *helpful!*”



Leanna | Transplant Patient

“They really helped me a lot  
and I was able to be less stressed and  
*be there more* for my baby.”



Adrian | NICU Patient

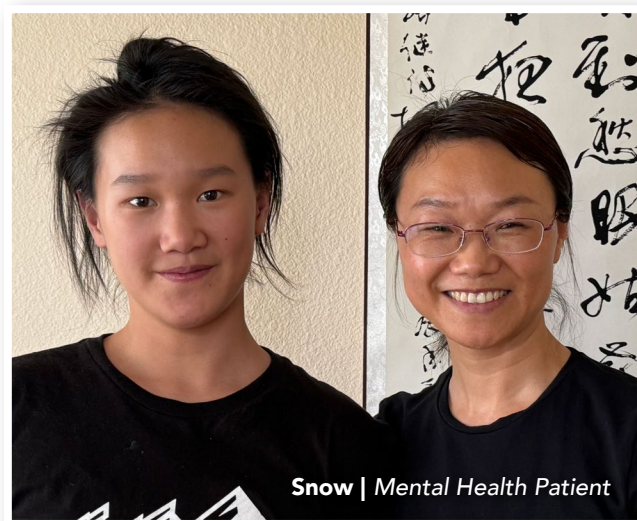


Rowan | Transplant Patient

“There With Care provided us with such  
*needed support* during the hardest time  
of our life and we will be forever grateful.”



Volunteers



Snow | Mental Health Patient

“Everything they are doing is enough!  
I was so *happy* and *grateful*  
for everything.”



“Ya’ll helped keep the *hope* that there are *good people* in the world and that we have *support* from more than just family.”

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

### HUMAIRA MAHI AND SIDDARTH MAHI HAASAN



Of the many parents who volunteer with their children, it is an honor to spotlight Humaira Mahi and her son, Siddarth Mahi Haasan. In January 2023, they made a commitment to one another to deepen their care for There With Care families. Each week, they packed and delivered care packages of food and essential items to families’ throughout the community - at the hospital, home-away-from-home locations, and families homes. They spent many, many hours at home making hundreds of Care Cards with cheerful decorations and kind words to help lift the spirits of family members. With other volunteers, they organized supplies, made care bags, and more.

“Volunteering at There With Care has given Sid a great window into how steady volunteering can help a community. His experiences have had such a *deep impact*. He was selected to receive a service award at school for his 100+ hours of service to families, and he included There With Care in his high school application” - Mom



## CORPORATE SPOTLIGHT

### BAY AREA AND COLORADO



There With Care of the Bay Area is grateful for our partnership with AU Energy, Loop Neighborhood Markets.

Across California, you'll find Shell gas stations connected to Loop Neighborhood Markets. Loop and Shell teamed up on "The Giving Pump" initiative, whereby Loop customers can give back to a favorite non-profit and support local communities when they fill up their vehicles.

For the second year in a row, Loop partnered with There With Care on a transportation campaign. As part of the campaign, for July, There With Care received a percentage of sales, and the families in our care received donated gas cards and handwritten notes from employees.

Not only is Loop's financial support incredibly beneficial to our mission and services, but by partnering with us, they also help spread the word about There With Care to the communities where they operate. We are inspired by Loop's commitment to giving back locally and thankful for our partnership.

"Partnering with There With Care is a profound honor for us here at Loop Neighborhood. At Loop, we believe in the transformative power of community and compassion, and this partnership exemplifies our dedication to making a meaningful impact to families and children during the critical phase of a medical crisis. Our team is deeply passionate about giving back, and with this partnership, we aim to provide comfort and hope to those who need it most."

Founded by Beryl Stafford in 2003, Bobo's Oat Bars is committed to partnering with community organizations, such as There With Care.

Our partnership began when Bobo's provided bars as a gift for There With Care guests at the organization's inaugural fundraising event at the Boulder Theater. Since then, our relationship has evolved into a multifaceted collaboration.

We're thrilled that Bobo's core values align perfectly with There With Care's mission and even led to creating "Bars for a Cause." In 2019, a young boy battling cancer inspired Bobo's limited-edition "There With Care Peanut Butter Chocolate Chip Oat Bar." This creation marked Bobo's first venture into this flavor combination, with 30% of sales benefiting There With Care.

Our partnership's success continued with the "Nora Bar," a chocolate almond brownie bar created in honor of another young cancer fighter. Nora's triumph over her illness is celebrated each September when the bar becomes available online, with 100% of profits supporting There With Care families.

Today, Bobo's unwavering support for There With Care manifests in various forms, including cash donations, event sponsorships, product contributions, team volunteering, and brand awareness campaigns. Our enduring partnership exemplifies how compassion meets purpose and profits are used for good.



Dylan | Rehab Patient



Nora | Oncology Patient



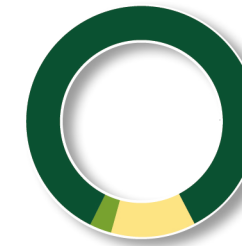
Nora | Oncology Patient

## FINANCIALS



### COLORADO FINANCIALS

	Support and Revenue	3,898,266
<b>82%</b>	Program services	2,786,870
<b>9%</b>	General and Administrative	318,256
<b>9%</b>	Fundraising	317,849
	Total expenses	3,422,975



### MIDDLE TENNESSEE\* FINANCIALS

	Program services	833,340
<b>85%</b>	Program services	833,340
<b>12%</b>	General and Administrative	118,483
<b>3%</b>	Fundraising	26,556
	Total expenses	978,379

\*In November 2023, There With Care discontinued operations.



### BAY AREA FINANCIALS

	Support and Revenue	1,747,690
<b>79%</b>	Program services	1,311,921
<b>8%</b>	General and Administrative	132,811
<b>13%</b>	Fundraising	225,301
	Total expenses	1,670,033





“I cannot put into words how *Thankful* I am for this program. Everyone has made an *impact* on my family and we are forever thankful. Thank you!”



Luke | NICU Patient

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[therewithcare.org](http://therewithcare.org)