

An Introduction to The ChadTough Foundation

Every child deserves to survive cancer. Period.

The ChadTough Foundation was formed because no family should ever hear, "there is no hope."

Jason and Tammi Carr established The ChadTough Foundation as a lasting legacy for their beloved son, Chad. Chad was diagnosed with Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG), an inoperable brain tumor, in November 2014. He was given a prognosis of 9-12 months with no viable treatment plan.

With his parents and older brothers, CJ & Tommy, by his side, Chad courageously battled the disease for 14 months. On November 23, 2015, Chad gained his angel wings. He left behind a devastated family and motivated community willing to do anything to ensure future families facing DIPG have real hope in treatment.

Pediatric Brain Cancer By the Numbers

- **Too many families suffer an immeasurable toll.** Each year, 13,000+ parents hear the words "your child has cancer." 1 out of 5 of these kids don't survive and brain tumors are the leading cause. DIPG, in particular, has zero long-term survivors.
- **There's still no cure.** While progress has been made in curing some childhood cancers, much of the treatment for pediatric brain tumors hasn't changed in 40+ years.
- **Not enough research is being done.** Only 3 percent of federal funding for cancer research goes toward solving pediatric cancers. And, pediatric brain cancers receive just a sliver of these limited funds because they're considered "rare" by medical statistics.
- **Pediatric brain tumor research can open new avenues of treatment for other childhood and adult cancers.** What we uncover about rare cancers like DIPG will shed light on the genetic defects and cellular behavior of all cancers.

Breakthroughs Are On The Horizon

Due to advancements in neurosurgical techniques and acquisition of tumor tissue for research, and through funding from foundations like ours, there are numerous clinical trials taking place at major medical centers across the US and in other countries that are finally showing promise.

Locally, Michigan Medicine has established **The University of Michigan Pediatric Brain Cancer Research Initiative** in Chad's honor so that no more families suffer through such a loss without hope. The ChadTough Foundation is proud to support this effort through a \$1.5mm commitment.



www.chadtough.org