



The Mike & Sandy Ernsdorff  
Childhood Cancer Foundation



Leyla



Ashton



Selah



Michael



# ANNUAL REPORT

# Compass to Care funds life-saving access to childhood cancer treatment.

Dear Compass to Care Supporter,

**Bring on 2022!** I think that is what we all were thinking as January 1st, 2022 rolled around. I know we were thrilled at Compass to Care that we had survived, and thrived, the previous year, despite operating during a pandemic. We were looking forward to a lot more normalcy in our lives, and a year filled with supporting more and more children on their cancer journeys.

And then 2022 started to unfold.... War broke out between Ukraine and Russia in February. Food prices soared in March and April, a jump of 75% in two years. By May, the economy rocked the housing markets. Inflation hit in June, at levels not seen since the 1980s and gas prices rose to almost \$6 a gallon. And this was just the first six months.... We all rode on this wild roller coaster, often bracing ourselves for what was to come next.

But imagine you were a family living in poverty, or living paycheck-to-paycheck and then your child was diagnosed with cancer.

After understanding the financial climate we all faced in 2022, it likely comes at no surprise that the number of children and families being referred to Compass to Care came fast. At the same time, the prices we were paying for families to fill up their tanks with gasoline were over double what we had spent previously. Despite our fundraising success in 2021, we simply could not afford to support all of the children needing help while paying for these exceptionally high prices for travel.

As a charity, particularly as the founder, this was a heartbreaking reality but decisions had to be made. So we started putting children's applications on hold. We asked social workers to stop referring families to our program. In the words of Theodore Roosevelt, our focus was on "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."

So what did we do? We supported 250 children, giving them hope on their cancer journeys. We raised enough money to move all of the children off of our waiting list and into our program and to re-open applications.

In January 2023, we began enrolling new children into our program.

There is a common mantra in the childhood cancer world - NEGU - **never ever give up**. If 2022 showed anything, it was that Compass to Care will never ever give up in supporting the children who need us as they travel to seek a cancer cure.

**We could not do any of this without you.** So for all you have done, particularly in 2022, we thank you. **Our families needed you more than ever and you gave them a lifeline to hope.**

With sincere appreciation,  
**Michelle Ernsdorff-May**  
Founder & Childhood Cancer Survivor



## Our Vision

Compass to Care will be known for its transformative travel efforts that reduce the disparities in access to childhood cancer treatment and clinical trials.

## Our Mission

The mission of Compass to Care is to provide a free Non Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) solution to access life-saving cancer treatment and clinical trials for children fighting cancer and facing poverty or cancer-related financial toxicity (CRFT).



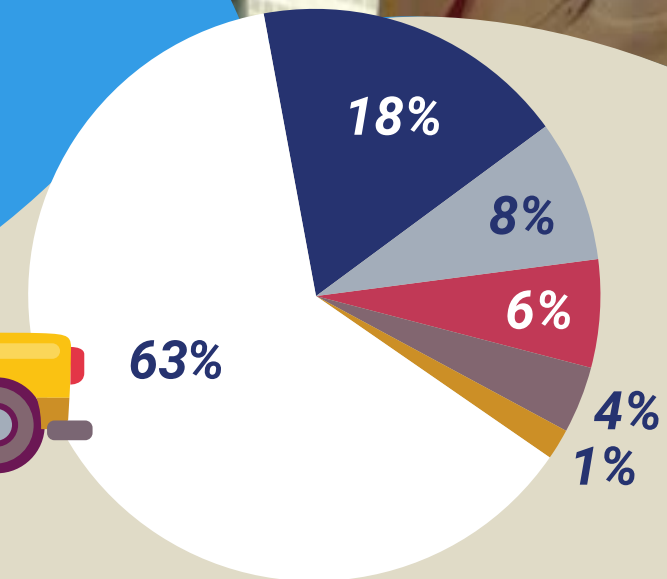
Alaina



# 250

Children Supported in 2022

By supporting families in financial distress and removing the transportation barrier to access cancer treatment, Compass to Care is focused on preventing missed medical appointments and improving outcome for children living in poverty or whose families are facing cancer-related financial toxicity.



## Relief Provided

In 2022, Compass to Care funded non-emergency medical treatment by paying for the following expenses for our children and families.

- GASOLINE 63%
- UBER/LYFT 18%
- PARKING 8%
- AIRFARE 6%
- LODGING 4%
- TRAINS & TOLLS 1%

# One in five children diagnosed with cancer in the United States lives in poverty.

While many of those children are living in poverty at the time of diagnosis, some cross into a poverty profile as a result of cancer-related financial toxicity (CRFT). CRFT refers to the detrimental effects of the excess financial strain caused by the diagnosis of cancer.

For these children, financial instability is associated with higher rates of relapse and decreased overall survival.

## How does financial instability impact a child's survival?

- Financial instability leads to transportation barriers.
- Transportation barriers lead to missed and delayed appointments.
- Missed and delayed appointments lead to higher rates of relapse and lower survival rates.

## Our Impact- Empowering Parents, Saving Lives

Compass to Care empowers families enrolled in our programs to make timely decisions about getting their children to cancer care by removing transportation barriers. In addition, these families:

- Do not have to spend their own money on transportation
- Do not need a bank account or credit card to fund their travel
- Do not need a vehicle to get their children to treatment
- Can eliminate missed appointments due to transportation barriers
- Can choose to enroll their child in a clinical trial at a distant medical center
- Feel empowered to make decisions about getting their children to the best cancer care available
- Keep hope of survival in the realm of possibility for their precious children



Prince



Sage

## Compass to Care's Life-Saving Solution:

Compass to Care is proud to have three distinct nationwide non emergency medical transportation (NEMT) solutions. These programs directly and immediately remove the transportation barriers to access cancer treatment for children with cancer who are living in poverty. These solutions are ACCESS LIFE, CARE & BACK™, and FLIGHTS FOR HOPE.

### Access Life

Compass to Care's Access Life program covers 100% of all transportation expenses for our beneficiary children and families, including gasoline, parking fees, and train fare.

### Care & Back™

Compass to Care's Care & Back™ program utilizes the Uber and Lyft transportation networks to secure safe, reliable, and readily-available transportation for families without access to a vehicle.

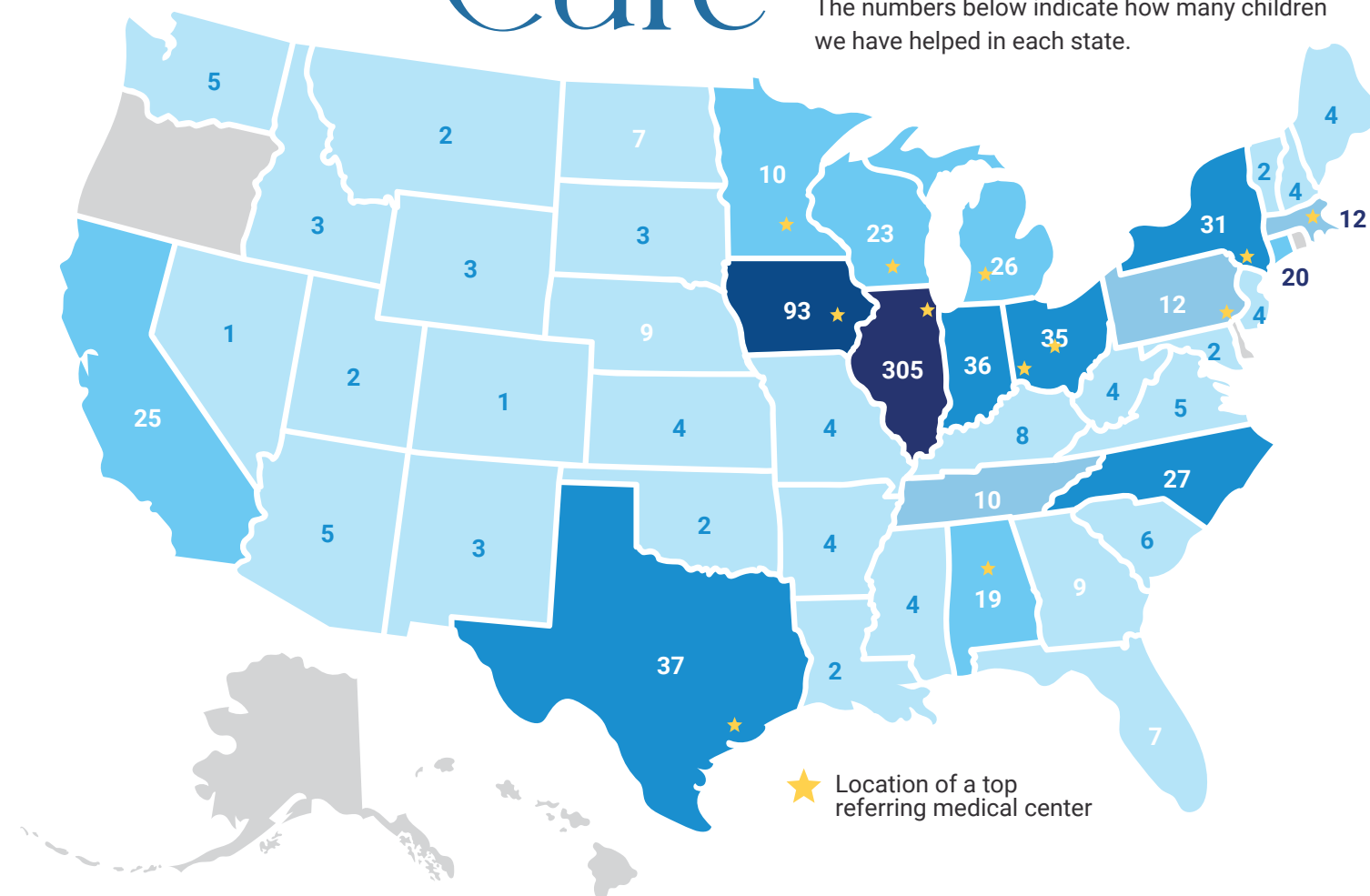
### Flights for Hope

Compass to Care's Flights for Hope program fully funds airfare, lodging, and ground transportation so children living in poverty can access distant clinical trials or other life-saving cancer treatment.

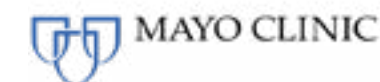
Compass to Care is proud to be funding equitable access to childhood cancer treatment to help save lives.

## Partnering for a Cure

Compass to Care has become the premier nationwide leader in removing the transportation barriers for children to access cancer treatment. The numbers below indicate how many children we have helped in each state.



## Our Top Referring Hospitals:



# Mission-focused Milestones

**28,000**  
TRIPS FUNDED

**4.3** MILLION  
MILES TRAVELED

Geraliz, 9 years old, braving Medulloblastoma  
You helped fund 93 trips to cancer treatment for Geraliz.



LES agradezco por la ayuda que me brindaron en este proceso estamos super agradecido con ustedes por que nos ayudaron mucho I gracias por todo.

todo lo puedo en cristo que nos fortalece

*"We thank you for the help you gave me in this process, we are super grateful to you because you helped us a lot. Thanks for everything."*

## It Takes a Village

Each year, we have incredible organizations that partner with Compass to Care to help save the lives of children with cancer. This year, we were honored to work collaboratively with:



**Silver Lining Chiropractic** hosted a Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month campaign.



**Goldfish Swim School Park Ridge** chose Compass to Care's kids as the beneficiary of their Block Party.



**Kendra Scott** hosted an in-store and online campaign.



**Olson's Ace** held a Kid's Flower Pot Workshop to support Compass to Care.

**Wahlert Class of 1962** collected donations to support Compass to Care at their 60th Class Reunion.



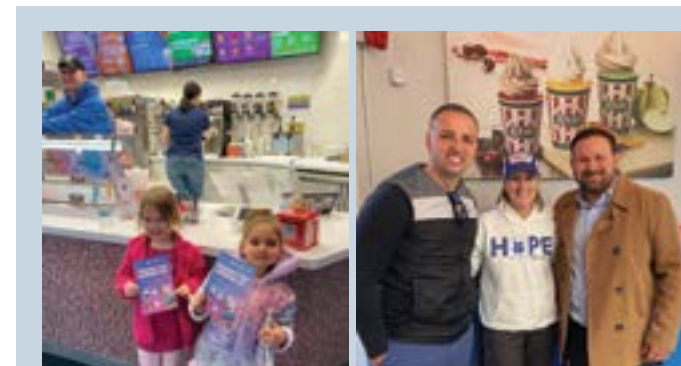
**CAS Candles** gave a percentage of sales during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month to support our kids and created one-of-a-kind candles for our *An Evening of Hope* attendees.



**Orange Shoe Fitness Park Ridge** held a Burpees Challenge to raise money to support children with cancer.



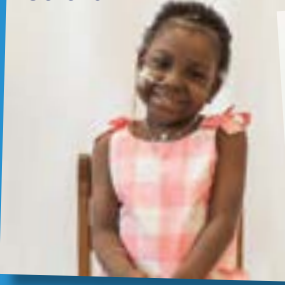
**Park Ridge Lions Club** hosted a 0.262 mile Micro Marathon.



**Team Fallico, Farmer's Insurance, and Rita's Ice** hosted an ice cream social to raise awareness for Compass to Care.

We love sharing the smiling faces of our children and families. We are so grateful for **Nic's Clicks Photography** for giving your time and talent to capture such special and beautiful photos of our children and their families. They will be treasured for a lifetime!

Serena



Victor



## New York Times

For the second year, New York Times columnist Bret Stephens helped raise awareness of the Compass to Care mission by listing us as a worthy charity to support. This awareness has helped new donors learn about our mission and reach out to offer support.



## Bubble Fun Run

What an incredible morning! Thank you to everyone who volunteered, sponsored, and participated in Compass to Care's Bubble Fun Run on Saturday, August 6th in Park Ridge, IL. It was a hot one, but one that was filled with lots of good clean fun! Someone told me what we were doing at Compass to Care was incredible. I said, look around, everything we do for kids with cancer is because of all of these people.

There are far too many children and families who need help getting to treatment when battling a childhood cancer diagnosis. Lucky for them, there is no shortage of kind-hearted, caring, generous people willing to lend a hand. We are truly humbled by the outpouring of the community and their willingness to come out, have some bubbly fun, and support children on their cancer journeys.



Kenzi just completed her treatment at Children's of Alabama!

"Thank you so much! Every little bit really helped us during this journey. We are also happy it is finally over and prays it stays that way."

- Aslyn, Kenzi's mom

"To take the financial stress of getting back and forth out of the equation has been a gift like I've never received." - Luke, Kaleb's dad

## Miles on a Mission

Compass to Care received 749,288 donated Mileage Plus Miles during United Airlines' Miles on a Mission campaign!

These miles go a long way in helping our kids travel to distant treatment centers that offer hope, when options have been exhausted locally. What a gift you all have given to these children and their families.



## An Evening of Hope Gala

On November 4th, Compass to Care hosted An Evening of Hope at Maggiano's in Chicago. A serenade of Elyse and a heartfelt speech by Orlando, both Compass to Care beneficiaries, made the night truly memorable.



To host the most successful event we have had in 13 years, made it possible to immediately provide relief for families who were on our waiting list.

*This is what hope looks like and we thank everyone who was involved in making this night so special.*

## Essy Castaneda Joins As Program Manager

Essy Castaneda joined the Compass to Care Team as Compass to Care's Program Manager.

Throughout her career, Essy has worked to improve the wellness of disadvantaged communities and people experiencing medical barriers.

Her expertise and ability to communicate with our Spanish-speaking families have made her the perfect addition to our team!



## Gold Ribbon Gala

On Friday, June 3rd, our Associate Board hosted their annual Gold Ribbon Gala! This group of young professionals has been extremely successful in raising awareness of the need for Compass to Care and motivating their friends and colleagues to get involved. The Gold Ribbon Gala was a fun night. Thank you to everyone who joined us for this truly special night, where we raised over \$15,000 to support our kids.



## How to Help More

Volunteer, join a committee, be part of our Associate Board, sit on our Board of Directors, or find a role that fits you on our website: [compasstocare.org/volunteer](https://compasstocare.org/volunteer)



## Chicago Blackhawks' Hockey Fights Cancer

We love to be involved with organizations like the Chicago Blackhawks who raise awareness of cancer and who also donate to support our children. Their generous \$5,000 donation is helping us remove the travel barriers for children with cancer in Chicago.

# Thank You Donors

## Philanthropist

### PLATINUM

Northwestern University  
Dance Marathon  
Abra Prentice Foundation, Inc.

### SILVER

Christy & Brian Greenblatt

### BRONZE

CIBC  
Foundation for Health Enhancement  
Pat & Susan Frangella  
Henry Givray  
Pfizer Foundation  
PTS  
Diane And Richard Templer Family Foundation  
Theisen Family Foundation  
Todd & Beth Thomas

## Navigator

### PLATINUM

AddShoppers  
The Albertsons Companies Foundation  
Chicago Blackhawks  
Laura & Chad Chandlee  
Amy & David Duchesneau  
Gronen Properties & Restoration  
Keystone Capital  
LSV Asset Management  
Joel & Sandra McDonnell  
Mesirow Financial  
The SBB Research Group Foundation  
SmithBucklin Corporation  
Todd & Kris Stevenson  
John Tunnell Insurance  
Marcelle Picard White Foundation, Inc.  
Vedder Price

### GOLD

Advocate Lutheran General Children's Hospital

AEG Partners  
All In To Fight Cancer  
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists  
Jim & Cathy Angell  
Armory Capital LLC  
A.Y. McDonald Mfg. Co.  
Trey Bailey  
David & Amy Becker  
Benesch  
Berkshire Hathaway Energy  
Barbara R. Biscan  
Borko Bozickovic & Laura Newcomb  
Ellen Brislin  
Sam & Jake Burbach  
The CarMax Foundation  
Caterpillar  
Chomps  
Kim Costello  
Cottingham & Butler  
Custom Quest  
Bill & Wendy Daughtrey  
Chad & Robin Demmer  
John B Donovan  
Dubuque Morning Optimist  
DuTrac Community Credit Union  
Echo Global Logistics  
Sandy & Mike Ernsdorff  
Chip & Tiffany Flannagan  
Kim Freedman  
The Parker Gale Foundation  
Debra Gammon  
Jaime Gascon  
Debbie Gnutek  
Goldfish Swim School - Park Ridge  
Alex & Anna Golod  
Guardian Auto Transport  
Jackie Guzman  
Mary & Curtis Hall  
Handled IT  
Mindy & Douglas Hong  
Chris & Alex Horchak  
Ronald E Jacquart & Gary L Van Wert  
Judge Law, LLC.  
Kaizen Health  
Michael & Carolyn Kelly

Bill Klauer  
Cassandra Lems  
Jonathon Levin  
LifeTough Kids Boxing Club  
Charles and Glenda Love  
Clay Luton  
Brendan Lyden  
Marquette Associates, Inc.  
Matthew & Michelle May  
Kevin & Sheila McInerney  
Deb & Mark McDonnell  
Brian and Nicky McMahon  
Pat & Michelle McMahon  
Camilla & Andrew Merrick  
Mid American Water, Inc.  
Kurt & Kathy Mihm  
Tracy Mihm  
Monroe Financial Partners, Inc.  
Nakoma Products  
Northwestern Medicine  
Proton Center  
Olson's Ace Hardware  
Lynne & Kevin Oyen  
Park Ridge Lions Charitable Foundation  
Park Ridge Wilderness  
Scouts & Princesses Fund  
Kyle Peterson  
Roger & Carol Peterson  
PEX Card  
Brad Pye  
Ronald Rosbruch  
Schoen Family Charitable Trust  
Scott & Kraus, LLC  
SenecaGlobal, Inc.  
Audrey Silva  
Sisters of the Visitation  
Bernard Small  
Moving Station  
Brad Stephens  
Nicholas & Susan Jane Sutton  
Christopher & Pamela Theisen  
Suzann & Tony Theisen  
Libby Thulen Family.  
Andrew Thomas & Kristina Stone  
Time Bank

Jimmy Topping  
Tri State Truck Equipment  
Turner Acceptance Corp.  
Jennifer Villacci  
Wahlert Foundation  
Fonzi & Rachel Weninger  
Mark & Linda Wilson  
Wozniak Industries, Inc.

### SILVER

Gerald Adams  
Agave LLC  
Andy & Kathleen Agrawal  
Ash & Willow  
Sabrina Bailey  
Bain Capital Children's Charity, Ltd.  
Beyond Smiles of Park Ridge  
Steve Blosch  
Barb & Steve Bonnet  
CAS Candles  
Children's Dentistry in Park Ridge  
Joy Chung  
Roni Cohen  
Ann & Brian Cooper  
Jennifer & Jacob Cundiff  
Mike & Celeste Denman  
Shawn Dunn  
Sara & Matt Eide  
Electric.ai  
Family Tree Chiropractic  
Frank J. Baker & Company, Ltd.  
Julie Friend  
Gas N Wash  
Ashley Gendreau  
Genyk Group Real Estate  
Danielle & Ross Goffi  
King Shy Goh  
Teri & John Goodman  
Kathy Gowgiel  
Hemp CBD Wellness  
Leann Horsfall  
The Horton Group  
Soni Hudspeth  
Robert Hunter  
Susan Ingrassia

## In honor of:

Adrian Abonce  
Aubrey Beck  
Zayvian Daniels  
Michelle Ernsdorff-May  
Gradoski's 50th Anniversary  
Brian & Christy Greenblatt  
Celeste Hall  
Teddy O'Donoghue  
John Salvi  
Lette Tipton

## In memory of:

Helen Anbinder  
Susan Callahan  
Joyce C. Flannagan  
Tayden Grohs  
Steve Howard  
Katie Metz  
Elijah Morrissey  
Tony Oldenburg  
Shana Saunders  
Blake and Bridget Tashnor  
Libby Thulen

IPM  
Erika Jackson  
Jackson Mfg.  
John Karle  
Keating Family Foundation  
Jim Kepple  
Kory Kessler  
Kiwanis International  
Park Ridge  
Karmen Koelbl  
Brad Kreydick  
Jill & John Large  
Kevin & Jill McDonnell  
John & Robin McEnany  
Tom Metz  
Tracy & Kevin Mueller  
North Shore Motor Works  
Jane & Jim O'Neill  
Origin Point  
Megan & Bob Pierce  
Re/Max Properties  
Northwest  
River City Paving  
Jacque & Chuck  
Rutledge  
Linda & Sean Schilawski

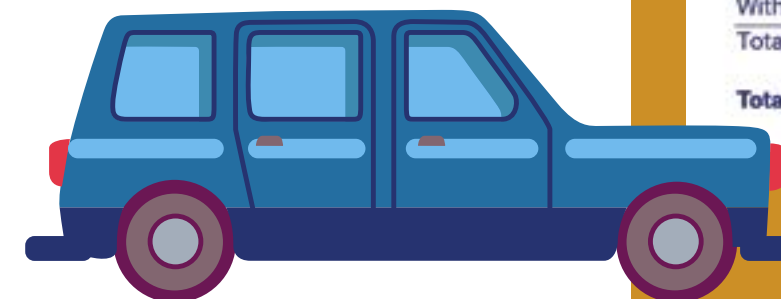
Dixie Schuster  
Silver Lining  
Chiropractic LLC  
Mike & Lauren Silverman  
Edward H Steinman  
Mark & Danielle Swets  
Tandem Tire & Auto Service  
Paul & Rachael Templer  
Christopher & Anna Terzich  
UnitedHealth Group  
Varian Medical  
Systems, Inc.  
Robert & Kris Villari  
Wahlert High School  
Class of 1962  
Richard & Sarah Warmath  
Barb & Gary Weber  
Diane & Timothy Weitzel  
Cathy & Bob Wittmann  
York Community Church  
Lenny & Mags Young

## Statement of Activities

Revenue	
Businesses & Foundations	\$346,480
Endowment Income	\$281
Fundraising Income	\$289,018
Grant	\$17,411
Individuals & Others	\$118,548
Interest Income	\$1,825
Investment Income	-\$551
Sales Income	\$20,542
Unrealized Gain	-\$6,490
Donations in Kind	\$7,636
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$794,699</b>
Expenses	
Program 86%	\$627,547
Fundraising 10%	\$72,327
Management & General 4%	\$28,621
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$728,495</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$66,204</b>
Net Assets	
<b>January 1, 2021</b>	<b>\$634,159</b>
<b>December 31, 2021</b>	<b>\$700,363</b>

## Statement of Financial Position

Current Assets	
Cash & Equivalents	\$671,505
Miscellaneous Receivable	\$35
Right of Use Asset - Short Term	\$17,202
Inventory	\$643
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$689,386</b>
Other Assets	
Endowment Fund	\$36,475
Deposit	\$1,489
Right of Use Asset - Long Term	\$31,215
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$69,179</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$758,564</b>
Current Liabilities	
PRCB Visa Community Card	\$86
Kaizen	\$3,274
Kaizen East	\$4,888
Uber Health	\$1,536
Operating Lease Liability - Short Term	\$17,202
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$26,986</b>
Long-Term Liabilities	
Operating Lease Liability - Long-Term	\$31,215
<b>Total Long-Term Liabilities</b>	<b>\$31,215</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$58,201</b>
Net Assets	
Without Donor Restriction	\$700,363
With Donor Restriction	\$0
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$700,363</b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Net Assets</b>	<b>\$758,564</b>



See a full view of our audited 2022 financials online:  
[CompassToCare.org/financials](https://CompassToCare.org/financials)

*"On behalf of my family I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Compass to Care, to all your donors for your great contribution to our smooth treatment travel processes. We wouldn't have made it without you, honestly. Compass to Care, what you are doing is just awesome and so so highly appreciated. It has been a pleasure and a blessing to have you by our side for all this time."*  
 - Areg's mom



Jalen  
and  
Jayden



Serena



Nathaniel



The Mike & Sandy Ernsdorff  
Childhood Cancer Foundation

## Chicago

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## Dubuque

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Dubuque, IA 52001



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@CompassToCare



The mission of Compass to Care, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, is to provide a free Non Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) solution to access life-saving cancer treatment and clinical trials for children fighting cancer and facing poverty or cancer-related financial toxicity. EIN 27-0885690.

## Board of Directors

Kevin McInerney, MBA, Board President  
President, Global Insight Consulting, Inc.

Dina Bright, CPA, Board Treasurer  
Principal, Flexic Financial

Mike Ernsdorff, Founding Member

Sandy Ernsdorff, Founding Member

Andy Agrawal  
Managing Partner at DecisionPoint Advisors

Borko Bozickovic  
President, Midwestos LLC

Brian Greenblatt  
President, Middle Mkt. Comm. Banking, CIBC

Douglas Hong, CPA  
VP of Accounting, Echo Global Logistics

Erika Jackson  
VP, Strategic Leadership Team at InSite  
Reality Advisors

Renalin Malvar-Ledda  
Sr. Dir. of Events & Operations, at AAHKS

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Managing Director, CIBC U.S.

Mike Silverman, Vice President  
Accounting Manager  
at Echo Global Logistics

Peter Moreno, Treasurer  
Managing Director, CIBC U.S.

Nick Emanuele  
Strength & Conditioning Coach  
at the East Bank Club

Jimmy Topping  
Junior Securities Analyst  
at Advisors Asset Management

## Staff

Michelle Ernsdorff-May, MBA  
Founder & CEO

Danielle Villari Swets  
COO

Essy Catenada  
Program Manager

Danielle Goffi  
Event Manager