THE SAM DAY FOUNDATION STRIVES TO FUND RESEARCH FOR RARE PEDIATRIC CANCERS AND LIFE-GIVING EXPERIENCES SO KIDS WITH CANCER CAN SURVIVE AND LIVE WELL.

MISSION STATEMENT
Dear Friends + Cancer Caring Community,

When Sam had cancer, every day carried a sense of urgency for some new treatment to become available. I discovered the agonizing reality was that advancements in childhood cancer research happen much slower than in adult cancers, and communities lead by hurting families were the ones insisting on change. Even though I’ve lost my son, I still carry that sense of urgency.

I understand now why so many foundations are launched in memory of a child. With the Sam Day Foundation (SDF) just past its one year mark, my dreams for improving the statistics of childhood cancer have been revived. You are responsible for the energy and accelerated growth of this new effort to change the face of pediatric cancer and I couldn’t be more proud of our progress and impact in just one year.

Our heavy emphasis — 90% of our program budget is designated towards research for the most brutal cancers taking the lives of vibrant kids. We strive for a day when survival rates improve and believe the contributions of SDF will help make this happen. This is our big dream. That’s what we do, just like Sam, we’re dreaming big and going for it!

SDF designates the remaining 10% of our program funds to provide experiences for kids with cancer, and scholarships for students dealing with long term disability or illness, because kids should be able to live well.

This foundation is set up to reflect the life and spirit of Sam Day, to create a legacy of hope for kids and families battling pediatric cancer and to dream of a day when they are cured. Sam taught us to dream big, laugh often, and live well and we exemplify his spirit through our high energy, impactful events like the Sam Day 5K (2nd) and the Sam Day Soirée (1st).

I have tremendous gratitude for all of you who have helped us launch a thriving foundation through donations, corporate sponsorships, event volunteerism and personal mentorship. Today, cancer remains the leading cause of disease related death among children. But ONE DAY, more kids with cancer will survive and live well. Continue to fight with us and help grow this most important community, thank you.

Sincerely,

Lorna M. Day
Executive Director
IMPACT

SAM DAY FOUNDATION AWARDED ITS FIRST RESEARCH GRANT
$150,000

One of the greatest challenges to advancements in rare cancer research is the lack of tumor tissue and study models necessary for the pre-clinical studies required to move drugs forward to clinical trials. CuReFAST is a tumor registry program designed to allow patients to donate tumor tissue to the research community. New models developed within the CuReFAST program, will allow for better preclinical research of novel treatments for rare diseases. Once the tissue is processed and ready for advanced study, all resources and records are shared with interested research groups. Collaboration and information sharing is a core value of the CuReFAST program and of the Sam Day Foundation. This milestone first grant is a perfect fit for the mission of SDF.

Below are just some of the accomplishments the CuReFAST program has achieved since receiving SDF funding in February 2019:

• Collected tumor samples from 21 patients (representing 9 different cancers)
• Developed 8 Primary cell cultures (and sent 5 away for mouse model development)
• Shared 5 tissue samples with 2 other research groups for their independent studies
• Genetic sequencing from 9 patients
• 2 in-house 60 panel drug screens

In the same way you can’t build a house without materials and plans, research cannot happen without tumor tissue and data. Materials for rare cancer studies are hard to come by. The above list represents new essential tools and materials for researchers to do their jobs well.

CuReFAST is being followed closely by families dealing with rare cancer groups in need of resources because this program gives them hope. The mother of a teen with epithelioid sarcoma says “SDF has pushed epithelioid sarcoma research farther than it has ever been and we are so much closer to finding a solution for our children than ever before.” This rare cancer group is currently fundraising for the next phase of research now that CuReFAST has provided the essential materials.

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CREATING OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG SCIENTISTS
$3,000

Emma Rens is one of the bright young summer interns in cc-TDI’s research lab. Interns participate in cancer research studies, co-author research publications, and are mentored by some of cc-TDI’s research and engineering staff for eight weeks during the summer of 2019. Emma pursued this internship to advance her science lab skills, but recently expressed that working in the lab, “has sparked a flame of determination within me that with effort and time, the fear of childhood cancer will be extinguished.”

SPONSORED A HEALTHY FOOD PROGRAM FOR KIDS AT CAMP
$7,000

Camp Ukandu provides outrageous fun for kids with cancer and their siblings, and was Sam Day’s favorite week of the year during his cancer journey. Sam Day Foundation believes kids with cancer need high quality, nutritious and good tasting food when they go to summer camp. This grant to Camp Ukandu was designated to the meal program so kids with cancer can eat well to live well.

AWARDED SIX SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS COPING WITH ILLNESS OR DISABILITY
$7,000

Sam Day Foundation awards scholarships to Sunset High School students who have endured long term disability or chronic illness while still choosing to live well. It’s hard to excel at anything in life when medical conditions require multiple doctor visits, therapy appointments, chronic pain, balancing medications and their side effects, and uncertainty about one’s future health status. SDF recognizes those students who have not only endured these challenges but have also learned how to dream big, laugh often, and live well.

2018 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
Claire McDonnell
Ethan Tubby

2019 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
Gota Koyama • Ellie Wiley
Sarah Fresvik • Lena Seeger
SAM DAY SOIRÉE
The 5th Annual Sam Day Soirée (1st under the Sam Day Foundation), sponsored by Stages Cycling, was held at The Nines Hotel in Portland on February 9th, 2019. The event proved to be a social, hip and powerful evening with a community of passionate and motivated supporters that want to ensure kids with rare pediatric cancers live long and well. The theme ONE DAY instilled a forward looking vision for that One Day when more kids with cancer will survive and live well.

- $240,000 raised
- 380 ticket holders
- 12 corporate sponsors
- Pediatric cancer exhibit spotlighting Sam’s story
- Message from Lorna Day and words from several young cancer survivors
- Music by the Brown Sisters of Portland
SAM DAY 5K
On June 29th, the 2nd annual Sam Day 5K sponsored by Atkinson Insurance/Pemco, was held at Sunset High School. The message is clear, we run for the forgotten cancers in need of research attention, and we run so kids with cancer can survive and live well. Sam’s favorite number was 37, which he humorously claimed was the “forgotten number.” ED Lorna Day recognized the need to draw attention to forgotten cancers, and used #37 to symbolize that effort. Participants created a massive #37 out of pinwheels in a demonstration of support for rare childhood cancer research and to remember kids like Sam, who’ve been taken by cancer far too soon.

- 501 Participants
- 75 Volunteers
- $39,000 Raised
- 11 Sponsors
FINANCIALS

REVENUE

Signature Events: $280,440  
Third Party Events: $5,530  
Donations: $43,460  
Grants: $10,000  

Total Revenue: $339,430

EXPENSES

Fundraising: $67,198  
Operations: $24,160  

Total Fundraising + Operations: $91,358  

Net Operating Income: $248,072

PROGRAM

Research: $153,000  
Experiences: $7,175  
2019 Scholarships: $5,000  

Total Programs: $165,175  

Reserve: $82,900

The majority of our first year revenue came from two signature events — the Sam Day Soirée, and the Sam Day 5K — which we proudly achieved an average 76 percent profit margin.
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Sam Day Foundation

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Oregon Health and Sciences University
Karlee – Rhabdomyosarcoma

Sam – Ewing Sarcoma

Rebecca – Osteosarcoma

Joseph – Ewing Sarcoma

Connor – Epithelioid Sarcoma

Sophie – Undifferentiated Soft Tissue Sarcoma
JOIN US, TO CHANGE LIVES IN POWERFUL WAYS.

ONE DAY THE SURVIVAL STATISTICS FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER WILL IMPROVE AND MORE KIDS WITH CANCER WILL SURVIVE AND LIVE WELL.