



Lennox
Children's
Cancer Fund

ROUND UP 2022



WELCOME FROM THE CEO

Celebrating 30 years of providing support to children diagnosed with cancer, and their families.



What a year it has been for Lennox Children's Cancer Fund!

The pandemic and the cost of living have had a huge impact on our families and have also affected our fundraising efforts.

However, thanks to our wonderful supporters and the dedication of our team, we have continued to provide a lifeline of support and information to families through their darkest days.

We celebrated our 30th anniversary in May, and it gave us the chance to reminisce about why we started the charity and how far we have come. It was also a great opportunity to celebrate and remember all the incredible children and families we have had the privilege of supporting.

I would like to thank every grant-giving trust, individual, business, and community organisation that has supported us in 2022. We could not provide children with these vital support services without your help. Together, we have helped families in their time of tragedy and despair.

We are truly grateful for everyone's contributions so thank you from the bottom of my heart. On behalf of the team and the families we serve, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and look forward to working together again in 2023.

Best wishes

Vince

Vincent Fitzmaurice
CEO and Founder



966

individuals affected by cancer
were supported in 2022.

Lennox in 2022

Focusing on mental health and well-being for families

After receiving a number of harrowing referrals from medical teams caring for a child or young person with cancer who is also experiencing severe mental health trauma following their diagnosis and treatment, we knew we needed to improve and expand the emotional support services available to these children.

There is currently an 18-month waiting list for critical paediatric mental health services.

To help bridge this gap, in September we launched our Early Intervention Mental Health Wellbeing (EIMS) programme, which enables trained therapists to provide immediate assistance to children in crisis. It also provides play and art therapy boxes, along with much-needed days out for families to take a break from treatment.

Thanks to the financial support of some incredible trusts and individuals, we have raised £34,500 to fund this life-changing, and in some cases life-saving, service, in 2022 and the start of 2023.



Events for families

Following feedback, we wanted to create an environment where our children and their families could meet others who understood what they were going through and the challenges they were facing.

So, in 2022, we hosted five separate family events. These parties have been a huge success, with many families bonding, new friendships formed, and memories made. This could not have been achieved, without the generous donations we received throughout the year.

New Partnerships

This year has seen the start of a wonderful two-year partnership with CIBC bank, in collaboration with two other incredible charities.

This opportunity not only helps us raise funds, but it also allows us to reach new audiences, raise our charity's profile, and pool our resources, knowledge, and skills with the other charities to constantly learn and develop new ideas and understandings.



Backpack project

We were grateful to receive £35,000 in grants to pay for 350 backpacks to be given to hospitals so they can give them to a family at the appointment when their child first gets their diagnosis.

Often families are a long way from home and don't have anything they need for a hospital stay with them. The backpacks are full of useful items and information to make those few first days feel less isolated.



119



Crisis and Care Grants
were given to families
in 2022.



Lennox in 2022

Care and Crisis Grants

These grants are given to families as an emergency payment when they struggle to make ends meet due to the additional and unexpected costs of having cancer. They can be used for travel to hospital appointments, to pay bills and to pay for memory making days out and activities.

However, recently we have expanded this service to offer long-term assistance to families, like Freddie's, experiencing ongoing issues due to their child's cancer diagnosis.

Freddie's Story

Freddie was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL) in 2021. He is undergoing treatment at the Royal Marsden which requires frequent visits to the hospital. In addition to his Leukaemia, Freddie was also diagnosed with Autism which has required additional support to communicate with him about his medical procedures.

Since Freddie's Autism and subsequent ADHD diagnosis, his family has been on a long and exhausting journey to help their son in school so that he can reach his full potential. He was finally settling and doing well in school when his parents saw a lump on his neck. It was the most indescribable blow for them, given what they had already been through, and for Freddie, to have to deal with another diagnosis.

Treatment for his leukemia has meant that Freddie has been out of school for most of the academic year, missing out on learning and falling further behind. This was putting even more pressure on Freddie and increasing his parents' feelings of being overwhelmed.

They were so concerned that they requested a Care and Crisis Grant to fund an Educational Psychologist.



We were happy to pay for it as it would have a direct impact on both Freddie and his family.

Freddie attended 4 sessions which immediately helped him manage better at school and it eased his parents' emotional and mental burden as they knew how to help him and where to concentrate their efforts to help him catch up.

Feedback from our Families

A letter we received from a family after they went on a respite break to help them spend quality time together and build precious memories.

"Good morning,

I just wanted to say a massive thank you for allowing us to use your lovely lodge. I didn't realise how much we actually needed it.... It was our first break since Morgan's diagnosis in August 2019. Morgan even learned to swim!!

It really has meant so much to us and I can't thank you enough.

My husband was diagnosed with stage 3 Malignant melanoma last September so cancer really has and is ruling our family right now so it really was lovely seeing the kids enjoy themselves.

Morgan woke up this morning saying he wished he woke up in his holiday bed.

We honestly can't thank you all enough and you will consider us again in the future.

Love Hayley x



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families made memories
on a Respite Break in 2022.

I want to say a huge thank you
to the Lennox children's cancer fund
because I had an amazing time
at the cabin because it felt so home
I had so much fun when I went
swimming and on the arcade not only
I had fun but my whole family did
too. Thank you again we would love
to come back very soon.

Lots of love

Evie
XXX

Thanks to an incredibly generous funder, we are delighted to announce that in 2022 we bought our first 'brick and mortar' holiday home. This will enable us to provide families with these vital Respite Breaks in even more locations, making it accessible for more families across the UK in future years.

It started back in July, when we were visited by the Trustees of a wonderful trust, who came to meet the team and learn about the need for our services and how we carry out this vital support. Following their visit, they very generously gifted us £500,000 to buy the holiday home. Their belief and kindness means that Lennox can continue to provide these essential family getaways for many years to come.

Our dreams have finally come true, and what a way to celebrate our 30th anniversary!