

LITTLE WARRIOR FOUNDATION IMPACT REPORT

2024



**LITTLE
WARRIOR**
FOUNDATION





THE RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF A COMPLETE & PERMANENT CURE FOR EWING SARCOMA

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

As the Little Warrior Foundation marks its 5th anniversary, we are deeply grateful for your unwavering support. Your belief in our mission to fight childhood cancer has propelled us beyond what we once thought possible. For that, we cannot thank you enough.

To celebrate this milestone, we are excited to share our first impact report. Over the past five years, your generosity has helped us raise over \$5 million — a once unimaginable feat. But this is only the beginning. There's still so much work to do.

Over the past few years, we've discovered that our superpower is our hyper-focus. Rather than spreading our resources thin, we've prioritized funding groundbreaking therapeutics and ensuring they reach clinical trials. This year, we're proud to announce four clinical trials — an unprecedented achievement for a foundation of our size. These trials include promising therapies like DFMO (a drug recently FDA-approved for pediatric cancer) and a personalized vaccine representing a first-in-human approach.

Getting these therapies into clinical trials is no small feat. It has taken science, legal, and business savvy. It's taken creativity, persistence, patience, and faith. These efforts represent something even larger: finally putting kids first for what is therapeutically possible.

We can't shake the feeling that all of us — including you — were brought to this fight for a reason. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for stepping into the battle, and stepping up for warriors everywhere.

Swords up,
Piero Spada, Co-Founder & President

OUR FUNDING PHILOSOPHY:

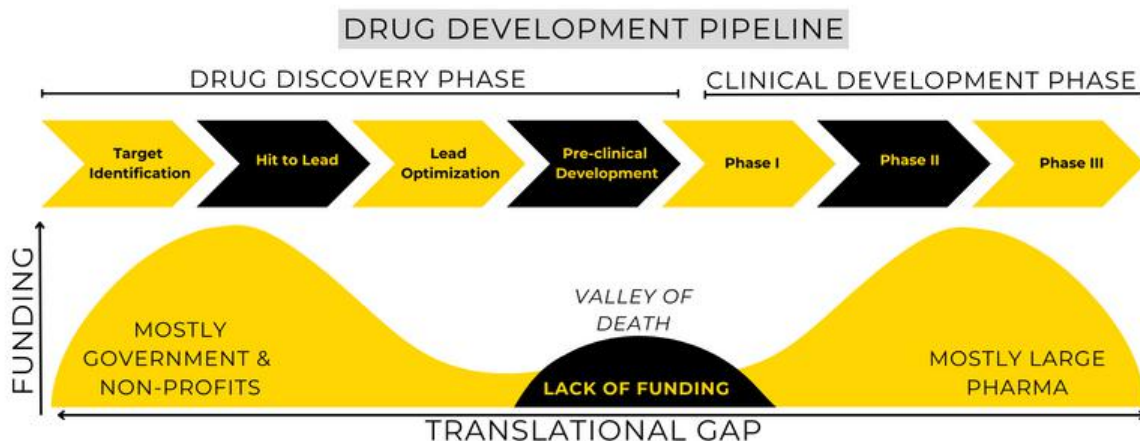
AVOID THE VALLEY OF DEATH

In biopharma, the “Valley of Death” is where scientific breakthroughs die — often because there isn’t a compelling Big Pharma business case to develop them.

On one side of the valley, you have academia: brilliant minds working tirelessly in the lab, progressing from computer models, to cell lines, to mouse studies, and finally to the “Ah-ha!” moment when a breakthrough is discovered.

We thought that “Ah-ha!” would be a siren call for pharmaceutical companies to swoop in, pick up the torch, and shepherd the concept through development. But for rare and childhood cancers, the story ends with no funding and a dense technical paper gathering dust.

Why? Because early-stage trials—Phases 1 and 2—are expensive and risky. Most Phase 1 trials don’t make it to clinically available treatments.



Many foundations focus their resources on academia’s side of the valley, funding “Ah-ha!” breakthroughs with \$50,000 or \$100,000 grants. And while that’s undeniably exciting, it leaves too many big ideas stranded in the valley, not helping warriors and their practitioners in the clinic.

At Little Warrior Foundation, we think about the *entire* path to the patient. That’s why we’re making bigger investments, like the \$350,000 we granted this year or the \$2.5 million we’ve committed to the upcoming vaccine trial. Translational medicine takes time — frustratingly so —but we have faith that these are necessary steps to avoid the Valley of Death.

As a board, we decided that the only metric that matters is: *How many kids are we helping?* And we feel it in our bones that our donors understand that some years, we might not grant as much. Other years, we’ll write seven-figure checks. Every decision is guided by sound strategy and fiscal prudence, but our mission steers our ship.

Thank you for helping us launch across the valley, for enabling us to go BIG for the Little Warriors (and the big ones too). Together, we’ll make this better.

THANKS TO **YOUR** GENEROSITY WE HAVE

BACKED 3 NEW TRIALS IN 2024

\$350,000 Committed to Beat Childhood Cancer & Penn State Health

Over the past 4 years, we've developed a close relationship with Beat Childhood Cancer Research Consortium, Dr. Giselle Sholler, and her incredible team, now located at Penn State Health in Hershey, PA.

This year, we're helping fund **three new clinical trials** to combat Ewing Sarcoma and other similar solid tumors. Two trials address critical relapsed and refractory disease. The third trial introduces a new agent to frontline therapy in higher-risk metastatic cases.

ACTIVE & ENROLLING: Silmitasertib (CX-4945) in Combination With Chemotherapy for Relapsed Refractory Solid Tumors

NOT YET ENROLLING: Difluoromethylornithine (DFMO) and AMXT-1501 for Neuroblastoma, CNS Tumors, and Sarcomas

NOT YET ENROLLING: Including Difluoromethylornithine (DFMO) in relapsed and frontline therapy for Solid Tumors

ENABLED REVOLUTIONARY RESEARCH

\$130,000 Granted to John Bushweller, PhD at the University of Virginia

Little Warrior Foundation granted \$130,000 to John Bushweller, PhD, Professor and Chemical & Structural Biologist at the University of Virginia, to further optimize a small molecule inhibitor for ETS-driven cancers like Ewing Sarcoma. This drug will lock the main protein driving Ewing Sarcoma tumor cells in an unusable state, preventing tumor proliferation.

ADVANCED A VACCINE TRIAL

\$72,000 Granted (\$2,500,000 Committed) to Cleveland Clinic, Dr. Chan and Dr. Anderson

We've been working closely with the Cleveland Clinic for the past several years to develop the first-in-human personalized vaccine trial for Ewing Sarcoma. While the pace will never be fast enough for us, we've achieved some important milestones. Little Warrior Foundation helped facilitate a contract with the vaccine producer. The primary investigators have made significant progress with the FDA, the primary regulatory hurdle. This trial continues to fill us with hope.



“Foundations like Little Warrior allow us to take a fast-track, high-risk, high-reward approach.”

Timothy Chan, MD, PhD
Head of Immuno-Oncology
Cleveland Clinic

REVENUE & EXPENSES

2024 Revenue \$ in 000s

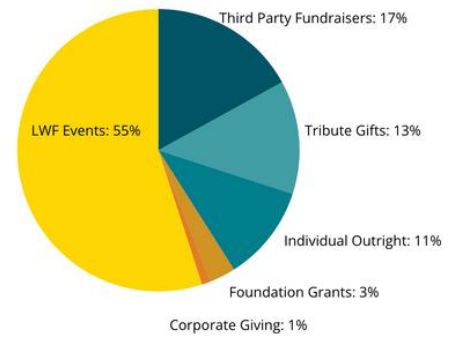
Pledges & Contributions	\$ 666
LWF Events	\$ 807
Event Expenses	\$ (163)
Merchandise Sales	\$ 52
Merchandise Cost of Sales + Expenses	\$ (46)
Interest	\$ 34
Total	\$ 1,351

2024 Expenses \$ in 000s

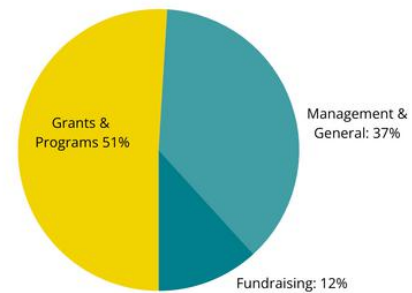
Grants & Program Support	\$ 208
Managerial & General	\$ 152
Fundraising	\$ 48
Total	\$ 408

Data based on unaudited financials as of 9/30/24.
Please visit our website for our most recent audited financials.

Revenue by Source



Expenses by Category



MILESTONE FUNDING

At LWF, we don't just write checks and hope for the best. We work closely with researchers and clinicians to set clear benchmarks and tie funding to hitting those milestones.

We want researchers to feel confident that we have their backs, and that their work will be funded according to our agreements.

We also know that these projects can hit delays, snags, and sometimes — bureaucratic tar pits. We don't want your donations sitting at a roadblock.

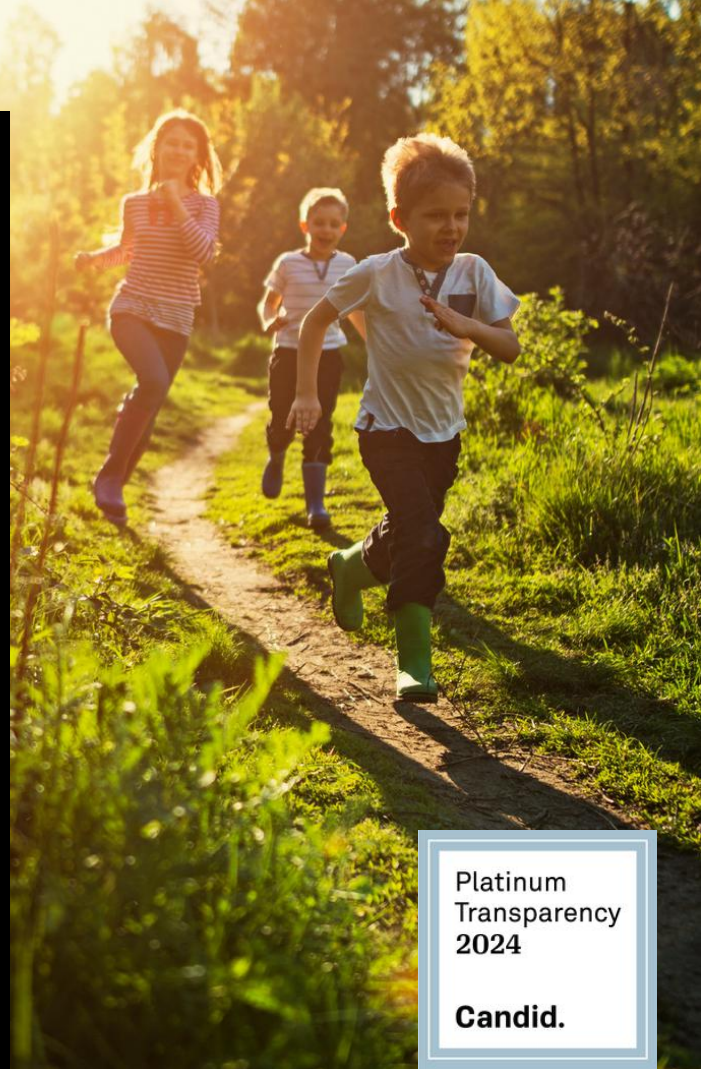
This design protects our investments. It keeps us connected to progress, allows us to help get projects *unstuck*, and keeps gentle pressure on researchers to deliver.

Milestone funding means our financials occasionally show a difference between the amount committed and the amount granted.

Today, we have **\$2,798,000** that is committed to research or trials, and we're eager to put it to work — but only when benchmarks are met.

Platinum
Transparency
2024

Candid.



A MISSION RESONATING AROUND THE WORLD

Ewings Sarcoma knows no boundaries or borders.
That's why we work internationally to find and fund the best science.



A grant to University of Virginia marks the eighth state we've mailed* jumbo checks to.



Outside our home state of Wisconsin, Georgia has the most Little Warrior Foundation supporters, thanks to the incredible #PaulUnited community!



Scan with a smart phone to watch a video about our global impact.

*We're fiscally responsible and logical. We don't actually mail the giant novelty checks.
We send normal size checks in "economy" envelopes or ACH Transfers when researchers hit agreed upon milestones and benchmarks.



Last fall, we went to Dublin to participate in for the world's biggest sarcoma conference, CTOS, creating valuable connections with cutting-edge researchers.



LWF provided initial support and the preliminary dataset to help secure a \$25 million grant to form an international research team (known as KOODAC) to develop protein degraders for several oncogenic protein drivers in pediatric solid tumors.

Our webinars draw an audience of researchers and Warriors from all over the world.



GOLDEN SWORD SOCIETY

We recognize the following donors for their extraordinary financial contributions.

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THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

We are so grateful for all of our volunteers helping behind the scenes to make sure we look good: committee members, merch sales, store managing, auction production, sponsorship solicitation, partnership opportunities, network development, grill outs, Gold Out games, community education, and so much more. We couldn't do it without YOU!

125+ volunteers in
our database

MAKE
AN
IMPACT



730+ orders filled
by our volunteer
LW Shop Team
in 2024

55 volunteers at the
primary 2024
fundraisers



1,000+
hours volunteered in 2024

1 united by
ONE mission

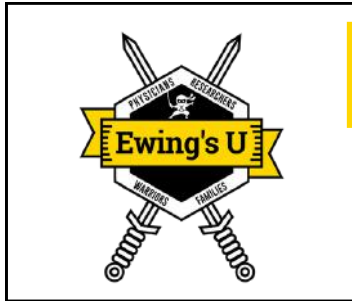


Interested in volunteering with LWF?
Check out our events page for the sign-up link!



EMPOWERING WARRIORS EVERYWHERE

Little Warrior Foundation has merged as a vital hub for warriors, not just those currently fighting, but also long-term survivors, and bereaved families who want to continue the fight. We provide educational materials and guidance to help navigate the challenges of a new Ewing Sarcoma diagnosis while fostering a sense of hope through shared experiences and expert insights.



Ewing's U

Ewing's U is a webinar that hosts Ewing Sarcoma experts who share their research, hope, and innovation. We have held 20 different sessions featuring the best and brightest minds in the Ewing Sarcoma world. We average around 50 registrants and post the recorded session to our blog and YouTube to be accessed at any time by patients as needed.



Hope Portal

Financial aid, travel accommodations, wish granting, camps, peer support, and family resources, there are so many needs — and so many fantastic organizations ready to help. The Hope Portal centralizes these resources and makes them searchable by diagnosis, geography, and more. We're proud to make the Hope Portal available to the Little Warrior Community!



Patient Connections

Unfortunately, there is no shortage of newly-diagnosed and newly-relapsed patients who contact Little Warrior Foundation through our inbox looking for assistance. The LWF team connects parents and caregivers from all over the nation with the top facilities, practitioners, and researchers in the Ewings community.



Through Ewing's U, I was able to connect with Dr. Pete Anderson at Cleveland Clinic. I would enthusiastically recommend that anyone looking to understand Ewing Sarcoma visit this website.

**Zachary's Mom
San Diego, CA**

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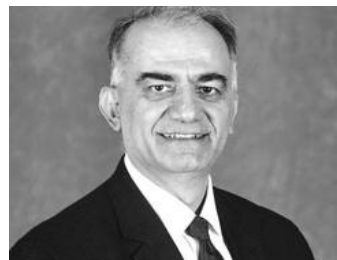
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NOT PICTURED (BUT ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL)

We have one amazing full-time employee, Alana, whose passion makes her as productive as five employees. Our brilliant treasurer, Leah, enables us to confidently focus on the mission because she's calmly managing the money. There's an army of volunteers that are behind our shop, every event, fundraiser, and good thing we do. And Warrior Families across the country who step up BIG when we need a hand. We couldn't do it without all of them, and all of you.



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