

American Cancer Society's Support for Children in Research and Programs

Research

American Cancer Society supported research that helped death rates for childhood leukemia drop 50 percent in the past 35 years, saving so many children's lives. Today, 80 percent of children with leukemia are cured.

We currently have 48 grants in effect totaling more than \$24 million related to childhood cancer. In fact, one of our current Clinical Research Professors is a specialist in the treatment of childhood cancer: Kevin Shannon, MD, at University of California, San Francisco. His \$400,000 grant is dedicated to performing genetic studies of human leukemia cells and to use mouse models of leukemias to better understand the mechanisms of disease and to test new treatment strategies.

Summer Camps for kids with cancer*: Many of our local offices have specific programs for families with pediatric cancer patients, including summer camps for children with cancer. To find out if an American Cancer Society-supported summer camp program is available near your home, call 800-227-2345. Our Cancer Information Specialists can help you get registration information (including eligibility requirements), forms, and contact names and numbers.

While ACS camp programs are not available in all states, some camps accept children from neighboring states, too. Many camps also welcome the well brother or sister of a child with cancer, so be sure to ask if a sibling program is available. Age restrictions, for example, or the number of siblings allowed, may vary from program to program. *Remember, most ACS summer camp programs are provided at no cost to families, but space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. If the camp you contact is full, ask the coordinator if your child's name can be placed on a waiting list in case of cancellation.*

Youth Cancer Survivor Scholarship*: Many states offer scholarship programs for survivors of pediatric cancers. The scholarship program is for students pursuing an undergraduate degree in an institute of higher learning, including universities, community colleges, vocational, or technical schools. Call 800-227-2345 to learn if scholarships are available in your state.

Books & Printed Resources: The American Cancer Society publishes many books that address the needs of children diagnosed with cancer or dealing with cancer in someone they love. The Society's *Kids' First Cookbook* helps all children learn to make healthy and wholesome food. For more information, visit [**cancer.org/Books4me**](http://cancer.org/Books4me)

Online Resources: The American Cancer Society's website, cancer.org, offers a section titled: *Children and Cancer: Support and Treatment*. The first part of this section offers information and suggestions for families in which a child has been diagnosed with cancer. The second part provides information on helping children understand and deal with cancer in another family member.

<http://www.cancer.org/Treatment/ChildrenandCancer/index>

* Programs vary by state. Please call 1-800-227-2345 to find out what is available in your area.

