Look inside to see your impact on kids with cancer in Iowa and across the country!

“It is because of your support that I was able to dedicate myself fully to caring for my daughter during the last two and a half years [while she battled cancer].”

- Pinky Swear Foundation thank you note received from mom of nine-year-old child

OUR MISSION:
Helping kids with cancer and their families with financial and emotional support.
At 16 months old, James’ parents took him in to his pediatrician after they noticed a bulge on his stomach. The ultrasound results quickly called for a CT scan, where it was confirmed – James had Bilateral Wilms Tumors, a type of kidney cancer found in children. James had surgery to remove his right kidney and a portion of his left, with weeks of chemotherapy before and after the operation. With treatment, surgery and maintenance, James’ family was “overwhelmed with out-of-pocket expenses,” according to his mom, MaryBeth. “Pinky Swear was able to pay our mortgage and provide us with gift cards to offset some of our monthly expenses. Real life keeps happening even though your kid has cancer.”

James is currently in remission, receiving his last treatment a day before his second birthday! Despite living with half of one kidney, he is as joyful as ever. “Whenever I say, ‘James, time to get in the car!’, he says ‘PARTY!’” MaryBeth says. “He thinks everything’s a party!”

All-Star James

WHO News Radio 1040 and Pinky Swear Radiothon
- 569 donors from 57 counties across Iowa contributed over $173,000 towards our 2018 Radiothon to support kids with cancer and their families.
- The 2019 WHO Pinky Swear Radiothon is scheduled for December 13 at Valley West Mall in West Des Moines.

Des Moines Marathon
Pinky Swear Foundation was an official charity partner of the 2018 Des Moines Marathon. Participants could sign-up for our Run for a Cause Team and raise funds to support our mission. Runners can join our team for the 2019 marathon too! Visit pinkywear.org/dsm-marathon to learn more.

Community Advisory Council
We want to recognize the dedication and commitment of volunteers that help support Pinky Swear Foundation throughout Iowa. We especially recognize our central Iowa Community Advisory Council members and their extraordinary support of the Pinky Swear Radiothon last year!

Pinky Swear Pantry at Blank Children’s Hospital
Over 1,700 families were provided access to an on-site food pantry with grab-and-go options for families so they can stay near their child in the hospital and ease their financial burden.

Pinky Swear helped families in 49 states.

Iowa Highlights

Orange Envelope Program
Pinky Swear Foundation is here for families with a child who has been newly diagnosed with cancer with a virtual ‘hug’ and a financial gift delivered right to their mailbox.

All-Star Fund
A fund that covers a mortgage or rent payment, pays for gas or groceries, or other non-medical needs a family may have while caring for a child with cancer.

Memorable Family Experiences
All-Star Weekends and unique events and activities that provide emotional support and quality time together out of the hospital.

Pinky Swear Pantry
On-site food pantry at children’s hospitals with grab-and-go options for families so they can stay near their child with cancer and ease their financial burden.

Iowa 2018 Fast Facts

88
Financial grants were provided to Iowa families

$911
Average All-Star financial grant amount

100%
All eligible requests from Iowa families received an All-Star grant

$61,068
Total financial assistance provided

Addiitonal support and investment in our community provided through All-Star Weekends & a Pinky Swear Pantry at Blank Children’s Hospital valued at $6,647 thanks to generous community partners.

Pinky Swear helped families in 49 states.

75%
In our 2018 fiscal year, 75% of donations went toward our mission

11,295
Total number of individuals supported by all Pinky Swear programs

5,000
Total number of families provided access to Pinky Swear Pantries

1,003
Total number of Orange Envelopes distributed

52
Total number of families served through All-Star Weekends

632
All-Star Fund grants distributed to 597 families

Pinky Swear helped families in 49 states.

Thanks to You

Kids battling cancer in Iowa and their families have access to financial and emotional support during treatment.

A bridge of support is available to these kids and families when they need it most – right now.

Generous investment from the community allowed us to increase our support of families in Iowa by 35% over 2017.