
News & Updates

January 2021 | Volume 12 - Number 1

Upcoming Activities

April, 2021

[Toiletry Drive](#)

May 16, 2021

[12th Annual Virtual Walk](#)

About Us

Spreading Hope Through Psychosocial Support SM

[Learn](#)

Support

Help Make The Miracles Possible

[Donate](#)



Making Miracles Together

Each December, Mattie Miracle invites you to support our Annual Drive. In 2020, our supporters collectively donated **\$20,000** to the Annual Drive. Given the challenges and hardships associated with the COVID-19 Pandemic, we are deeply grateful to have the generosity of our steadfast supporters who are willing to stand behind our psychosocial mission.

Over the last 11 years, together we have:

1. Raised \$830,000 to fund our psychosocial programs
2. Supported 35,000 children with cancer
3. Funded 4 child life specialists
4. Awarded \$67,000 in psychosocial research grants
5. Published the first evidence based **Psychosocial Standards of Care**
6. Sponsored the publication of the **Matrix and Guidelines** to help implement the Psychosocial Standards of Care
7. Offered 26,000 snacks to in-patient families
8. Donated 59,000 pounds of candy and 25,000 toiletry items to families
9. Introduced **House Resolution 262**
10. Added Psychosocial Language to the **STAR Act** (signed into law June 2018)

In 2020, the Foundation had:

- 16 corporate sponsors
- 631 individual contributions
- 52 in-kind community partners
- 76 supporters of the Annual Drive
- \$140,000 raised to support our programs and initiatives

Click on the heart for a listing of our supporters.



Direct Support to Children & Families

In December 2020, the Foundation donated **\$46,000** to Children's Hospital at Sinai (Baltimore, MD) to support our **endowed Mattie Miracle Child Life Program Fund**. This is our second endowed Fund we have established, as the first was created in 2011, at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital (Washington, DC). To date, we have contributed over \$300,000 to these Funds to directly support children with cancer and their families.

The Mattie Miracle Child Life Program Fund pays the salary of Adina Levitan, a child life professional at Children's Hospital at Sinai. Adina works one on one with **200 patients and families a year** and through the Mattie Miracle Snack & Item Cart, provides snacks, treats and toiletries annually to **1,500 families** caring for children with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.

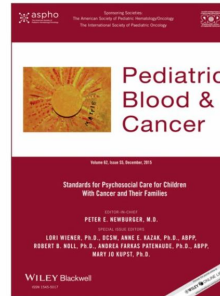
Child life specialists are pediatric health care professionals who work with children and families in hospitals to help them cope with the challenges of hospitalization, illness, and disability. They provide children with age-appropriate preparation for medical procedures, pain management, coping strategies, and play and self-expression activities. In addition, these professionals provide information, support, and guidance to parents, siblings, and other family members.

Child life services are associated with improved quality, outcomes, and patient and family experiences as well as decreased costs in pediatric care. Evidence exists that child life services help to contain costs by reducing the length of stay, decreasing the need for sedation and analgesics, and increasing patient satisfaction ratings.

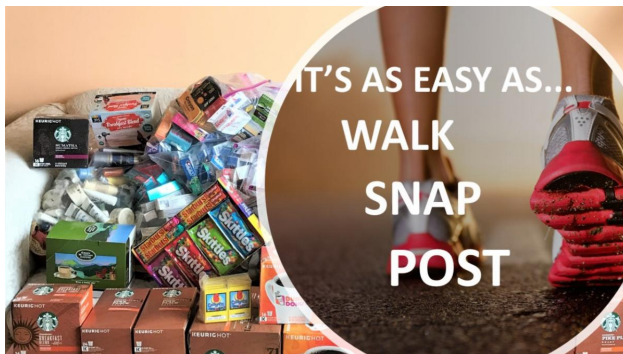
Endorsed Internationally

We are honored that the MAHAK Pediatric Cancer Treatment and Research Center in Tehran, Iran has become our **18th endorser of the Psychosocial Standards of Care**. MAHAK shares Mattie Miracle's philosophy that **CHILDHOOD CANCER IS NOT JUST ABOUT THE MEDICINE_{SM}** and all children with cancer and their families deserve access to optimal psychosocial support from the time of diagnosis, throughout treatment, and into survivorship or end of life and bereavement care.

MAHAK is a charitable organization in Iran established 29 years ago and continues as an independent NGO exclusively funded by benevolent citizens concerned with the welfare of children with cancer and their families. In 2019, MAHAK operated with 874 paid staff and hundreds of volunteers scattered across Iran, providing full treatment, research, and psychosocial support to every Iranian and non-Iranian family whose child has cancer and is in need of financial and medical support. This inclusive service has been provided to over 35,000 cases as of March 2020, with close to 20,000 active cases receiving treatment and psychosocial support in all public and university hospitals throughout the country with pediatric hematology/oncology wards.



Press Release



Get Involved

Looking for ways to support Mattie Miracle? Get involved in our two upcoming **VIRTUAL Community Events**:

- 1) Toiletry Item Drive (April 12, 2021)
- 2) Virtual Walk Challenge (May 16, 2021)

Our April Toiletry Drive helps to stock our free snack and item carts at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital (Washington, DC) and Children's Hospital at Sinai (Baltimore, MD) and our Annual Walk raises funds to support our psychosocial programs which assist children with cancer and their families.

[Learn More](#)

Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation
www.mattiemiracle.com



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