

News & Updates

March 2022 | Volume 13 - Number 3

Upcoming Activities

April, 2022
11th Annual
Toiletry Drive
[Wish List](#)

May 15, 2022
13th Annual
[Virtual Walk](#)

May 20, 2022
[Letter of Intent](#) for
Research Grants

About Us

Spreading Hope
Through
Psychosocial
Support SM

[Learn](#)

Support

Help Make The
Miracles Possible

[Donate](#)



A Double Wish

Mattie Miracle donated **\$10,000** to Children's Hospital at Sinai in Baltimore, MD to launch our M&M (Margy & Mattie) Wishes Program. We established the M&M Wishes program in memory of our board member, **Margy Jost**. March 28th marks the one year anniversary of Margy's death. Mattie Miracle is committed to preserving Margy's legacy and we will always be inspired by her compassion, advocacy, and support of children with cancer and their families.

To date we have awarded five children with M&M Wishes. Our **first M&M Wish was granted to twins with cancer**. The M&M Wishes program provides family grants up to \$1,000 to support a fun family activity, trip, or a wish list item for a child with cancer.

Reflections from Children's Hospital at Sinai (Baltimore, MD):

The Sameuelson Children's Hospital at Sinai is grateful for the continued support of the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation to address the psychosocial needs of pediatric patients with a cancer diagnosis. The latest initiative from Mattie Miracle is a wish granting fund for patients and their families, offering up to \$1,000 to be used for a special trip or item for the patient. In memory of Margy Jost, this fund truly looks beyond the hospital and the medicine to provide psychosocial support during difficult diagnoses and treatments. Often times families cannot afford or even consider an expensive trip or gift for their child during treatment. This fund provides families with a

smile and a respite. Thank you Mattie Miracle for understanding the needs of our patients and families and making wishes come true.

CFC #59853

Giving

A message from the parent of the 1st M&M Wish recipients:

F and B have wanted to go to Great Wolf Lodge, an indoor water park. B worked very hard on swim team last summer to become a stronger swimmer, although F was unable to participate due to his Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL). B was then diagnosed in August and was unable to go on our family vacation. F and their little sister, N, went on the vacation with my parents. B has not been away except for his inpatient hospital visits. They would love SO much to get away to Great Wolf Lodge as they have never been and have been through so much. I would love to be able to send them somewhere to make them smile!

It's Not Just About The Medicine. SM



APOS Pediatrics/AYA SIG @APOS_PedsAYASIG · Mar 9
So wonderful to see our colleagues, friends and fierce advocates of pediatric psychosocial care. Thank you to our Community Spotlight video on the work of @MattieMiracleCF @LoriWiener @APOSHQ #APOS2022 #APOSMovingForwardTogether



Community Partner

Mattie Miracle's educational and research home is within the American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS). We have held think tanks and symposia at their national conferences and we house our young investigator research grants within APOS.

On March 10, Mattie Miracle **funded an invited symposia** entitled, *Implementing the Pediatric Psychosocial Oncology Standards of Care: Research and Lessons Learned from a Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation/ APOS Partnership*. The Symposia was moderated by Dr. Lori Wiener and featured the following Mattie Miracle Grantees:

- Alexandra Psihogios, Ph.D.; Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Kimberly Canter, Ph.D.; Nemours Center for Healthcare Delivery Science, Delaware
- Kathryn Davis, M.A.; Boston University, Massachusetts
- Stephanie Hullmann, Ph.D., HSPP; Indiana University School of Medicine, Indiana
- Karen Long-Traynor, Ph.D.; Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey

Mattie Miracle was featured as a **Community Partner** at APOS' 2022 conference. Please listen to Mattie Miracle's opening greeting and learn more about our partnership with APOS,

Greeting



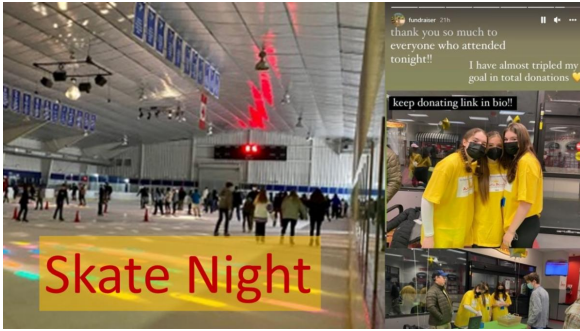
Our Partnership

Dr. Joseph Greer (APOS President, 2021-2022) and Dr. Charles Kamen (APOS Program Planning Committee Chair, 2021-2022) share their reflections on Mattie Miracle's 10 year partnership with APOS:

Since 2013, the American Psychosocial Oncology Society (APOS) and the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation have developed a longstanding and highly productive collaboration to ensure that every child and family affected by cancer receives comprehensive psychosocial support. This partnership has flourished over the years through a variety of initiatives including the creation and promotion of evidence-based Standards of Care, rigorous clinical research, and patient-centered programs and services. In 2020, APOS launched the Community Spotlight program as one of its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force initiatives. The goal of this program is to showcase psychosocial oncology services, programs, and events that are happening in the community, outside the walls of academia. **This year, in 2022, APOS was immensely pleased to spotlight the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation as a key community partner** during the annual conference, elevating efforts by community-based organizations to advance practice-changing psycho-oncology research and program development in collaboration with APOS members.

Of note, the Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation has partnered with APOS to create **Early Investigator and Mattie Miracle Implementation Grants (click on the Letter of Intent image to learn more and apply), which have funded 15 innovative projects to date.** At the 2022 Annual APOS Conference, some of this work was highlighted with an exciting symposium focused on lessons learned in implementing the Pediatric Psychosocial Oncology Standards of Care. Specifically, APOS members presented findings from their projects regarding a peer-to-peer mentoring program for parents of children recently diagnosed with cancer; surveys and programs to provide systematic psychosocial screening and comprehensive support for siblings of youth with cancer; and the use of digital health interventions to assess adherence to oral chemotherapy in adolescent and young adults as well as to implement a community-based ehealth program to bolster coping skills and psychosocial support for parents and families.

The Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation also recently announced that it would again partner with APOS to renew the call for applications and fund additional research projects aimed at implementing the Pediatric Psychosocial Oncology Standards of Care. **These projects will not only help launch the research careers of dedicated APOS investigators but also accelerate the development and dissemination of novel, evidence-based psychosocial services for children and families affected by cancer.** It is truly an honor and privilege to continue working so closely year-over-year with Dr. Victoria Sardi-Brown, Mr. Peter Brown, and the Mattie Miracle



Fundraiser Success

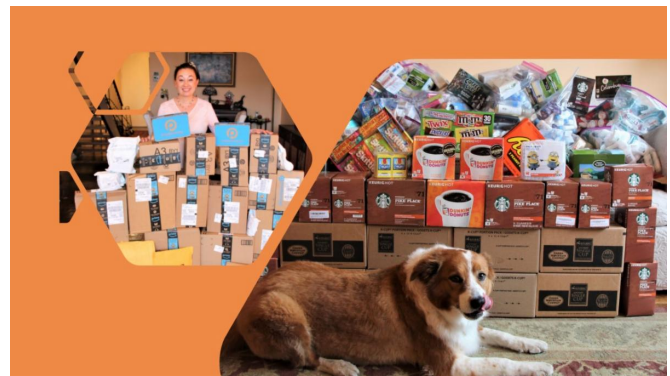
Mattie Miracle congratulates **Susan Rotherham**, a sophomore at Meridian High School in Falls Church, VA for raising **\$2,500** at her Skate Night Fundraiser held on February 28. We are thrilled that our psychosocial mission resonates with Susan and that she selected to raise funds for Mattie Miracle.

Susan is an ice hockey player at her school and is passionate about combining her love for skating with raising funds for childhood cancer. Susan surpassed her fundraising goal and successfully spread awareness of childhood cancer to her community.

We Need Your Help

Our Toiletry Drive is held each April in memory of Mattie Brown's birthday. This year, Mattie would have turned 20 years old. The April Toiletry Drive helps to stock our **free snack and item carts** at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital (Washington, DC), Children's Hospital at Sinai (Baltimore, MD) and The Clinical Center at the National Institutes of Health (NIH, Bethesda, MD).

Participating in our Annual Drive is easy. Check out our **Amazon Wish List** for specifics, We are requesting all items be received by **April 11, 2022**. The items support families in the hospital caring for children with cancer and other life threatening illnesses.



Click on the image below for our Wish List.



Let's go **ORANGE!**



Walk, Snap & Post

Our Virtual Awareness Walk will be held on Sunday, May 15, from 10am to Noon (in your time zone). You can participate wherever you are and help us turn your community **ORANGE!** Our Annual Awareness Walk raises 85% of the funds we need to directly support our psychosocial programs and initiatives which help children with cancer and their families.

Stay tuned, as our Walk & Raffle Website will go live in April.

Date: Sunday, May 15th

Time: 10am to 12pm (in your time zone)

Where: Mattie Miracle Facebook Page

GOAL: Awareness Event and to raise over \$100,000 (100% of funds support our psychosocial programs)

Great prizes for walkers with the greatest number of steps!

[Walk with Us](#)

Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation
www.mattiemiracle.com



CLICK HERE for
amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.



Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation
is a GuideStar PLATINUM
Participant Charity

Find us on:
BlogSpot