Who are we

The Wilms Cancer Foundation, is a charitable organization, inspired by 9-year-old William Hodgkinson, to support and represent the needs of children, families and health care organizations affected by the childhood kidney cancer ‘Wilms’.
What is Wilms

Wilms (or ‘nephroblastoma’) is the most common type of kidney cancer in children with about 1 in 10,000 diagnosed with the disease each year in North America. It begins in the womb with the tumour growing on the kidney and the most common symptom being a sudden swollen stomach. Eventually the tumour becomes much bigger than the kidney itself and both usually require removal.
What is Wilms

The disease has a good survival rate if detected early but if diagnosed late the cancer can be fatal, spreading to the lungs, liver or bones. Sadly, many like William go undiagnosed for years and face dismal survival rates. They require extensive, life-threatening treatment including chemo & radiation therapy and surgery.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wilms Tumor Staging: 5yr. Survival Rate</th>
<th>(Diffuse Anaplastic)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stage</strong></td>
<td><strong>Stage I</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Survival %</strong></td>
<td>75-80%</td>
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Every Parent’s Nightmare

Complaining of nothing more than a 'tummy ache' on the way to school, William was diagnosed with stage 4/5 Wilms cancer at just 7-years-old. An active little boy, tests discovered a massive tumour on his kidney and a further eight tumours in his lungs. He spent a year in treatment, had multiple operations, and protracted chemo & radiation therapy. He finally, beat the odds only to suffer a relapse one-year later with the emergence of two new lung tumours.

Importantly, early diagnosis would have prevented this pain, stress and heartache (as well as the unnecessary strains on our healthcare system).

*Presenting: Abdominal and lung Wilms tumor
Objective

Our objective is to establish a national program of awareness, education, advocacy, early detection and treatment to tackle the spread of this devastating cancer and to ensure that children, like William, and his family are not faced with the same life-threatening situations.

Advocacy  Early Detection  Education  Fundraising  Grants  Treatment  Support

We also seek to support children, family and organizations as they tackle Wilms through initiatives such as our ‘Dream-Making’ program, which provides financial support to lighten the emotional and financial burden they face at time of crisis.
Support

Children like William (and his family) should never have to face the ordeals and life-threatening situations that he has been confronted with at such a young age and, importantly, they don’t need to.

Through numerous WCF programs there is an opportunity to ensure early detection of this tragic disease and to relieve the emotional and financial burden, suffered by families in these tragic situations. However, we cannot do this alone and we rely on the ongoing support and partnership of individuals and organizations to help us continue providing our services because without them children like William and hundreds of families like his will face desperate situations.
Support

If you or someone you know is in need of information & emotional/financial support or would like to discuss making a tax-free financial donation in order to provide immediate support to a child and their family, please contact us right away.

Telephone: +1 (778) 514 5000 | email: info@wilmsfoundation.com