



Press Release (Wilms Cancer Foundation)

Survivorship & Patient Advocacy

Wilms Tumor Child Survivor to Participate in International SIOP Survivors Week Webinar in Conjunction with the Wilms Cancer Foundation (WCF)

Stage IV Wilms Tumor Survivor to Share Personal Journey of Recovery, Resilience, and Life Beyond Childhood Cancer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, DC – June 25, 2026 – The Wilms Cancer Foundation (WCF) is proud to announce that childhood cancer survivor William Hodgkinson will participate in the forthcoming international webinar, "**Empowered for Life: Education, Work, Wellbeing & Independence After Childhood Cancer**," hosted by the International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP) Survivorship Network and Childhood Cancer International (CCI) SurNet as part of **Survivors Week 2026**. The webinar will bring together survivors, healthcare professionals, advocates, and families from around the world to explore the challenges and opportunities facing survivors as they transition beyond treatment and into adulthood.

William, now 15 years old, will represent the Wilms Cancer Foundation by sharing his lived experience as a survivor of **Stage IV Wilms tumor**, a rare and aggressive form of childhood kidney cancer.

Diagnosed unexpectedly at just seven years of age after initially presenting with what appeared to be nothing more than a stomach ache, William was subsequently found to have a large kidney tumor and multiple metastatic tumors in his lungs. Over the next four and a half years, he endured extensive chemotherapy and radiation therapy, kidney removal surgery, partial lung removal, numerous life-saving operations, two relapses, and ultimately high-dose chemotherapy followed by autologous stem cell transplantation.

Having completed treatment in 2021, William continues to live with the long-term effects of childhood cancer and remains under high-risk surveillance for relapse. Despite these ongoing challenges, he has returned to education and has become a passionate advocate for improving awareness, support, and outcomes for children affected by cancer worldwide.

The international webinar will focus on key aspects of survivorship, including educational attainment, employment, independence, emotional wellbeing, and the long-term support required to help survivors thrive after cancer treatment. The interactive session will feature survivor stories, expert perspectives, live polls, and audience discussion designed to foster learning, empowerment, and global collaboration within the childhood cancer survivorship community.

"William's story demonstrates both the extraordinary resilience of childhood cancer survivors and the significant long-term challenges many continue to face long after treatment has ended," said a spokesperson for the Wilms Cancer Foundation. "By sharing his experience on this international platform, William will help raise awareness of survivorship issues while providing hope and inspiration to children, families, and survivors around the world."

The Wilms Cancer Foundation believes that survivor voices are essential in shaping future childhood cancer services, improving survivorship care, and informing international advocacy efforts. William's participation further supports the Foundation's flagship **Global Wilms Tumor Initiative™ (GWTI)**, which seeks to strengthen awareness, education, survivorship support, and international collaboration for children and families affected by Wilms tumor worldwide.



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As an official partner of the World Health Organization (WHO) and supporter of the WHO Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer (GICC), the Foundation remains committed to ensuring that every child diagnosed with Wilms tumor not only survives but has the opportunity to thrive long after treatment has ended.

About the Wilms Cancer Foundation

The Wilms Cancer Foundation (WCF) is a charitable organization dedicated to supporting children, families, healthcare professionals, and researchers affected by Wilms tumor (nephroblastoma). Through education, advocacy, awareness, support initiatives, and international collaboration, the Foundation works to improve outcomes for children with childhood kidney cancer worldwide.

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