



Annual Report

2015



Hope is a powerful medicine.

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

“For years we felt like we were alone. Now we attend events and connect with other families who share our struggles.”

Each year in the United States, approximately 500,000 children cope with life-threatening medical conditions. These conditions affect the entire family, with more than half of parents suffering from acute stress disorders and 80% of siblings having elevated levels of posttraumatic stress. In addition, illnesses contribute to over 62% of bankruptcy filings each year. More than \$800 million is spent on medical research annually to find cures for cancer or other diseases, but these families need support now. Numerous studies show that hope can increase one’s overall ability to cope, and that familial support in chronically ill children is vital.

We focus on five research-driven impact areas to ease the journey for families who are walking through the hardest time in their lives:

Hope and Anticipation to keep kids looking forward to the next fun event around the corner.

Family-Focused events bring the family together and prevent siblings from being unintentionally overlooked.

Community and Support fosters lasting support among people who share similar challenges.

Safety and Acceptance through HopeKids’ supportive peer community where no child is the only one wearing a mask or using a wheelchair.

Economic Support through free events because all families are seriously impacted by overwhelming medical costs.

HopeKids is devoted to restoring hope and transforming the lives of children with life-threatening medical conditions, their families and the communities in which we serve. As you review the stats on the following pages, you will notice an ever-increasing number of events: almost three events every day across all chapters. Although the numbers say a lot, we place a deeper value on the long-lasting and life-changing impact on families, as evidenced in the real quotes from real families. In addition, we continue to look forward as the new Colorado chapter of HopeKids, launched in February 2016, adds new families who will form special relationships of love and mutual support over the coming years.

We understand we are not a cure for the life-threatening medical conditions faced by our families, but together with our donors, event partners and volunteers, we believe **hope** is a powerful medicine.

With Hope,



Josh Taylor, President
HopeKids, Inc.



HopeKids[®]
Restoring Hope. Transforming Lives.

WE EXIST TO RESTORE HOPE AND TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF CHILDREN WITH LIFE-THREATENING MEDICAL CONDITIONS, THEIR FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH WE SERVE.

Our Mission

HopeKids provides ongoing events, activities and a powerful, unique support community for families who have a child with cancer or some other life-threatening medical condition. We surround these remarkable children and their families with the message that hope can be a powerful medicine.

Our Guiding Principles

Our vision, mission and motivation are driven by our desire to serve in the name of Jesus Christ in response to and out of our gratitude to God. (Colossians 3:17) It is through God's love and the eternal hope we find in Jesus that we want to love and offer hope to those in need.

We cling to the promise that "Hope does not disappoint." (Romans 5:5) We also believe that hope comes from God, and provides joy and peace in a way that nothing else can. These biblical truths form our belief that hope is a powerful medicine, and all our activities, resources, and time are to be directed to restoring hope for the future to the children and families we serve.

We strive to promote integrity, honesty, and openness in the manner in which we conduct our daily financial and management operations. We will be good stewards of all resources that God has blessed us with.

The HopeKids program is open to all children with life-threatening medical conditions and their families without regard to religion, background, race, or ethnicity.

HopeKids welcomes supporters and volunteers who recognize and are willing to serve within our guiding principles.

"Before HopeKids we were in the dark with no one else, but now, even though she is the only person in the world with her chromosome disorder, HopeKids has given us a beacon of light!"





“The atmosphere is amazing. You can feel it. When I hear someone else’s ventilator go off, it reminds me that we’re in a safe place.”

Our People

Our Board of Directors

Dave Chapman - Chairman of the Board
Senior Vice President, HelmsBriscoe
Scottsdale, AZ

Todd Carter - Treasurer
Head of Operations, LAKANA
Minneapolis, MN

Gary McKean - Secretary
Retired Attorney
Salt Lake City, UT

Mark Nuessle - Director
Owner/President, Roadrunner Drywall
Scottsdale, AZ

Dave Osgood - Director
President, Focus Performance Systems, Inc.
Minneapolis, MN

Bart Sweeney - Director
Business Consultant/Investor, The Sweeney Group
Scottsdale, AZ

Josh Taylor - Director
President, HopeKids
Minneapolis, MN

Our Staff

National

Josh Taylor, President
Michelle Cassens, National Program Manager
Heather Weathers, Director of Communications

Arizona Chapter

Kimberly Trichel, Executive Director
Lisa Sweeney, Program Manager
Megan Illsley, Family and Community Manager

Minnesota Chapter

Brian Anderson, Executive Director
Julia Koch, Program Manager
Carleigh McCormick, Family and Community Manager

North Texas Chapter

Bridget Asheim, Executive Director
Jessica Glenn, Program Manager

Utah Chapter

Kim Lewis, Executive Director



HopeDay Program

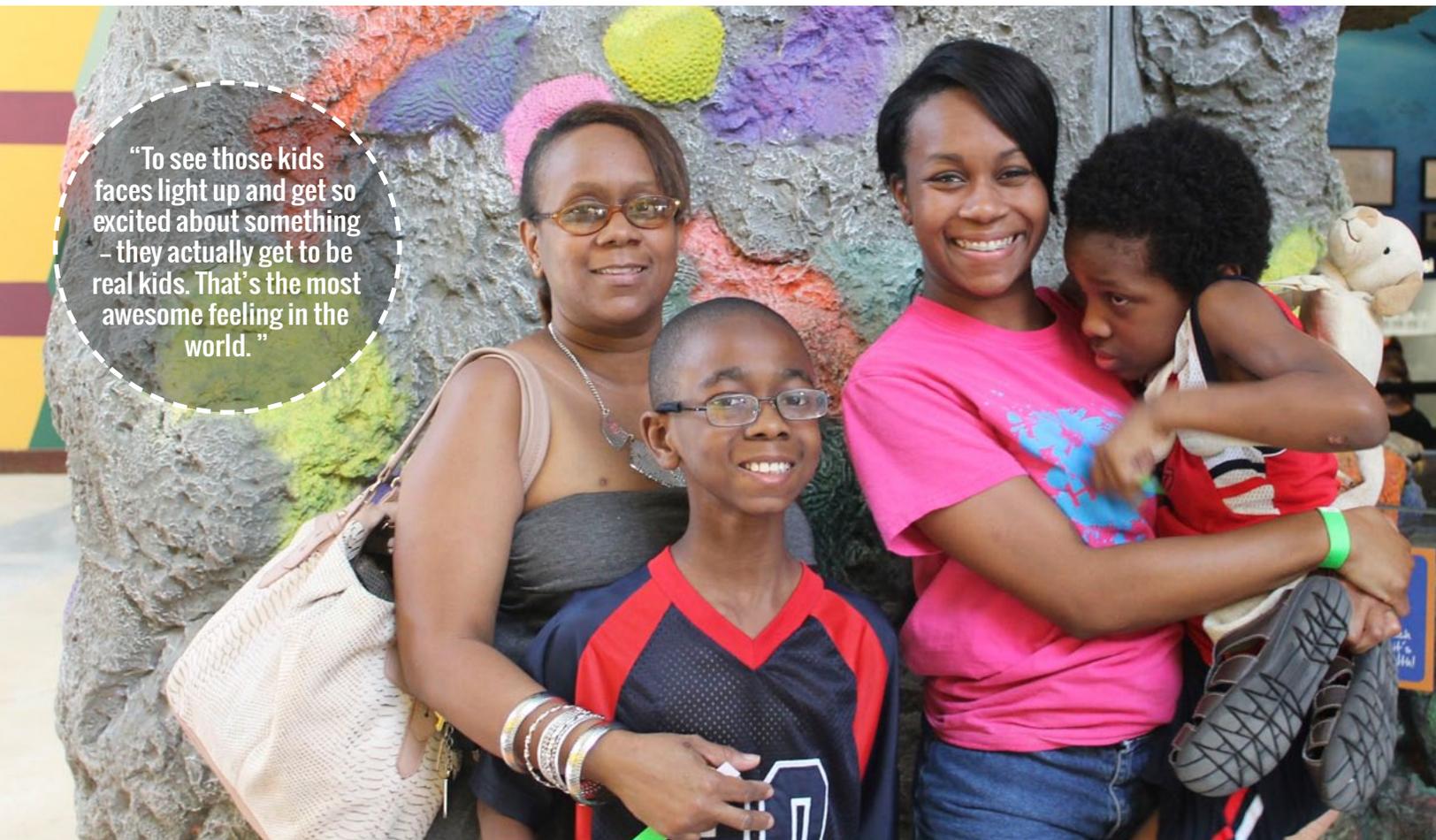
HopeKids provides ongoing events and activities for families who have a child with a life-threatening medical condition. Each month we schedule a variety of sporting events, live entertainment, museum visits or other types of fun activities for the whole family. We strive to keep kids focused on the future, looking forward

to the next fun event around the corner, rather than dwelling on what they are dealing with in the present. All of our events are focused on the whole family to prevent siblings from being unintentionally overlooked, bring families together that understand their journey and are offered at no cost to families.

“At school, he knows he’s different from other kids because of his hearing aids and speech problems. At the movies, he gets excited about seeing other kids who are like him.”

ARIZONA NEW FAMILIES	MINNESOTA NEW FAMILIES	NORTH TEXAS NEW FAMILIES	UTAH NEW FAMILIES	TOTAL NEW FAMILIES
168	151	152	28	499

//////////	Total # Families	Total # of Events	Total # of Attendees
ARIZONA	1,120	431	19,530
MINNESOTA	1,052	319	20,776
NORTH TEXAS	455	190	8,863
UTAH	747	129	8,073
TOTAL	3,374	1,069	57,242



“To see those kids faces light up and get so excited about something – they actually get to be real kids. That’s the most awesome feeling in the world.”



“While the events are wonderful, it is the support and camaraderie that keeps us coming back.”

HopeCommunity Program

HopeKids events work to foster a support community among families who “get it”. Our HopeCommunity program intentionally builds intimate events to bring together families struggling with similar diagnoses or who live in proximity to each other. These events focus on providing opportunities for families to deepen relationships and build a strong support network at a time when they need it most.

Recent studies show that parents who have a child with cancer often fear the complete loss of hope because it would be like giving up on their child and a future with their child. In addition, 59

percent of siblings of a cancer patient showed new externalizing behaviors such as acting out at home or school, fighting, drug use, increased sibling rivalry and lower frustration tolerance. Twenty six percent showed new internalizing behaviors such as worry, anxiety, depression, sleeping or eating problems.

Adolescent siblings of children with cancer who have low social support tended to be perceived as being more anxious and having more behaviour problems than adolescents with high social support.

Support, love, and encouragement are all necessary for families who have a child with cancer

or some other life-threatening medical condition. Our community of children and their families get to know each other, encourage, and support each other. We have children who are newly diagnosed, children who are in the midst of difficult treatment, and children who are healed and now healthy.

One of the most inspiring moments is when a child who has just been diagnosed with a particular condition meets a child who has been healed from that same condition. You can almost see their hope restored as they realize that this is a battle they can win.

HopeKids' five impact areas satisfy a need in the community no one else is fulfilling:

HOPE AND ANTICIPATION. We strive to keep kids focused on the future, looking forward to the next fun event around the corner, rather than dwelling on what they are dealing with in the present.

FAMILY FOCUS All of our events are focused on the whole family to prevent siblings from being unintentionally overlooked.

COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT. Our events foster lasting friendships and support among people who share similar challenges.

SAFETY AND ACCEPTANCE. In HopeKids' supportive peer community no child is the only one wearing a mask or using a wheelchair. At HopeKids, everyone is normal and everyone belongs.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT All of our events are offered at no cost because all families are impacted by overwhelming medical costs.

“To see my kids’ faces was just unbelievable. When Maddie saw Grover it was the coolest thing I’ve ever seen.”



HOPEKIDS, INC.
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

ASSETS

	2015	2014
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,112,176	\$ 1,243,584
Investments	729,830	-
Contributions receivable	8,048	12,502
Accrued interest receivable	10,917	-
Prepaid expenses and other assets	8,690	8,648
Total current assets	1,869,661	1,264,734
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET	16,408	24,524
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,886,069	\$ 1,289,258

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and other liabilities	\$ 14,622	\$ 15,486
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	1,472,682	1,273,772
Temporarily restricted	398,765	-
Total net assets	1,871,447	1,273,772
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 1,886,069	\$ 1,289,258



HOPEKIDS, INC.
 STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS
 YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015 AND 2014

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total 2015	Total 2014
SUPPORT AND REVENUES				
Contributions	\$ 1,567,301	\$ 398,765	\$ 1,966,066	\$ 1,445,919
Contributed goods and services	1,479,423	-	1,479,423	1,575,411
Investment losses	(152,314)	-	(152,314)	-
Other	14,534	-	14,534	15,256
Total support and revenues	2,908,944	398,765	3,307,709	3,036,586
EXPENSES				
Program services	\$ 2,283,037	-	\$ 2,283,037	\$ 2,329,695
Management and general	170,705	-	170,705	145,726
Fundraising	256,292	-	256,292	212,288
Total expenses	2,710,034	-	2,710,034	2,687,709
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	198,910	398,765	597,675	348,877
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,273,772		1,273,772	924,895
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 1,472,682	\$ 398,765	\$ 1,871,447	\$ 1,273,772