

## For families experiencing childhood cancer, often two words hang in the air: Now what?

The Heller Center for Kids with Cancer works to provide the answer. Starting at diagnosis, the Center's programs are designed to provide patients and families with the critical, non-medical tools that best support them through and beyond the cancer journey. The Center is funded completely through donations; no family is ever charged for services.

### Our Mission Needs You

Right now, hundreds of families in our community are facing the most difficult journey of their lives. Together, we can change their futures.

## From One Family to Another

In 2016, the Heller family generously established the Heller Center for Kids with Cancer to offer a unique combination of programs that complement the medical care provided at OSF HealthCare Children's Hospital of Illinois.



### **SURVIVAL STORIES**

# James Tobin & Family

Experiencing severe depression at the return of her son's cancer, Ketra turned to a doctor for help. "I cried all the time, I couldn't control it," she said. Now a parentmentor, she helps others cope with the realities of life with, and after, cancer. With funding, the Center will further provide crucial Mental Health, Neuropsychological & Neurodevelopmental Services for patients, survivors and family members like Ketra.





# Kacer Holloway & Family

During her toddler's battle with a Wilms tumor, Danielle felt unsure of where to turn for help or answers. "All of a sudden you have so much new information, but you aren't sure what it all means," she said. With support, the Center will offer *Patient and Family Educators* to provide guidance to families during the complicated cancer journey and beyond.

# Cedar Yaklich & Family (cover)

When Cedar was only an infant, cancer along her spine resulted in paralysis from the waist down. When therapy ended, mom Candace felt lost and unprepared for caring for a 1-year-old with complex medical needs. With support, the Center will feature an After Treatment of Cancer Survivor Clinic to provide help to families managing chronic illnesses or complex medical conditions as a result of cancer.

"I had no clue how to medically provide for a 1-year-old who was paralyzed." - Candace Yaklich

To learn more about the Heller Center for Kids with Cancer, please contact the OSF HealthCare Foundation at (309) 566-5666.

#### ADDITIONAL SERVICES WILL INCLUDE

Adolescent and Young Adult Program: Ensuring unique educational, psychological and life skill needs are met during treatment to prepare for the next phase of life

Nutritional and Wellness Services: Using nutrition and physical activity to improve quality of life and treatment results

School and Career Support Services: Championing patients' educational needs throughout and after cancer treatment

Supportive (Palliative) Care Services: Discussing long- and short-term goals at various points in the journey to enhance quality of life and provide ongoing family support