

CHILDREN'S BURN FOUNDATION

Fall 2023 Foundation Newsletter



Children's Burn Foundation

Giving New Hope

Children's Burn Foundation provides child burn survivors and their families with comprehensive healing, from life-transforming surgeries to psychological support until the child is 18 years old, while educating communities on how to prevent and treat burns. **Child burn survivors don't just survive. They thrive!**

Letter From The Chairman Of The Board

Message from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees



Dear Friends,

This was another extraordinary year for Children's Burn Foundation. As you can see from our Impact Report, we touched over 163,500 lives this year through our Full Recovery and Prevention and Education programs. Some of these programs are highlighted in the pages that follow, including the careful guidance children and families receive from our Support Groups and our reach into underserved communities in Africa and places in crisis like Ukraine. Our camps and holiday parties bring joy to our local children and families and our partnership with the California Science Center continues to educate the community and raise awareness of fire and burn risks.

All of this is made possible because of the support of our generous donors, committed Foundation and Council boards and our dedicated CBF team. Our inspiration and motivation comes from the same place - the beautiful, resilient children and families we serve.

Thank you for supporting Children's Burn Foundation and giving us the resources we need to improve the lives of severely burned children and lead the way in burn prevention and education.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kathleen P. Toppino".

Kathleen P. Toppino
Chairman, Board of Trustees

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CBF BY THE NUMBERS

163,504
Lives
Touched



11,205
Careful! That's Hot
Participants



4,189
Full Recovery
Patients



101,450
The L.A. Troupe
Participants



46,660
Safety Smart Babies
Participants



37
Safety Smart Babies
Hospitals & Pediatricians



256
Camp Gung Ho
Campers



3,357
International
Children Served



54
Support Group
Participants



2
Medical Missions



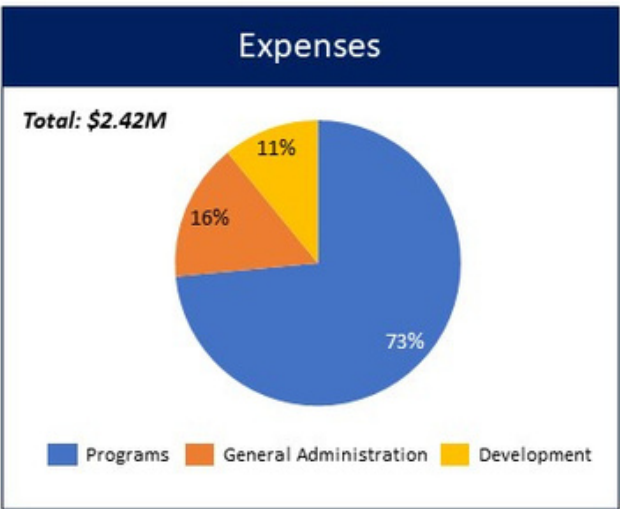
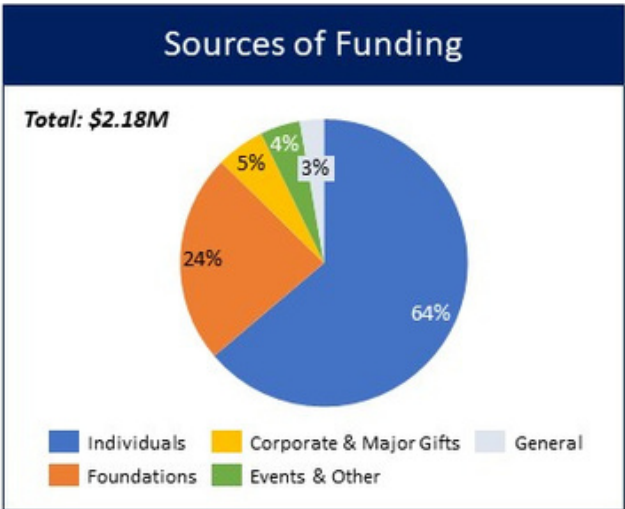
2
Airlifts



59
US Hospital
Partners



22%
Growth in
Programs Outreach





A burn injury can occur in a matter of seconds, but the effects can last a lifetime. Treatment often consists of countless surgeries and procedures and days, weeks and even months spent in the hospital. Beyond physical healing, survivors need psychological support and emotional care to fully heal from their traumatic experiences.



Children's Burn Foundation provides survivors with the guidance, community and comprehensive care they need. Facilitated by trained professionals, burn survivors speak openly about their experiences in a safe space and feel understood by their peers.

The unique challenges that child burn survivors face affect not only them but also their parents and siblings. Parents desperately want to help their children but do not always know how. Siblings can feel overwhelmed and afraid as their family navigates the uncertainty and stress of a burn accident. With the help of child life specialists, social workers, and group facilitators, children, parents and siblings come together for support groups designed to help guide them through the long and complicated healing process. After sessions, many families express how they no longer feel alone in their journey and think of support group as their "CBF family". Sessions are held once a month in-person and on Zoom. For more information, please contact kcollins@childburn.org.

"You may not think you need it, but you will thank yourself when you experience the support, love and peace of mind you receive from CBF. Only time can heal scars, but only support can heal guilt."

- CBF Program Participant



"We have embraced Children's Burn Foundation's Support Group as our second family. We have faith over fear. Our kids are strong mentally and physically because of the support we get here. Strong together." - CBF Program Participant

Program Corner: *International Partnerships*

The **CBF International Outreach Program** forges meaningful relationships with partners around the world. As a result, children are able to receive care closer to home whenever possible, prompting faster healing times and less emotional shock as families are not forced to leave their homes and travel to far, unfamiliar places for medical attention. This model has allowed Children's Burn Foundation to serve 38 nations and help more families at a lower cost.

Over the last seven years, Africa has been a focus of Children's Burn Foundation's International Outreach. Our African cases are some of the most severe and urgent that we have ever seen. CBF is helping acutely burned children, assisting with medical treatment, transportation, food, housing and other essential needs.



38 nations have been served
through CBF's International
Outreach Program



CBF also partnered with Doctors Collaborating to Help Children to support survivors suffering from the devastating impact of the war in **Ukraine**. Doctors treated almost 40 children who crossed the border into Poland. CBF continues its ongoing relief efforts in Ukraine and surrounding countries.



At three years old, Tiwatope was severely burned in a fire. Although she immediately underwent life-saving surgery, she developed contractures that limited her mobility. Her family contacted Children's Burn Foundation through our website, desperately looking for help. CBF connected her with our Nigerian partner, Dr. Esezobor, a leading burn care and reconstructive surgery expert in the region. Tiwatope has made miraculous progress after months of surgical interventions to provide movement and physiotherapy. Her mom shared, "I am so grateful to CBF and Dr. Esezobor for giving Tiwatope her life back. Today, she loves to dance and brings joy to everyone she meets."



Before

After

Program Corner: *Camp*

Camp Gung Ho focuses on activities that encourage friendship, confidence-building and wellness. This year's camps included a day of adventure at Universal Studios, a Malibu beach day complete with surf and hula dance lessons, a day of exploration at the California Science Center and a pool and puppy bonding experience at Adriana & Jay Balaban's home. Over 140 participants were in attendance for all camps.

For young burn survivors, camp is more than fun-filled summer activities. It provides a unique opportunity to surround themselves with other children who can relate to their experiences. It offers a chance to open up about their scars in a safe environment. And instead of worrying about upcoming medical procedures and doctor's appointments, campers can enjoy days to the fullest and just be kids!



Children's Burn Foundation spoke with long-time camp attendee Jaqueline, who shared how camp helped her move past her injuries and build self-esteem. Similar to many other children, she described Camp Gung Ho as an event that she looks forward to all year long and the highlight of summer!

Camp would not be possible without the incredible Council of Children's Burn Foundation and many generous Board members and volunteers. Special thanks to the CBF team at the office that worked incredibly hard with Camp Co-Chairs Susan Lynch, Laurie Sisco and Jill Stein to plan out magical experiences for child burn survivors and their families. Thanks also goes out to **State Farm** and **GUESS** employees who participated in the fun.

Look Out Lucky!

Children's Burn Foundation animated short *Look Out Lucky!*, which teaches children fundamental concepts about avoiding fires and hot items, has been instrumental in helping families educate young preschool children about burn prevention. Lucky's debut post on CBF's Instagram reached over 100,000 individuals, and it is the most viewed video on CBF's new YouTube page. A *Look Out Lucky!* storybook for children will be released this winter along with a curriculum guide for teachers.



Program Corner: *Holiday Party*

Each year, Children's Burn Foundation puts on a festive event to bring joy to child burn survivors and their families. Our annual holiday party took place on Saturday, December 3, 2022 at Lighthouse Art Space where families enjoyed an immersive experience of the Nutcracker. 400 burn survivors and their family members joined over 30 Council and Board member volunteers and the CBF team for a Nutcracker-themed day of festive music and entertainment, food and toys and time with Santa and his elf helpers. Children were thrilled to visit Thomas' Toy Shop, which honored Thomas Healy Hambric.



The day truly brought the spirit of the holidays to life as the Children's Burn Foundation community came together to spread cheer to child burn survivor families. Children marveled at the decorations, spent quality time with their loved ones and left with huge grins - and arms full of presents! Thank you to the holiday party chairs for their tremendous effort in planning and executing the joyful celebration.



Holiday Party Chairs:

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Lindsey Gordon
Mary Nguyen Kayne
Yvonne Skillings

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Heroes for Hope

"A hero is any person really intent on making this a better place for all people." – Maya Angelou

What kind of *hero* do you want to be?

Eternal Hero • Epic Hero • Dynamic Hero • Noble Hero • Super Hero

Heroes for Hope membership is reserved for donors who provide a minimum of \$10,000 in annual funding for Children's Burn Foundation.

Funding supports vital programs such as Full Recovery, Medical and Family Emergency Assistance, Family Camps, Camp Gung-Ho, Child and Family Support Groups, Teen Support Group, Children's Holiday Party, Safety Smart Babies, L.A. Troupe Safety Smart Presentations, Careful, That's Hot! and International Medical Training & Burn Prevention Education.

Heroes for Hope 2022 at Il Cielo Restaurant



*Doug Mancino, Kirstin Clink and
Heroes for Hope Chair Carol Mancino*



Charlie Toppino and Chuck & Barbara Pratt



*Cinthya Gonzalez sharing the moving story
of her daughter's burn injury and recovery*



Jay & Adriana Balaban



*Sandy Post, Doug Mancino and
Suzanne Kayne*



Alan & Marci Schultz and Fritz Coleman

Welcome, Fire Danger Detectives!



Visit the *Fire! Science & Safety* exhibit and learn about burn prevention

Welcome to apartment #911 at Casa Del Fuego! The apartment is carefully designed to help visitors act as fire danger detectives on a mission to discover the science of what makes a fire and then locate the fire and burn dangers around the home. Museum-goers gain vital information about fire prevention and preparation. Created in partnership with Children's Burn Foundation, the *Fire! Science & Safety* exhibit at the California Science Center raises awareness of fire and burn risks, how to prevent injuries, and what to do if a fire occurs. The self-directed exploration approach of this exhibit allows visitors to learn by doing, touching and examining the world around them.

CBF and the California Science Center continue to collaborate on engaging social media campaigns to market the life-saving exhibit. The Summer Safety Series starring Fritz Coleman reached over 75,000 individuals on social media in just a few weeks.



The California Science Center is located in historic Exposition Park and is open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The *Fire! Science & Safety* is a FREE, permanent exhibit that does not require a reservation. All exhibit materials are available in both English and Spanish.

Each year, an average of 2.2 million people visit the museum, including 400,000 schoolchildren. Children's Burn Foundation continues to work with the California Science Center educators to ensure that up-to-date critical safety messaging is incorporated in tours and school field trips and to help market this fun, innovative and, most importantly, life-saving exhibit.

The 2023 Giving New Hope Benefit raised over \$1.6 million

Children's Burn Foundation held its 28th Annual Giving New Hope Benefit at the Beverly Hilton on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. The evening honored long-time members of the Council of Children's Burn Foundation, Ruth Gilliam and Elinor Turner. Ruth and Elinor have volunteered their time, talent, and creativity for many years and dedicated themselves to CBF's mission to prevent burns and heal children.

The event raised over 1.6 million dollars for life-saving programs. During the program, the audience heard from teen burn survivor Kendall, who grew up participating in CBF programs. She was joined on stage by her father, Richard. Together, they shared their family's emotional journey to recovery that began with CBF 9 years ago. Their inspiring story moved many to tears and touched the hearts of everyone in the room.



Ruth Gilliam, Kathy Toppino and Elinor Turner



Burn survivor Kendall and her parents

Retired NBC4 weathercaster and board member Fritz Coleman served as the highly entertaining master of ceremonies. The evening also featured an exceptional performance by acclaimed TV late-night show host and recent burn survivor Jay Leno. Jay's swift recovery at one of CBF's partner hospitals highlights the remarkable possibilities of state-of-the-art burn care.

The evening celebrated CBF children and a legacy of hope and healing. The night's success would not have been possible without the Council of Children's Burn Foundation, Benefit Chair Kandus Simpson, the Board of Children's Burn Foundation, many generous donors and volunteers, and the team at CBF. We also thank brave local fire departments, first responders, and our burn center partners for their service.



Jay Leno and Sandy & Larry Post



Child burn survivors made a cape for Jay Leno. He can now soar high like our heroic children!



Kirstin Clink and Jay Leno with young burn survivors

2022 Giving New Hope Benefit



Doug Mancino, Ruth Gilliam, Elinor Turner, Carol Mancino, Kandus & Ed Simpson



John & Patty Nickoll



Janice Weiner and Marilyn Stambler



Madeline Gussman & Michelle Gussman



Sandy & Larry Post



Lynda & Al Fadel



Julie Blivas, Kate Freeman & Adriana Balaban



Howard Banchik & Sandra Rosenbaum



*Barbara Namerow,
F. Ron Smith & Tracy Berliner Smith*



*Elizabeth Bamattre &
Chief William Bamattre*



*Steve & Jennifer Shpilsky, Michael Palmer,
Mike & Alexandra Brand and friends*

Children's Burn Foundation Annual Golf Tournament

Register now for this year's annual golf tournament at El Caballero!



Children's Burn Foundation
ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT
Honoring First Responders
El Caballero Country Club
Monday, November 13, 2023



SPONSORSHIPS AND PLAYER REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE
FOR REGISTRATION AND SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
KATYA VAGANYAN AT KATYA@CHILDBURN.ORG

Last year's tournament at Pelican Hill was a par tee!

In November of 2022, Children's Burn Foundation held its annual golf tournament at the stunning Pelican Hill Golf Club. The spirited day of competition honored brave first responders and raised funds for CBF's life-saving programs. The Foundation thanks Council Golf Chair Kathy Toppino and the incredibly generous donors, players and sponsors that made the fun-filled day supporting a brighter future for child burn survivors possible.



Board member Chuck Pratt and Michael Riordan, Michael Bacon and Army Captain Justin Agnew won the tournament. Nate Reeves from Smith & Berg Partners captured the longest drive, and Todd Tsujimura clinched closest to the pin. During the luncheon and awards ceremony, Los Angeles City Fire's Deputy Chief Graham Everett shared a moving story about the brave children who turn survival into triumph and inspire his department.

Children's Burn Foundation Annual Golf Tournament



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Coleman**



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The Council

Almost thirty years ago, Carol Mancino founded the Council of Children's Burn Foundation with the dream of making meaningful experiences and joyful memories for child burn survivors and their families. Each year, the Council has come together to bring that dream to fruition and change the lives of children around the world. This year was especially eventful, kicking off with the **October General Meeting**, co-chaired by Sally Kanin, Barbara Pratt and Sherri Sylvester, where members dove into planning for the year and enjoyed a special presentation from CBF's LA Troupe, the inventive theatrical group that teaches young children life-saving burn prevention and fire safety. In December, the Council brought the joy of the holidays to child burn survivor families with an immersive Nutcracker-themed **Annual Holiday Party**.



*Beth Lane, Nancy Riordan
and Barbara Pratt*



*Minoo Simantob and young burn survivor Manal having fun at a CBF
puppy party during Camp Gung Ho*



*Jill Stein, Ruth Gilliam, Tami Lowensohn, Alexandra Brand,
Mara Madsen, Janna Lowensohn and Golden State Lifeguards*

The **January General Meeting** hosted by Carol Mancino and Sandi Rosenbaum was a fabulous opportunity for members to gather after the busy holiday season and dive into discussing ideas for upcoming events. This year, Council member Jackie Park Kim's son J.T. also organized a meaningful event to help support the **Valentine's Day appeal**. The event was featured in the Palisadian-Post, highlighting the partnership between CBF and NLYM, an organization for young high school men and their mothers focused on leadership, culture, protocol and philanthropy/service in the community. The **Spring Luncheon & Shopping Boutique** hosted by Chairs Adria Martí and Tracy Berliner Smith was a fabulous day. The Council is also instrumental in supporting **Camp Gung Ho**, **Giving New Hope** and the **Annual Golf Tournament**, as described on other pages of this newsletter.



Tracy Berliner Smith and Adria Martí

The Council

Led by Co-Chairs Lily Crummy and Kandus Simpson, new members wasted no time diving in to raise funds for vital CBF programs. They showed fresh enthusiasm and put their hearts into making the year special for child burn survivors and their families.

The Council thanks Dana Kitaj for her leadership over the last several years. The Council's momentum continued to grow throughout the pandemic because of her hard work, creativity and visionary ideas. Under Dana's guidance, the group revealed their passionate dedication to CBF's mission and demonstrated anything is possible when working together. This year, the Council welcomes the new president, Kandus Simpson. Kandus has served on the Council since 2017, and has actively supported Council meetings, events and the Foundation's mission.



Dana Kitaj, Carol Mancino and Kandus Simpson



Save the date for a NEW Council event, Taste of Hope! To buy tickets, visit CBFTasteofHope.GiveSmart.com or call the office at 818.907.2822

Join us for our inaugural Taste of Hope Food & Wine event honoring Norbert Wabnig of The Cheese Store of Beverly Hills. Enjoy music, an incredible culinary experience, a live and silent auction and a wine-pull auction on Sunday, October 15, 2023, at the Petersen Automotive Museum. Please support our participating culinary and beverage partners. The evening will raise critical funds for our programs.



Thank You To Our Donors

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

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\$100,000+

Madeline & Marvin Gussman Family Foundation
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Epic Hero

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Kathy & Charlie Toppino

Dynamic Hero

\$25,000-\$49,000

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Suzanne & Ric Kayne
Rosenbluth Family Charitable Foundation
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Yuchi Wang
Lynn & Louis Wolfson II Family Foundation

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Leaving A Lasting Legacy

You can give children their childhood back

You have been instrumental in providing young burn survivors with a second chance at life. A legacy gift ensures Children's Burn Foundation will continue its life-saving mission for years to come.

Creative and flexible giving options exist that can benefit you and the future of Children's Burn Foundation. Designating Children's Burn Foundation as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy, or gifting other liquid or non-liquid assets, may offer generous tax benefits while leaving an enduring legacy.

Please consult with your financial advisor to discuss your options, and contact us at Kclink@childburn.org to learn more. Your support of our mission will be long remembered and serve as an inspiration to others.

Thank you for your donations!

You make it possible to provide
life-saving services and
education to our children.

*Please forgive any
unintentional omissions.*

**CBF gives young burn survivors the opportunity to meet their
full potential thanks to the support of individuals like you.
Your donations make a difference.**

**Please visit www.childburn.org to join our mission and learn
how you can help survivors become thrivers!**

CBF In Action!



CBF Team and Board Members working on a marketing project with students from USC



A CBF mother and son smile for the camera at the annual holiday party



Campers getting sized for new shoes from Hav A Sol at the CBF office



Lainie L'Orange and young campers



Debbie Karaman and Janna Lowensohn with State Farm volunteer Lucy Gomez



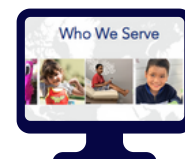
The CBF Team and Board Member Dr. Murthy at the American Burn Association annual meeting

Marketing Analytics

Children's Burn Foundation has continued marketing and communications efforts to increase our reach and spread awareness of our mission. Traffic to our website is outperforming 79% of sites in the nonprofit category. People spend an average of 8 minutes and 38 seconds on our website, which is a record high for CBF and better than 91% of nonprofit sites.

79%

**Nonprofit website
traffic outperformance**



Letter From The Executive Director



Dear Friends,

What an honor this past year has been to serve our brave children who inspire, find new growth paths, and embrace wonder at every turn. With the assistance of Children's Burn Foundation, young burn survivors gained extraordinary qualities like resilience and perseverance. Our programs assisted them to move past life-altering tragedies and possess the self-assurance to navigate the triumphs and challenges of post-injured life.

The strength of Children's Burn Foundation comes from a cadre of individuals who have kept our mission to heal and prevent close to their hearts. Our Council and Board invest in positive outcomes for our children and families, while our dedicated Programs team provides care that is instrumental in aiding these journeys to recovery. Our compassionate team, excellent partner hospitals and skilled doctors offer a front line of care and understanding, ensuring that our children live each day at their best.

We expanded our delivery of innovative fire safety and burn prevention programs, reaching 159,000 children and families locally, domestically, and worldwide. Learning about fire and safety measures is essential. Our Fire! Science & Safety exhibit at the California Science Center serves the Southern California community by providing an interactive space where families explore fire safety in an entertaining and enriching way.

This year, our Full Recovery program served as an essential lifeline to 4200 children and families who suffered severe burn injury trauma. It provides comprehensive medical treatment, camps and emotional support groups where burn survivor families find strength from one another. Please explore our website at www.childburn.org to stay updated on our impact, events and ways to engage with our mission.

With appreciation,



Kirstin Clink

About Us

What We Do

The Children's Burn Foundation provides child burn survivors and their families with comprehensive healing, from life-transforming surgeries to psychological support until the child is 18 years old, while educating communities on how to prevent and treat burns.

Our Mission

To prevent the pain and trauma of burn injuries to children, and to heal and give children who have suffered severe burns the opportunity to reach their full potential, physically, psychologically, and socially.

Staff

Kirstin Clink, *Executive Director*
Tanya Sorkin, *Chief Program Officer*
Yekaterina Katya Vaganyan, *Development and Event Manager*
Kami Collins, *Programs Coordinator*
Lainie L'Orange, *Programs Coordinator*
Debbie Karaman, *Burn Prevention Educator*
Linda Garcia, *Psychosocial Coordinator*
Rosalind Auzenne, *Office Business Manager*
Mara Madsen, *Marketing Director*
Rafe Perry, *Consulting CFO*

Program Team

Nicholas Dalton-Pawle, Koni McCurdy, Marc Osadchey, Maria Elena Tomé, Fabiola De Los Santos, Alexi Pyles

What Sets Us Apart

Children's Burn Foundation is the only organization that heals child burn survivors and their families through comprehensive physical, financial and emotional care while educating communities in California and across the globe on how to prevent and treat burns.



DONATE TODAY

**Give children their
childhood back**

Thanks to philanthropic individuals like you, burns were prevented and children received the comprehensive care they urgently needed. Lives were saved. This fall, please consider continuing to support child burn survivors and their families.

childburn.org/donate

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