ANNUAL REPORT

Natalie Gray Foundation



For Pediatric Brain Tumors

Prepared by

The Natalie Gray Foundation for **Pediatric Brain Tumors Board of Directors**

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FROM THE BOARD

February 2025

As we reflect on 2024, we are overwhelmed with gratitude for the incredible support that has propelled the Natalie Gray Foundation forward. This past year was nothing short of extraordinary—we not only raised more than any other year previous, we reached our initial \$250,000 fundraising goal three years early!

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the dedication of our volunteers, and the unwavering spirit of our community, we've been able to make a tangible impact on pediatric brain tumor research. From The Challenge to the Nat Gala and our Annual Golf Outing, each event brought us closer to our mission of funding critical research and providing hope to families facing unimaginable circumstances.

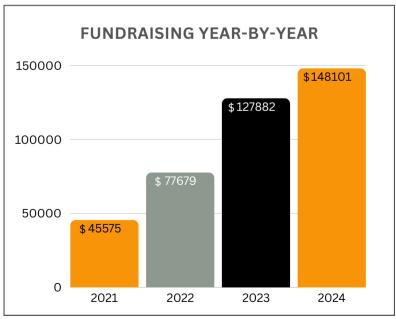
Natalie's vision remains at the heart of everything we do. Her resilience and passion have not only inspired our foundation's growth but have also driven legislative advocacy efforts and national recognition for the cause.

We are excited for the road ahead. With your continued support, we will push forward in funding groundbreaking research, raising awareness, and advocating for better treatment options for children battling brain tumors.

Thank you for being part of this journey with us. Together, we are making a difference.

The Natalie Gray Foundation for Pediatric Brain Tumors Board of Directors

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED SINCE 2021 \$399,237



HOWIT STARTED

The Natalie Gray Foundation for Pediatric Brain Tumors formed in 2021 after 13 year-old middle school student Natalie Gray was diagnosed with Pilocytic Astrocytoma--an inoperable, cancerous brain tumor.

While still recovering from two brain surgeries in two weeks and facing the reality of living with cancer, Natalie learned about the lack of funding for brain tumor research and its devastating impact on kids and teens.





The rate of pediatric brain tumor diagnoses are rising each year and remains the leading cause of cancer-related death among children and adolescents.



There has never been an FDA-approved drug therapy developed specifically for pediatric brain tumors.



Children are left with therapies developed for adults, which can contribute to long-term health complications.

The standard of care and the first treatment Natalie received was developed in the 1960s.

HOW IT'S GOING

On October 15, 2024, we were thrilled to announce we reached our fundraising goal three years early!

It was Natalie's vision to address the severe lack of funding in pediatric brain tumor research. That's why in 2022, we committed to raise \$250,000 over five years for the CONNECT Consortium, a global group of pediatric care centers focused on developing and testing treatments for children with brain tumors.



After reaching our goal early, we decided to double it and are now committed to raise \$500,000!



The CONNECT Consortium is lead by **Dr. Maryam Fouladi,** who is the head of Natalie's care team at
Nationwide Children's Hospital, director of the
Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Program and a world
renowned researcher. Dr. Flouladi and other
members of Natalie's care team joined us at our golf
outing for our big announcement.

Learn more about our work at nataliegrayfoundation.org and CONNECT at connectconsortium.org.

2024: A Busy Year

February 4 **World Cancer Day**



May 23 2nd Annual Nat Gala



\$10,000

July 19 Guest serving at Powell concert





Natalie takes part in Zoom calls and Capital Hill meetings advocating for pediatric cancer legislation.



October 15 4th Annual Golf Outing

November 3 Giving Tuesday





January 19 The Challenge Fundraiser at Liberty High School

Pediatric Brain Tumor Awareness Month



June 22 Pour for Powell at the Powell Festival



JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

National Childhood Awareness Month



October 2 Brain tumor awareness game at Liberty High School



October 10 Natalie named the 2024 Outstanding Youth by the Delaware County Foundation

NOVEMBER

OCTOBER

DECEMBER

December 21 Another Broken Egg VIP Event

THE CHALLENGE

January 19, 2024

The Challenge is a student-led fundraiser centered on the high school rivalry between Olentangy Liberty and Olentangy Orange High Schools. Students fundraised leading up to the game and then took part in contests, raffles and more during the game.



On January 19th, the game had amazing support from the students, teams, coaching staff and administrators. It was a packed house with record attendance to watch the girl's and boy's varsity teams hit the court.

Liberty won The Challenge for a second year in a row and, thanks to incredibly generous donors, we raised more than \$30,000!





THE NAT GALA

May 23, 2024

We held the 2nd Annual Nat Gala on a beautiful Thursday evening at the Swan Lake Events Center in Powell, scheduled during Brain Tumor Awareness Month in May.

We shared information to help raise awareness about pediatric brain tumors. We also had quite a surprise from the Delaware County Foundation, who announced a \$10,000 donation!





\$20,598
Net Raised

2024 Inspiration Award

At the gala, Natalie gave the Inspiration Award went to the Anderson family, who lost their beloved Ally in 2023 at just 16 years old. Ally was a tireless advocate who Natalie met while both receiving treatment at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Colubus. Ally's family established the "Ally Anderson Alveolar Rhabdomyosarcoma Research Fund" in memory of their childhood cancer fighter. Find more information about the fund here.



ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

October 15, 2024

We held our 4th annual golf outing at Kinsale Golf in Powell on a cold, rainy October day. Despite the weather, it was our most successful outing yet, especially because it marked the day we reached our initial fundraising goal.





EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS

Guest Serving in Powell

June 22, 2024 & July 19, 2024

The City of Powell has an incredible program that allows nonprofit organizations be guest servers at events and keep the tips for their organization. Our volunteers happily poured beers during the Powell Festival on June 22 and at the Drowsy Lads concert on July 19.







Brain Tumor Awareness Game • October 2, 2024

Students from Olentangy Liberty High School, where Natalie is a student, and Thomas Worthington High School, where her cousin Molly plays varsity field hockey, came together to raise awareness for pediatric brain tumors during the JV and Varsity field hockey games. The family of Wilhelmina Schnetzler, who passed away in 2021, also participated, sharing the mission of *The Wonder Willie Foundation* in her honor.



Back to School Bash

August 16, 2024

Kendra Carter--sponsor, realtor and friend of the Gray family--invited to her Back to School Bash in Hillard to share about our work and take donations.



Another Broken Egg VIP Event • December 21, 2024

This new restaurant on U.S. 23 selected our foundation to be the beneficiary of their VIP pre-opening event. Patrons came in to sample the food. Instead of paying, they were directed to donate to our foundation. We raised \$3,351!

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Natalie is passionate about making a difference, including at a national level. Natalie went to Capital Hill again in 2024 and held Zoom calls with legislative staffers to advocate for a number of bills to help kids with cancer.

Give Kids a Chance Act

This legislation would researchers to study combination drugs to treat kids with cancer, paving the way for more children to survive cancer! The bill passed the U.S. House last year but did not make it in the end of year funding legislation. As of this writing, the bill was reintroduced in the U.S. House of Representatives.

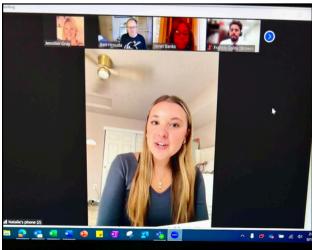
More information can be found at *givekidsachanceact.org*.

BRAIN Act

This legislation would increase brain tumor research funding, fostering collaboration, promoting critical awareness efforts, and supporting innovations in and access to care. Advocates are working to ensure the bill is reintroduced in the new Congress.

More information can be found at braintumor.org/advocacy/brain-act.





OUTSTANDING YOUTH AWARD

On October 10, 2024, The Delaware County Foundation awarded Natalie its Outstanding Youth Award during their Night of Generosity.



Natalie Gray, a student at Olentangy Liberty High School, transformed personal adversity into a movement for Pediatric Brain Tumor Research.

Despite her own struggles, Natalie established the Natalie Gray Foundation to raise funds for this underfunded area of research. Through various efforts, including an annual basketball game fundraiser, the foundation has raised over \$250,000 to date, with a commitment of \$250,000 to the Connect Consortium. Natalie's courageous and selfless approach has inspired her community, earning her recognition as the Columbus Dispatch Student of the Week. Despite undergoing treatments, she continues to participate in school activities, inspiring others with her tenacity.



She exemplifies remarkable dedication and leadership, making her a deserving candidate for the 2024 Evening of Generosity Youth Award.



2024 SPONSORS

The Challenge

- Cenmac Metalworks
- Merk Industrial Solutions Inc
- Olympic Steel Inc.
- The Universal Steel Company

The Nat Gala

- Big Lots Foundation
- DK Manufacturing
- Jim & Toni Thompson
- Jenny & Larry Girschow at 1803 BBQ
- Irvin PR
- Delaware County Foundation
- Matteo family
- Delaware Pediatric Dentistry, Shahela Parulkar
- The Carter Group Keller Williams Consultants Realty
- Choose Kind Foundation & Artina
- Dublin Cleaners, Brian Butler
- The Connelly Family
- Scott and Tonya Zeigler
- Pat Gray
- Cindy & Bill Pottgen
- Dublin Dance
- Tamie Wilson
- Nationwide Children's Hospital
- Local Roots
- Bath & Body Works
- Shareceuterie
- Yes Press

Golf Outing

- Title Sponsor: Progyny
- NBR Contracting Co.
- Southern Glazers
- Newcomer Concrete Services Inc.
- Compensation Solutions Inc.
- United Midwest Savings Bank
- Danbert
- 4K Landscaping
- Chris Marston
- Big Lots
- Joe Trocchio
- Clintonville Pediatric Dentistry, Dr. Jillian Gray
- VanTrust
- DK Manufacturing
- Keith Copeland & Jim Waters, Delaware County Foundation Board Members
- Wedgewood Complete Dentistry
- Nationwide Children's Hospital
- George & Rebecca Gilbert
- John Melahn
- JAT of Ft. Wayne
- Natalie's GC and Great Aunts
- Ouantum Health
- Dan Costello
- Mitchell Insurance, Jason Barlow
- Shannon Moore
- Powell Village Dental, Austin Meyer DDS
- Jeff Matteo
- Peace and Pine

The Natalie Gray Foundation for Pediatric
Brain Tumors is public foundation and can
accept donor-advised funds, employee
matching funds, and donations of stocks. We
are registered with Benevity and
Cybergrants/Bonterra. Contact us at
info@nataliegrayfoundation.org if you'd like to
make a special donation.

The Natalie Gray Foundation for Pediatric Brain Tumors

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For Pediatric Brain Tumors

The Natalie Gray Foundation for Pediatric Brain Tumors is a IRS 501(c)(3) charitable organization based in Powell, OH. The Foundation's stated purpose is to "provide support and inspire hope for children diagnosed with brain tumors through resources, research, and funding."