

## WHY CANINES-N-KIDS

Each year approximately 16,000 kids in the US are diagnosed with cancer. Precious few resources are spent on finding a cure for childhood cancer and only four new drugs have been approved to treat childhood cancer in the past 20 years. One in five will die, while the survivors face a life-time of serious or deadly side effects as a result of their treatments. More than six million pet dogs in the US will be diagnosed with cancer and half of them will die from their disease. For canines, the outlook is not much better in terms of research or funding. We must do better for these two most vulnerable patient groups.



## OUR MISSION

The Canines-N-Kids Foundation was established out of the profound love between our kids, our dogs and a shared experience in one of the most difficult challenges they will ever face – cancer. We have an ambitious mission, to put an end to the devastating cancers kids and our canine best friends both develop, including osteosarcoma (bone cancer), brain cancers, lymphoma and leukemia.



## CANINES ARE KIDS' BEST FRIEND IN THE BATTLE AGAINST CANCER

What veterinary oncologists are learning holds great promise not only to help other dogs, but also for helping kids with cancer. Research shows that kids and canines develop several of the same, cancers including bone and brain cancer, lymphoma and leukemia. How these cancers develop, “behave” and progress is very similar. In fact, both kids and canines develop cancers with the presence of a functioning immune system. A dog’s size provides a better model for evaluating the dosing and effects of new cancer medicines in pediatric patients. Dogs also have a higher incidence of cancer than humans/kids overall. For example, osteosarcoma strikes about 20,000 dogs in the US each year, compared to 400-800 children. Compared to adult cancers, childhood cancers are relatively rare and fundamentally different. As a result, childhood cancers are difficult to study, and research is vastly underfunded. Since several of these cancers are much more common in canine patients and also biologically similar (or even identical), treating and studying canine cancer patients can help bring new, humane treatments to them, while also helping doctors learn more about shared cancers for the benefit childhood cancer patients.

The Canines-N-Kids Foundation was created to:

- **Raise awareness** of the cancers that kids and canines share in common, and the promise of comparative cancer research to accelerate the development of better medicines and a cure for them both – a rare “Win-Win.”
- **Close the funding gap** that has stood in the way of making meaningful progress towards curing these shared cancers by bringing new audiences and critical resources together.
- **Bring experts together** from veterinary to pediatric medicine, translational research and genomics and help them to **work collaboratively and constructively to help find a cure – for both kids & canines**. Working across species, disciplines and institutions (academia, the private sector, government, advocates for childhood and canine cancer) our goal is to facilitate collaboration and break down barriers to progress.

Our donor dollars will be spent on the most important, fundamentally transformative projects. We will create, target and fund projects that have the greatest potential to move the needle.



## CONTACT US

For more information about the Canines-N-Kids Foundation and the important work we are helping to support, please contact:

Ulrike Szalay - Executive Director, Founder, Canines-N-Kids Foundation  
25050 Riding Plaza #130-120, South Riding, VA 20152  
(703) 835-4346 | [info@caninesnkids.org](mailto:info@caninesnkids.org) | [www.caninesnkids.org](http://www.caninesnkids.org)



Canines-N-Kids is leading the way and seeks progress in the following key areas:

- **Transformative translational research** to help us to understand more about the underlying fundamentals and drivers of the cancers kids and canines share, and to maximize the potential of those discoveries.
- **Comparative clinical trials to evaluate new treatments & approaches** involving novel treatments, including immunotherapies and/or drug combinations that can slow or stop the progression of cancer in canine cancer patients, improve quality of life, decrease devastating toxicities and longer-term treatment and to translate these results into advancing childhood cancer research.
- **An integrated and accelerated approach to help kids & man's best friend beat cancer** that is faster, more predictive, and less costly and will speed the drug development process to find a cure for our precious kids and beloved canines.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Would you like to volunteer, donate, host a BARKE SALE to raise funds/awareness or get involved in a fundraising event? Please visit us on the web at [www.caninesnkids.org](http://www.caninesnkids.org) to learn more.