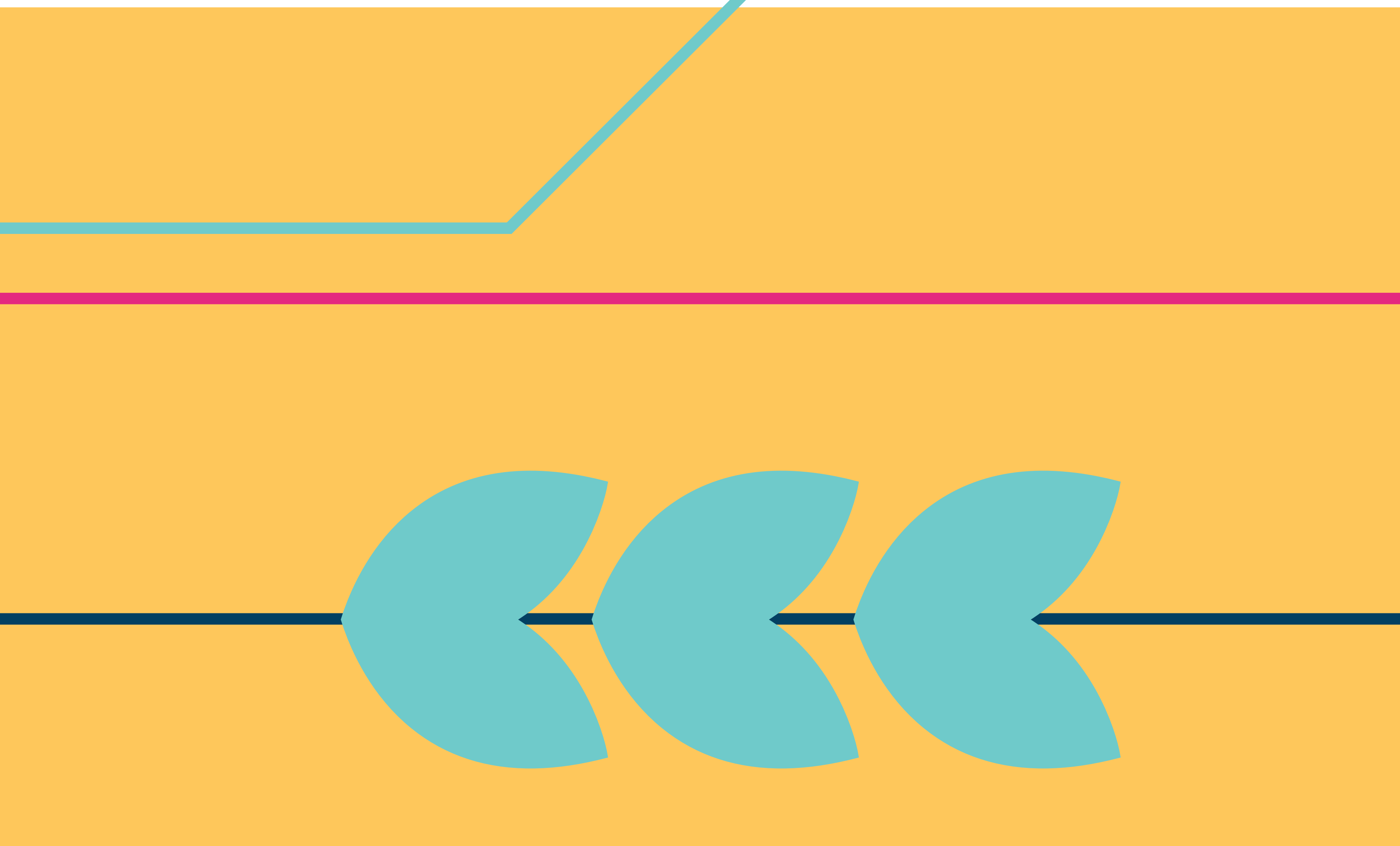
JUNE JESSEE
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

2024

IMPACT REPORT



Our mission is inspired by the bravery of June Jessee, a young girl who fearlessly faced chronic, life-limiting conditions with no specific diagnosis, and the courageous journeys of many children like her.

Learn more and donate

Dear JJMF Friends and Supporters,

I am thrilled to share our 2024 Impact Report with you, showcasing the incredible reach of our programs that provide essential support to children with complex neurological conditions and their families. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, the JJMF continues to expand its impact each year, and we are deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve more families.

Since JJMF was founded, our overarching goal has been growth of the organization as a whole. In 2024, we additionally focused on grounding our team and establishing roots in standards and practices, so that we can continue to be a strong organization not only for families now, but in the future.

I hope you find inspiration in the stories of growth and resilience highlighted in this report. Your support—whether through donations, volunteering, or connecting us with valuable community resources—plays a vital role in bringing relief and hope to families navigating these challenges.

Thank you for being a part of this important mission.
We couldn't do it without you!

With heartfelt gratitude,

Jenny Jessee

Executive Director and Co-founder

The June Jessee Memorial Foundation (JJMF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting children with complex neurological conditions and their families, aiding their physical, emotional, and financial needs. By providing services and support to children with these conditions, the JJMF affords families the ability to have more time to love their child with fewer worries.

The JJMF community is a compassion-filled space where families find support, understanding, and joy.

The JJMF seeks to empower families through building a supportive community of people who "just get it"—people who understand the unique challenges associated with caring for a child with a complex neurological condition. By growing and strengthening the community we serve, families find MORE.

More comfort. More support. More joy.

St. Louis Children's Hospital's Tri My Best Adaptive Triathlon

Partnerships Fuel Our Community Growth

By building purposeful relationships with like-minded organizations, the JJMF fosters increased community engagement and drives meaningful growth.

St. Louis Children's Hospital's Cerebral Palsy Center Family Day

Washington University's Rare Disease Day

Events like **St. Louis Children's Hospital's Cerebral Palsy Center Family Day** and **Tri My Best Adaptive Triathlon**, and **Washington University's Rare Disease Day** provide a platform for the JJMF to engage with the wider community and share information about the JJMF resources available to families.

Family Connections and Support

Music Therapy

Recurring virtual music therapy sessions provide a consistent way for children with complex neurological conditions and their siblings to enjoy a fun activity from the comfort of their own homes together. Led by specially-trained neurological music therapist, Maria Carron, each session is customized to reflect participants' unique needs.

MIDWEST MUSIC THERAPY

We sent more than
225
birthday cards to children in our community, celebrating important milestones and moments of joy.

Parents & Caregivers' Night Out at Topgolf

Providing a welcoming social event for parents and caregivers to connect is one of the most important ways the JJMF supports our community. These events also provide an opportunity for some respite from the demands of caregiving. Parents and caregivers enjoyed a fun evening at Topgolf surrounded by others who share an understanding of what it means to raise a child with a complex neurological condition. Meaningful conversations took place with ease, further strengthening the bond between our JJMF families.

Celebrating the Month of June

The number of lives touched by June's legacy grows every year. This truly comes to life during the month of June, when we humbly honor our namesake through various events and programs that bring our courageous community together.

CARE PACKAGES

JJMF team and volunteers carefully curated, assembled and delivered care packages to more than 250 families at St. Louis Children's Hospital, Ranken Jordan Pediatric Bridge Hospital, and Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, as well as to families' homes both locally and nationwide.

IN-PERSON MUSIC THERAPY & FAMILY PICNIC

Families came together for a dynamic music therapy session, followed by lunch. New this year, we welcomed members of the medical community to connect with families in a non-hospital setting.

PARENT CONNECTION EVENT

Parents and caregivers enjoyed a beautiful night out to connect and converse with friends, old and new.

Family Connections and Support

“NOT-SO-HAUNTED HOUSE”

HALLOWEEN PARTY

The Magic House
St. Louis Children's Museum

Holiday Family Event

The holidays can be a difficult time of year—particularly for families who are navigating unique circumstances. The JJMF team, along with volunteers from our Youth Board and National Charity League partner, hosted a festive afternoon of holiday-themed crafts, face painting, games, and a mini in-person music therapy session for our families to gather, connect, and celebrate the joy of the season in all its forms.

> **“My kids have enjoyed JJMF’s Halloween party every year that we have gone. My favorite moment ever was sitting on a bench while tube feeding my son when another mom came over and started tube feeding her child. I can truly say I have never had that experience before.”**
>
> **—JJMF COMMUNITY PARENT**

We saw record breaking attendance at this annual event where medically complex families came together and enjoyed various Halloween festivities and playful museum exhibits in an inclusive setting. Children showed off creative costumes, participated in trick-or-treating throughout the museum while exploring its many interactive activities, and even enjoyed appearances by FREDBIRD® and Louie. Holiday celebrations can be particularly hard to navigate for families raising a child with complex medical needs, and JJMF parents and caregivers appreciate being surrounded by others who understand the challenges they face.

This special event is also a wonderful opportunity for JJMF donors and supporters to see the important work they contribute to come to life.

Mental Healthcare

Beginning as a partnership with St. Louis Children's Hospital and transforming its reach this year, our mental healthcare program provides parents and caregivers with therapy, community support, and essential tools to lessen symptoms of anxiety, depression, and stress. A highlight of 2024 was the launch of a new professionally facilitated virtual support group that helped make mental health support conveniently accessible to a wide range of parents and caregivers within our community.

Through May 2024, JJMF funding provided for a dedicated licensed professional counselor on site at St. Louis Children's Hospital. Due to a transition in hospital staffing, the JJMF team was privileged to carefully consider other mission-centric opportunities to ensure that vital mental healthcare is easily accessible for parents and caregivers. Through that process it became apparent that an independent program would enable JJMF to continue offering high-quality care to parents via support groups and financial assistance grants for therapy.

With a keen understanding of the influence that parent and caregiver well-being has on positive medical outcomes for children with complex neurological conditions, the JJMF team established plans to ensure that mental healthcare remains a core pillar of the services offered by the foundation. The JJMF's Community Engagement Manager, Karlita Blackwell, who holds a masters degree in counseling, hosted a series of virtual support groups centered on topics that are important to parents and caregivers, such as finding relief for feelings of isolation, overwhelm, and heavy mental load. Attending these support groups offers a chance to connect with other parents facing similar struggles.

2024 Program Highlights

50	50 interested parents and caregivers registered for the first of our series of professionally-facilitated virtual support groups
12	Developed an initial referral list of 12 licensed mental health practitioners with specific experience working with parents and caregivers of children with medically complex conditions

> "JJMF has been critical to supporting my mental health and overall health as a mom of a child with intense needs. I have met so many parents who have the same issues, challenges and love for their child as I do. The connection to families is the best."
>
> —JAMIE KAPPELMANN
> JJMF COMMUNITY PARENT

FAMILY SPOTLIGHT

Meet Lauren Breen

JJMF COMMUNITY PARENT AND VIRTUAL SUPPORT GROUP PARTICIPANT

JJMF community parent Lauren Breen was one of the first to sign up when our new virtual support group series was launched mid-year. Lauren is a mom of four children, and her oldest daughter, Addie, was diagnosed at age 3 with EMAS, a rare form of childhood epilepsy characterized by myclonic-atonic seizures, that is also known as Doose syndrome. This diagnosis accounts for just 1 to 2% of all childhood-onset epilepsies, making it more difficult for families like Lauren's to find others to connect with for support.

As a pediatric physical therapist who sees patients with a variety of complex neurological conditions, Lauren has a wealth of knowledge to share with other parents. Joining the virtual support group provided an opportunity for her to be surrounded with like-minded parents who can offer support along her journey—validating emotions, sharing struggles and resolutions, and offering hope.

Having attended other virtual support groups in the past, Lauren found the JJMF's group to be a breath of fresh air. In Lauren's words, **"I often felt that other groups I attended were either too large or the conversation wasn't focused enough on a topic, so it was very difficult to share and connect with the others attending."** Lauren quickly felt comfortable in the JJMF group, noting that the intentionally small group size along with focused discussions and guided conversation keeps all participants easily engaged.

> "Everyone who attends the sessions has a similar experience of raising a child with a neurological diagnosis. While we may not all have the exact same experiences, we can all relate well to each other. The support group feels like a light and breath of fresh air. It is an hour that I can do something for myself to connect with other parents."
>
> —LAUREN BREEN, JJMF COMMUNITY PARENT

Despite her professional expertise, Lauren's role as Addie's mom presents challenges that have potential to negatively impact her mental health if she doesn't prioritize caring for her own well-being. JJMF's support group has been a helpful tool in enabling her to find encouragement and reassurance through an understanding community. Lauren shared, **"I think these support groups are so important because they offer something that parents can do for themselves to benefit their mental health without a significant financial or time commitment."**

With a strong desire to continue connecting with other parents of children with complex neurological conditions and maintain the positive mental health impact, Lauren makes an effort to attend all of JJMF's monthly support group sessions. She also jumped at an opportunity to join JJMF's team as Programs and Events Coordinator in early 2025 to further cultivate community support initiatives.

Lauren offers words of wisdom to other parents who may be interested in trying out JJMF's virtual support group. **"Even if you feel hesitant, I would highly recommend trying it out. There is absolutely no pressure to share or even have your camera on. We are all open to supporting one another and never expect anyone to say anything if they don't feel comfortable. Everyone in the group is understanding and comes from a similar situation, and we all have an overall respect for one another."**

Family Financial Assistance

Families face incredible financial demands in caring for their children's needs. This can be daunting, overwhelming, and tremendously difficult to manage. The JJMF provides grants to help pay for essentials that are not covered—or only partially covered—by insurance. This relieves some of the stress associated with accessing these crucial items, and allows families to focus on what is most important—loving their children.

Families receive assistance for expenses such as:

- Medical care
- Medications
- Home medical equipment
- Respite care
- Therapies
- Educational consultant services

> "Through JJMF's financial assistance, we received an indoor seated therapy swing for our son, Wilson, and he enjoys using it nearly daily! As Wilson grows, he's getting too big for us to 'dip' him as often as he likes, but the swing allows him to spin and provides the sensory input that he desires."
>
> —HEATHER ROGERS, JJMF COMMUNITY PARENT

50 **financial assistance grants**

extended to families in 2024

35% **increase in number of grants**

extended over previous year

FAMILY SPOTLIGHT

Meet the Tilghmans

Rhae is a 12-year old girl who loves swimming, bowling, trips to the park, traveling, and her family, especially her little brother, Will. When she was four years old, Rhae was diagnosed with a rare genetic disorder known as SATB2-associated syndrome (SAS), although its onset was years earlier. Because SAS is caused by de novo genetic changes, meaning the variation happens for the first time in a person rather than being inherited, Rhae and her parents experienced a challenging journey to diagnosis, enduring years of therapy, medical specialist evaluations, MRIs, and EEGs before genetic testing revealed the SATB2 gene mutation.

SAS is characterized by a range of developmental, neurological, and physical issues which vary depending on the severity of the gene mutations. Rhae's SATB2 gene is about 65% variated, which causes severe to profound symptoms including developmental delays, speech disorder, EEG abnormalities without clinically recognizable seizures, neurobehavioral symptoms, and a variety of physical health conditions.

With determination and her family's steadfast support, Rhae began sixth grade in the fall of 2024. Navigating the transition to middle school presented many challenges in adjusting to a new building, administration, teachers, and staff, which was made even more complicated because St. Louis operates on a dual school district system including the local school district and the county's Special School District. While this system is intended to foster an inclusive and collaborative approach to learning, the Tilghmans, like many families, found it difficult to navigate the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process, and managing the complicated process became daunting.

The Tilghmans found themselves in need of expert guidance to ensure that Rhae would receive the tailored educational plan that is necessary for her lifelong success. Luckily, highly experienced educational consultants can provide invaluable support to students and families facing these challenges. Enlisting the help of an educational consultant comes at a high out-of-pocket cost for the family, though.

> **"The JJMF's support to help offset the costs of hiring an educational consultant has been instrumental in empowering our family to navigate the complexities of dual school districts and ensure that our daughter has access to the best and most equitable educational opportunities. Their generosity has made a meaningful difference in our ability to advocate effectively for her needs."**
>
> **—JESSICA TILGHMAN, JJMF COMMUNITY PARENT**

Jessica reached out to the JJMF regarding financial assistance to help cover this worthy cost, and through our uncomplicated financial assistance program, funding was secured to subsidize the fees. Making this service more easily financially accessible for Rhae's family resulted in invaluable support, helping them better understand their rights and facilitating truthful communication with school and leadership staff to ensure that the IEP accurately reflects Rhae's unique needs.

The Tilghmans believe that with the right support, Rhae can achieve her academic and personal goals, and they are committed to working collaboratively with the school to ensure that happens. Having an educational consultant in their corner empowers them in their advocacy, making an impactful difference in Rhae's schooling.

Advancement in Medical Care

Families feel best supported when they receive high-quality, compassion-filled medical care. The JJMF aims to increase awareness of the unique needs of children with complex neurological conditions to medical providers and trainees by sharing important perspectives that are unique to our community.

JJMF's annual medical lectureship at St. Louis Children's Hospital is an incredible opportunity to advance patient care by educating physicians, especially those in the early stages of their careers—including medical residents—on the impactful ways they can support children with complex neurological conditions and their families.

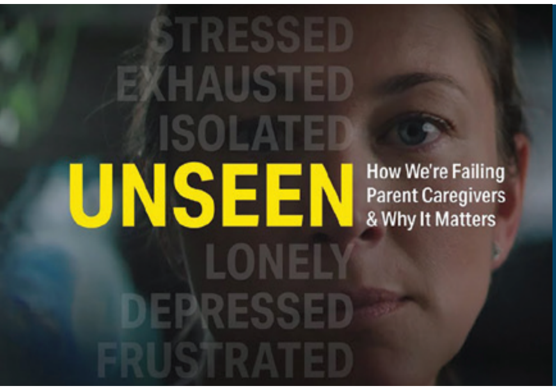
A trio of speakers associated with the Undiagnosed Disease Network presented clinical research on the care of patients without a diagnosis, as well as critical information from the family perspective. Sharing important viewpoints on the unique diagnostic odysseys experienced by families, Dr. Meghan Halley, Dr. Jennifer Wambach and Michelle Herndon provided valuable information that will help the medical community care for and support their patients along their journeys.

The JJMF aims to equip medical providers with unique resources that will influence the care provided to patients and their families, lessening caregivers' burdens and improving their quality of life.

ST. LOUIS
Children's
HOSPITAL
BJC HealthCare

> **"Families with children who have complex neurologic conditions frequently feel lost and alone. There is no one with the same frame of reference for the challenges they face. Their physician can share some advice, but a short doctor's appointment every few months —no matter how good the relationship—cannot replace community. The JJMF provides my patient families with that community. Sharing resources, stories, and experiences creates a meaningful connection amongst families of children with complex neurological conditions. As a pediatric neurologist who takes care of many of these children, having the JJMF available as a resource for my patients and their families is an invaluable piece of making these kids and families the best versions of themselves possible."**
>
> **—DR. RÉJEAN GUERRIERO**
> **PEDIATRIC NEUROLOGIST, ST. LOUIS CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**

Documentary Screening of *Unseen: How We're Failing Parent Caregivers & Why It Matters*



> "Hosting this documentary is one of the ways we hope to help move the needle. I truly believe once others in our community understand what it is like to care for children like June, they will want to support families carrying the load."
>
> —GENNY JESSEE, JJMF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CO-FOUNDER

The JJMF strives to support parent caregivers' health, knowing it makes a difference—a difference in the lives of those very caregivers' children who have complex neurological conditions, as well as the community at large. In an effort to increase widespread awareness of just how critical caregiver health is, the JJMF hosted a private screening of the documentary titled *Unseen: How We're Failing Parent Caregivers & Why It Matters* for parent caregivers, medical and mental healthcare professionals, and supporters who are committed to helping make families' lives easier.

JJMF community parent Amy Sexauer shared that she hoped that viewing the documentary would open up important conversations in the community, ultimately helping families of children with medically complex conditions by raising awareness and support. In Amy's words, **"If we can't talk about struggles, then we can't make change happen."**

Following the screening, at which more than 100 people gathered, the JJMF conducted a short panel discussion highlighting the perspectives of various people closely involved in caring for children with medically complex conditions: parent caregivers, healthcare professionals, and advocates. We reflected on the issues highlighted in the film and shared ideas about how to continue to build awareness and support for our community of caregivers and their families.

"Viewing this documentary as parents of a child with a complex neurological condition, we felt understood in a way that most can't relate. Participating on the discussion panel was a special way of highlighting our struggles that are very real, along with the simple ways of finding joy."

—Amy and Richard Sexauer
JJMF Community Parents

"During my time as a pediatric palliative care physician, I have become very familiar with the daily experiences and stressors of parents who care for kids with neurologic impairment. The documentary and panel discussion certainly highlighted those stressors and provided valuable perspective, especially for general pediatricians who may not be as familiar with what it takes to care for children with medical complexities."

—Dr. Joanie Rosenbaum

"For me, attending the screening of the "Unseen" documentary confirmed what I know about the challenges faced by families with children who have severe neurological impairment. Doctors who are still in training or are earlier in their careers may not have realized the challenges these families face, and likely may not have thought about the challenges of being present 24/7."

—Dr. Liu Lin Thio

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Meet Lolly Chalmers

NATIONAL CHARITY LEAGUE SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS CHAPTER

At the beginning of 2024, JJMF and the National Charity League (NCL) Spirit of St. Louis Chapter formed a partnership, creating pathways for a new and dedicated group of volunteers to support our mission. NCL's Spirit of St. Louis Chapter is a group of mothers and daughters who are committed to community service, leadership development and cultural experiences, while fostering mother-daughter relationships through service opportunities. Chapter member Lolly Chalmers serves as the group's JJMF liaison and is responsible for coordinating volunteer experiences for its members, including her daughter, Molly.

Lolly was introduced to NCL by a friend as the Spirit of St. Louis Chapter was formed in 2023. As she learned more about the goals of NCL, her interest was piqued, particularly in joining the philanthropy committee. On this committee, Lolly committed to a leadership role as a liaison to one of the chapter's partner organizations and shared, **"I was ecstatic upon learning I was paired with JJMF because of the beautiful outreach they provide to so many families."**

Throughout 2024, the NCL chapter provided support in various ways, including care package assembly, preparing mailings, and volunteering at events like our Halloween Party at The Magic House, *An Evening of Joy* fundraiser, and Holiday Family Event. In reflecting on the highlights of the year, Lolly shared some of her favorite aspects of involvement – **"I think seeing the boundless creativity these parents had for their costumes at the Halloween Party was definitely a favorite moment for me. There was something about the effort and the smiles as they walked in the door that just cut to my heart that evening. It was also really lovely to watch the donors who came to *An Evening of Joy* with a certain level of excitement, wanting to celebrate JJMF's growth and further support the mission."**

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers who help bring our mission to life through their incredible commitment of service.

Mimi Aliperti
Anjali Argoudelis
Elise Arthur
Brooke Bledsoe
Sadie Berman
Adalyn Blanner
Tasha Borglum
Karen Bumb
Tracy Carney
Lolly Chalmers
Molly Chalmers
Ella Clayton
Mary Clayton
Anne DeToy
Doris Devereux
Christina Elias
Nina Engelsmann
Colette Francisco
Michelle Francisco
Emma Freeman
Grace Freeman
Bella Froedge
Devon Gable
Lily Gellman
Olivia Goldenberg
Gabriella Guess
Lindsay Guess
Ritu Gupta
Annie Harper
Sarah Hickey
Bridget Hoff
Bethany Holohan
Hannah Hufford
Jesse Iverson
Charlotte Kittner
Tiffany Kornmann
Anna Kratky
Erin Lamb
Isabella Lamb
Robyn Lane
Maura Limbert
Giselle Lune
Caleb Lyss-Lewis
Olivia Massie
Tanya Mayer
Mary Michael
Michael Milchanowski
Abby Morgan
Carrie Morgan
Leila Mueller
Noni Murphy
Meghan Niemeyer
Kiely O'Hagan
Ella Paciorek
Ava Perez
Jane Quernheim
Trudy Redmond
Amanda Ringhofer
Sasha Ringhofer
Maura Ritter

> **"JJMF is a wonderful organization with extremely compassionate people who just want to help parents who experience daily challenges while raising children with complex neurological disorders. Through their hard work and kind hearts, they have built a solid community and have provided resources for these families, and it is very inspiring and heartwarming to witness."**
>
> **—LOLLY CHALMERS**
> **NATIONAL CHARITY LEAGUE**
> **SPIRIT OF ST. LOUIS CHAPTER**

Going into their second year, Lolly has big plans for the chapter's involvement. She shared, **"Of course a goal is to continue to raise awareness not just within the NCL community, but to go out into our own communities and talk about the mission of JJMF. I also would like to help the girls create and execute little mini events that would help the needs of JJMF in various ways, whether it be an event for families to participate in or a drive of some sort to fulfill a need within the organization to use in their outreach."**

Through this partnership with NCL, JJMF has been lucky to find an incredible group of volunteers and supporters who are passionate about growing our reach. The support compounds on itself, not only in the tangible way of having extra helping hands for events and activities, but also in raising awareness throughout the community. As Lolly shared about her fellow chapter members' involvement, **"Participating in events with families who work tirelessly to take care of their children everyday in an exceptional way inspires me to do better. The love and compassion shown by families as well as JJMF's team is something that has challenged me to want to do more as a parent and as a human being."**

Allison Rueschhoff
Darcie Rueschhoff
Ann Scharkey
Kristin Schell
Amy Sexauer
Chloe Shamsham
Mary Jane Sheets
Mary Sigurdson
Rachel Simon
Carol Size
Kelly Slattery
Samantha Sperry
Kyla Speigelglass
Liv Spiegelglass
Yona Spiegelglass
Olivia Taylor
Tracy Taylor
Megan Temple
Kerrie Thompson
Ana-Marija Todorovic
Katie Todorovich
Sara Tulyasathien
Vada Tulyasathien
Emily Wallis
Molly Wallis
Cathy Walters
Joannie Weber
Gina Weiner
Stephanie Wheeler
Blair Whitworth
Becca Williams
Katie Williams
Debra Young
Mark Yurkuns

Clayton High School's Community Service Club members volunteered at *An Evening of Joy*, assisting with guest registration and auction check-out while ensuring all details ran smoothly.

JJMF Youth Board

The incredibly dedicated group of middle and high school students on our Youth Board continue to make a great impact on JJMF's mission-based work. Under the leadership of President Trudy Redmond, these motivated teens continue to identify unique and creative ways to help support children and families, making a positive difference for the JJMF community. From volunteering at various JJMF events to planning their own fundraiser to support JJMF programming, the Youth Board strengthens the important work of the JJMF adding critical energy and enthusiasm that fuels our mission.

Trudy Redmond (left) and Charlotte Kittner (right)

YOUTH BOARD MISSION STATEMENT

Raising awareness and gaining support amongst middle and high school teens for children with complex neurological conditions and their families.

Leadership

> "Helping others has always been a priority of mine, and the JJMF's mission to support children with medically complex conditions aligns with my personal values. I am honored to continue serving the JJMF community through the Youth Board's initiatives and hope to make a difference!"
>
> —TRUDY REDMOND
> JJMF YOUTH BOARD CO-FOUNDER

YOUTH BOARD MEMBERS

GENEVIEVE BAUMER
Class of 2024

ELLA CLAYTON
Class of 2027

MARGAUX HARRIS
Class of 2027

BRIDGET HOFF
Class of 2026

CHARLOTTE KITTNER
Class of 2028

ABBY MORGAN
Class of 2026

MEGHAN NIEMEYER
Class of 2025

TRUDY REDMOND
Class of 2027

KATIE TODOROVICH
Class of 2026

KATIE WILLIAMS
Class of 2025

> "I wanted to find a meaningful way to give back to the community, and getting involved with the JJMF was the perfect opportunity. Forming the JJMF Youth Board has provided me with new experiences while getting to help children and families."
>
> —CHARLOTTE KITTNER
> JJMF YOUTH BOARD CO-FOUNDER

VOLUNTEERS

CARE PACKAGE ASSEMBLY

Assisted JJMF team by volunteering to help assemble Month of June care packages

HOLIDAY FAMILY EVENT

Volunteered and helped to facilitate various holiday-themed activities at the annual holiday family event

FACE PAINTING

Offered face painting at the JJMF booth during St. Louis Children's Hospital's Tri My Best Adaptive Triathlon and at our Month of June family picnic

FUNDRAISING SUPPORT

Helped oversee check-in registration at our annual *An Evening of Joy* fundraising event

EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Participated in our "Not-so-haunted house" Halloween Party at The Magic House as a "Trick or Treat Team," distributing goodie bags to families as they prepared to enjoy the museum

JJMF YOUTH BOARD'S PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

New this year, JJMF Youth Board served up some fun and friendly competition on the pickleball court with a tournament to benefit the JJMF.

> **"The JJMF team was thrilled with the idea of hosting a pickleball tournament, and the Youth Board did an amazing job planning and bringing the event to life. Pickleball players of all ages came together for some friendly competition and fun. It was a beautiful day that showcased a new way for our supporters and friends to get involved with the JJMF."**
>
> **—GENNY JESSEE, JJMF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CO-FOUNDER**

FUNDRAISING

Total Raised

$365,000

in donations and pledges

203 Sustained Donors

239 New Donors

442 Total Donors

21%

increase in dollars raised

Thank you to our 2024 *An Evening of Joy* Auction Donors

801 Local
Amigos Cantina
Amp Up Action Park
AV Nails
Brittany and Andrew Bagy
Barre 3 Des Peres
Barrel House
Becky and Ethan Belanger
Bella Bronze
Billy G's
Butler's Pantry
Karen Bumb
CAKEWISH
Maria Carron
Chris and Mary Clayton
Doris Devereaux
Dr. Browns
Emily Duddy
Andrea Elking
Mostafa and Joyce Ezzelgot
Frick's Quality Meats
Glow Candle Co.
Kelsie and Rejean Guerriero
Beth and Greg Hoffmann
Hufford's Jewelry
JAC Designs
Genny and Matt Jessee
Jamie and Greg Kappelmann Family
Friends and Family of the Kappelmann Family
Kevin Schimke Jewelers
Brian Kornmann
Ladue Pharmacy
Robyn Lane
Claire Le Grand
Julie and Jeff Linihan
Little Fox
Lola and Penelope's
Kristel Mabie
Main Event
Tanya Mayer
Maytaq Wasin Boutique Hotel
Megan Temple Design
Metro Vet
Midas Hospitality
Midwest Music Therapy
Carrie Morgan
The Muny
Nachomammas
Namaste Yoga Studio
Nayak Plastic Surgery and Avani Derm Spa
Oberweis Dairy
Olympia Gymnastics Rock Hill
The Only Facial
Otto Orthodontics
People's National Bank
Play It Again Sports
PLNK
Jane Quernheim
Allison Reichart
Rex Realty
River North Strength

An Evening of JOY

As our signature annual fundraiser, *An Evening of Joy* celebrates the many moments of joy that families experience in caring for their children with complex neurological conditions. This year's event included a special video feature of the Kappelmann family, whose touching story highlighted love and happiness as well as the challenges faced on a daily basis.

Additionally, *An Evening of Joy* serves as the platform to announce our annual Legacy Award, honoring individuals who have harnessed their unique talents to carry on June's legacy by caring for children like her, as well as their families. The 2024 Legacy Award was presented to Katherine Aravamudan in recognition of the key role she has played in supporting parents and caregivers while raising awareness about the importance of their mental health.

The JJMF is grateful for the many sponsors, supporters, attendees and volunteers whose innumerable contributions collectively make the event a great success. Raising the majority of funding to advance our mission and programs each year, *An Evening of Joy* is an integral event and one we look forward to with great enthusiasm each year.

Rusted Chandelier
Selz Gardening
Mary Sigurdson
Carol Size
Tim Size
Sol Sunless Tan
SPG Photography
Kathy Carr Stephens
Steven Walden Art
Still 630 Distillery
Story Seven
Mary Straub
Sugo's
Toca Soccer
Tom James
Topgolf
Total Wine
Traci's Skin Spa in Des Peres
Tradd Street
Treebute
Two One Zero Salon
Urban Air Adventure Park
Chris Vance
Vetta Sports
Waterway
Gina Weiner
Nancy Whitney

Save the Date to join us in 2025!

An Evening of Joy

Friday, November 7, 2025
The Reverie
Chesterfield, MO

DONORS

$15,000+

Canepa Family Foundation
Carol and Tim Size
Poolhouse

$10,000-$14,999

Coign
Dowd Bennett LLP
Rachel and Jack Oliver
Phi Gamma Delta
Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri
Schreiber Charitable Trust
Mr. and Mrs. Terrance M. Smith
St. Louis Community Foundation

$5,000-$9,999

Anonymous
Dr. Brown's
Jodie and Spencer Finney
Lisa and Rob Harper
Helitech
Julian & Eileen Carr Family Foundation
Deana and Steve Kadyk
Moneta Group
Kristen and Scott Rhodes

$1,000-$4,999

Concetta Ahrens
Mimi and Lou Aliperti
American Family Insurance, Dustin Imgarten
Katherine and Nish Aravamudan
Joe Azar
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