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## News & Updates

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March 2021 | Volume 12 - Number 3

### Upcoming Activities

April, 2021

[Toiletry Drive](#)

May 16, 2021

[12th Annual Virtual Walk](#)

### About Us

Spreading Hope Through Psychosocial Support <sup>SM</sup>

[Learn](#)

### Support

Help Make The Miracles Possible

[Donate](#)

### HELP AND HOPE HAPPEN HERE

A Pediatric Cancer Podcast  
To Benefit The Jimmy Fund



Mark Levine



[!\[\]\(5a351309c3b87e4420622c1f0e57efc0\_img.jpg\) Help and Hope Happen Here  
Brown Family Interview](#)



## Spreading Our Message

Mattie Miracle is committed to enhancing awareness of the psychological and social impact of a childhood cancer diagnosis on both the child and the family. Psychosocial concerns can affect treatment, outcomes, and the overall quality of life. Around **59% of children with cancer have a diagnosable mental health issue** as a result of the medical treatment and it is also well documented that parents show distress, experience marital conflict, and cope with symptoms of medical traumatic stress.

The Foundation's co-founders were interviewed by Mark Levine, the host of [Help and Hope Happen Here](#), a national Podcast designed to increase awareness of childhood cancer by interviewing organizational leaders and professionals who are passionate about improving the lives of children with cancer. Mark is a gifted interviewer, who investigates his subject matter thoroughly before conducting his interviews. Mattie Miracle invites you to listen to the Podcast, as Mark did an outstanding job at highlighting our 12 years of service to the childhood cancer community in 60 minutes.

[Click on the button to hear the podcast.](#)



## Standards in Practice

In December of 2015, the **Psychosocial Standards of Care**, was published in *Pediatric Blood & Cancer*. Dissemination of the Standards continues to occur organically, through professional associations, innovative research grants, and in treatment programs around the country.

Mattie Miracle is proud to highlight **MD Anderson Cancer Center's Children's Cancer Hospital's** implementation of the Psychosocial Standards of Care.

The Psychosocial Team Leaders, Dr. Rhonda Robert, Daniel Smith, and Dr. Peter Stavinoha, have gained invaluable information from the implementation of the Standards of Care about their Hospital's psychosocial services, the professionals providing the services, gaps in care, and ways to more effectively meet the evidence based Standards.

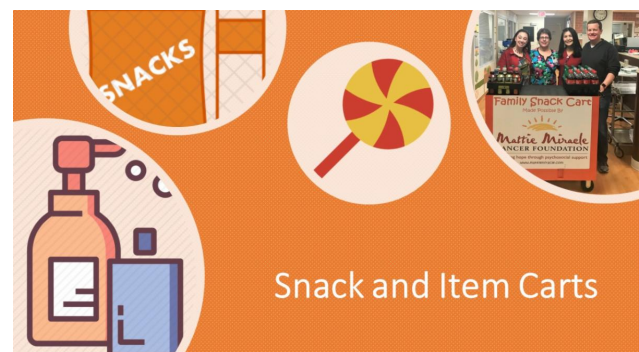
Click on the button below to read the **insights and reflections on the Standards from MD Anderson's Children's Cancer Hospital's** psychosocial team leaders.

[Read More](#)

## Serving 2,500 Annually

In September of 2015, Mattie Miracle launched its **first Snack and Item Cart at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital** in Washington, DC. The Co-Founders of Mattie Miracle understood from personal experience how important it was to have access to snacks, drinks, and toiletries while caring for Mattie in the hospital. They received these daily gifts for 14 months from their support community. After Mattie died, the Foundation decided to continue this tradition but on a grander scale.

Mattie Miracle now operates **two Snack and Item**



Snack and Item Carts

"During this unprecedented time of COVID-19, our parents are quarantined to their child's hospital room. The look on parent faces when

**Carts** and together these Carts serve 2,500 families a year. Carts offer snacks, drinks, and toiletries free to families caring for children with cancer and other life threatening illnesses.

In the last six months at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, the Cart has served **300 families** and has provided **700** pieces of candy, **655** snacks, and **495** toiletry items.

offered items from the Mattie Miracle Snack & Item Cart is heartfelt. The Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation has helped our patients and families through so much over the years, and now, more than ever, they continue to bring joy to our pediatric families."

~ *Lyn Knowles, Clinical Nurse Manager at MedStar Georgetown*



## Join the Fun

Walk virtually with us on **Sunday, May 16, 2021** from 10am to noon (in your time zone). Walkers with the greatest number of steps win prizes. There are even rewards for top fundraisers!

It's as easy as **Walk** (track steps), **Snap** (a photo), and **Post** (on social media). Check out our **new Virtual Walk Website**, where you can register, make a donation, and even purchase tickets to our amazing raffle.

All proceeds support our psychosocial programs and initiatives. Help us get **all 50 States** walking again this year!

[Register For The Walk](#)

[Check Out The Raffle](#)

## It's Not Just About the Medicine <sup>SM</sup>

### Keep Our Carts Rolling

Our **Toiletry Drive** is an annual event that we host in memory of Mattie Brown's April birthday. The Drive helps to stock our Snack and Item carts at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital (Washington, DC) and Children's Hospital at Sinai (Baltimore, MD).

Our Carts provide **free candy, nutritious snacks, drinks, and toiletries** to families caring for children with cancer or other life-threatening illnesses. For your convenience, we have created an online wishlist and we request that all items be received by the Foundation on or before **April 12th**.



[Our Wishlist](#)

**Thank you for your help!**



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Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation  
is a GuideStar PLATINUM  
Participant Charity



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