



# 2025 IMPACT REPORT

★ 16 YEARS OF HOPE   ★ 4,030 FAMILIES HELPED   ★ \$7.1 MILLION RAISED   ★

JUST **TRYAN** IT supports pediatric cancer families with Emergency Assistance and Deep Need grants to ease financial stress during treatment. This report highlights the impact we have made – a story best told by the families we serve.

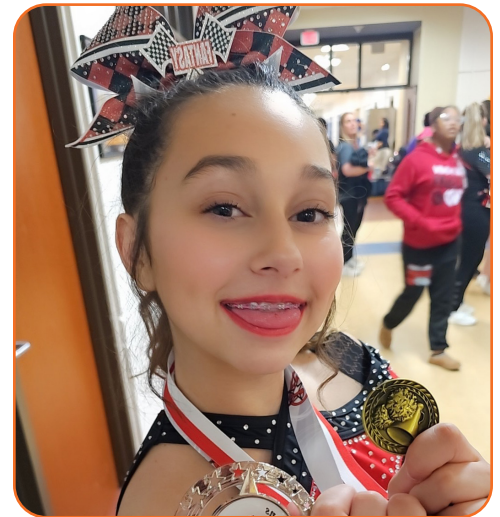
## ★ STAR SPOTLIGHT **ADDISON**

*“My Addie Bee is a competitor-smart, beautiful, and determined. Addison has always loved cheer, sports, dance, and competition.”*

In May of 2025, Addie started to experience pain in her back and numbness in her leg. After many doctor visits, MRIs, and X-rays, the doctors found a benign tumor on her spine. Two days later, she was rushed to UNC Children’s Hospital for a nine-hour surgery, after which they told us the tumor was malignant.

Through multiple surgeries, chemotherapy and radiation, Addison remains the strongest person I have ever known. This time has been financially, emotionally, and mentally stressful. Without the help of JUST **TRYAN** IT we wouldn’t be able to make it financially. We greatly appreciate all the help we have received. Please continue to pray for my girl bee.

– Krista, Addison’s mom



## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2025

### **Community Engagement:**

**889**

individuals participated in JUST **TRYAN** IT races.

### **Fundraising Success:**

**\$744,203**

raised by racers, sponsors, foundations and donors.

### **Volunteer Support:**

**420**

volunteers participated in our events.



# HOW WE SERVE FAMILIES

## 2025 PATIENT DATA AND GRANT PROGRAMS

### ★ STAR SPOTLIGHT

## MORGAN

Morgan is a “sweet and sassy” eight-year-old girl who loves Minnie Mouse and Bluey. She was diagnosed with brain cancer in April 2025. Morgan’s mom, Marquetta, who is raising her family on her own, lost her job due to missed time while caring for Morgan. With no savings and their application for Social Security still pending, their car broke down. This was their only means of transportation to

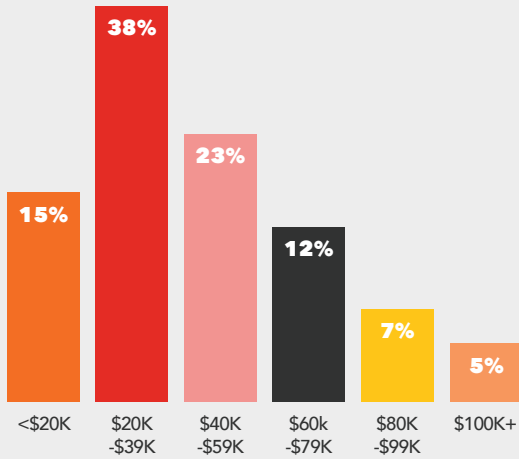
Morgan’s daily treatments at the hospital. JUST TRYAN IT paid for the family’s car repairs, so that Morgan could keep up with her treatment plan.

*“This cancer journey has been long and difficult but Morgan is a fighter, and she is going to beat this.”*

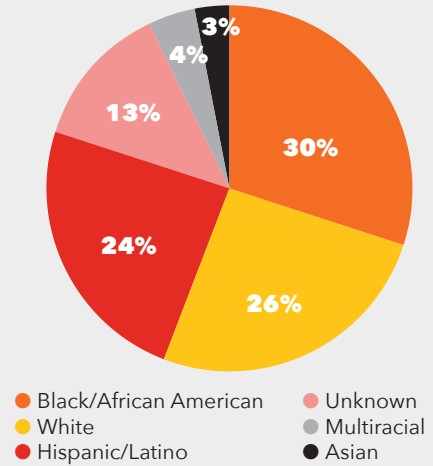
– Marquetta, Morgan’s mom



### PATIENT HOUSEHOLD ANNUAL INCOME



### PATIENT RACE AND ETHNICITY



### Emergency Assistance (EA) Grant Fund

Immediate Crisis Support

**\$1,532** average grant

### Deep Need (DN) Grant Fund

Sustained Support

**\$5,836** average grant



**66%**  
Housing

**12%**  
Transportation



**9%**  
Utilities

**7%**  
Funeral Expenses



**6%**  
Food/  
Groceries

# COMMUNITY IMPACT

## OUR PARTNERS

### ★ STAR SPOTLIGHT

## ZAID

Zaid is an adorable four-year-old boy who was diagnosed with lymphoma in September 2024. Prior medical complexities at the time of his diagnosis have complicated his treatment plan, and in 2025, he spent three months in the hospital recovering from a critical illness. He recently resumed his treatment, which requires clinic visits three times per week.

Zaid’s parents have suffered financially throughout his treatment but they have been keeping up with their bills. Last summer,

his family faced falling behind on their mortgage payment and this was causing them significant anxiety. JUST TRYAN IT stepped in and paid their mortgage.

*“Zaid has the biggest personality and the cutest smile. He is one of the strongest little boys to exist. His will to live is truly unmatched. I couldn’t be more proud to be his mother.”*

– Yecica, Zaid’s mom



## GRANTS BY HOSPITAL

| Hospital Regions | Hospital Name                          | Total            |
|------------------|--|------------------|
| DC/ Baltimore    | Children’s National Medical Center     | \$97,190         |
|                  | Johns Hopkins Children’s Center        | \$60,113         |
|                  | Samuelson Children’s Hospital at Sinai | \$7,228          |
|                  | INOVA Schar Cancer Center              | \$5,100          |
| <b>Subtotal</b>  |  | <b>\$164,531</b> |
| North Carolina   | Duke Children’s Hospital               | \$59,464         |
|                  | UNC Children’s                         | \$62,990         |
| <b>Subtotal</b>  |  | <b>\$122,454</b> |
| <b>Total</b>     |  | <b>\$292,086</b> |

## PHI DELTA GAMMA (FIJI) UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

In 2025, JUST TRYAN IT completed its 16th year of helping families in cancer treatment. Several kids who raced with us in those early years have continued their commitment to supporting families fighting cancer through high school and into college.

Ryan Darby, our namesake, who graduates this May, continues to inspire his peers at the University of South Carolina to help others. Every year Ryan’s FIJI Fraternity hosts the Headshave for Hope fundraiser, raising over \$10,000 annually for JUST TRYAN IT.

Last spring, tragedy struck FIJI when their fraternity brother, Nate Baker, lost his life in an accident. Nate was a close friend of Ryan’s and had actively participated in many FIJI fundraisers. Nate’s family graciously requested that donations in honor of Nate’s memory be made to JUST TRYAN IT. We were overwhelmed by the outpouring of love for this young man and his family, and we are truly grateful for their generosity.



From left to right: Nate Baker, Andrew Sanson, Ryan Darby

# 2025 KIDS TRIATHLONS

## BETHESDA AND CHAPEL HILL EVENTS



**782**  
Racers



**420**  
Volunteers



**\$326,893**  
Racer Fundraising



**\$129,300**  
Sponsorship



**31**  
STAR Supporters

### Bethesda

**414**  
Racers

**223**  
Volunteers

**\$182,284**  
Fundraising

**\$66,600**  
Sponsorship

### Chapel Hill

**368**  
Racers

**197**  
Volunteers

**\$144,609**  
Fundraising

**\$62,700**  
Sponsorship

## THE PORTNER FAMILY: Putting great ideas to work for good

The Portner family first discovered **JUST TRYAN IT** through volunteering at the Bethesda Kids Triathlon with their oldest daughter, Hannah. They loved the event and were amazed at how many people came out to rally for such a special cause. The Portner's appreciated that families, neighbors and local businesses were all invested in helping JTI's mission succeed. Hannah's twin siblings, Audrey and Sully, joined in the fun by volunteering on race weekend, joining the Youth Advisory Committee and starting the JTI Club at their school.

Over the past 2 years, Audrey has expanded her commitment to families fighting cancer by creating and selling handmade Mother's Day cards each Spring—raising



just over \$13,000 for **JUST TRYAN IT**. Each year she improves her marketing strategies and finds new and innovative ways to extend her reach. She hopes to exceed her goal again this year. "**JUST TRYAN IT** has helped all of my children realize the importance of giving back and being a part of something greater than themselves." — Courtney, mother of Hannah, Audrey and Sully

## JOIN US IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Every dollar helps a family keep the lights on, make a mortgage payment, or get their child to treatment.  
For more information or to donate visit [www.justtryanit.org](http://www.justtryanit.org)

