

Transforming the cancer experience



OUR FOUNDER

Dear Friends,

This year, a mother in our mom's support group, said something I haven't been able to stop thinking about. She said, "I didn't know I needed this until I had it."



Many families who found us this year didn't know something like this existed. A community that truly understands what it means to parent through cancer. To be a child watching someone you love get sick, confused and scared, without the words to say so.

When they found Nankind, something shifted, that moment of relief, of feeling seen, of knowing you are not alone, is what you have made possible in 2025.

Our peer support groups became a lifeline for children who needed a safe space to open up, share and be heard without explanation. Our summer camp program gave children the rare and joyful experience of being surrounded by kids who just get it, not through sadness, but through laughter, friendship, and the freedom to just be a kid for a week.

Watching the Land of Oz family event come to life was one of my favourite moments of the year, grandparents, parents, and children together, laughing and connecting in a room full of joy. Our virtual auction drew supporters from everywhere with incredible enthusiasm and generosity.

When La Fondation Emmanuelle Gattuso offered a matching gift for our Holiday Campaign, the response moved me deeply. It was a beautiful reminder of just how much people want to support a cause that transforms so many lives.

Our Volunteer Angels showed up with a kindness so consistent and genuine that our families leaned on them every week to keep things normal for their children at home.

Last year we lost many mothers and fathers, resilient, loving, and deeply missed parents. For their children, who are navigating something no child should have to face, Nankind walks alongside them providing grief support for a full year. Because when a family loses so much, the last thing they should lose is us.

Every week brings new referrals, new families, new children quietly carrying more than they should have to.

Thank you for being part of the Nankind family. It is because of you, no family has to face cancer alone.

With love and gratitude,

Audrey Guth
Founder and Executive Director, Nankind

OUR MISSION

To lessen the social
and emotional impact
of cancer on families.



OUR VISION

A world where every parent with cancer receives the support they need to no longer choose between their care and the care of their children. Where their children have the support of a specially trained volunteer angel to share their feelings in a healthy way and build emotional resilience.



OUR COMMUNITY

Behind every family Nankind supports stands a community of dedicated supporters, Volunteer Angels, and board members, ensuring no family faces cancer alone.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Audrey Guth Board Chair

Joyce Frustaglio Vice Chair

Michael Kovendi Treasurer

Rebecca Rosenberg Secretary

Jennifer Bertoia Director

Azam Dawood Director

Jennifer Green Director

Shauna Guth Director

J. Nadia Headley Director

Sean Wierda Director

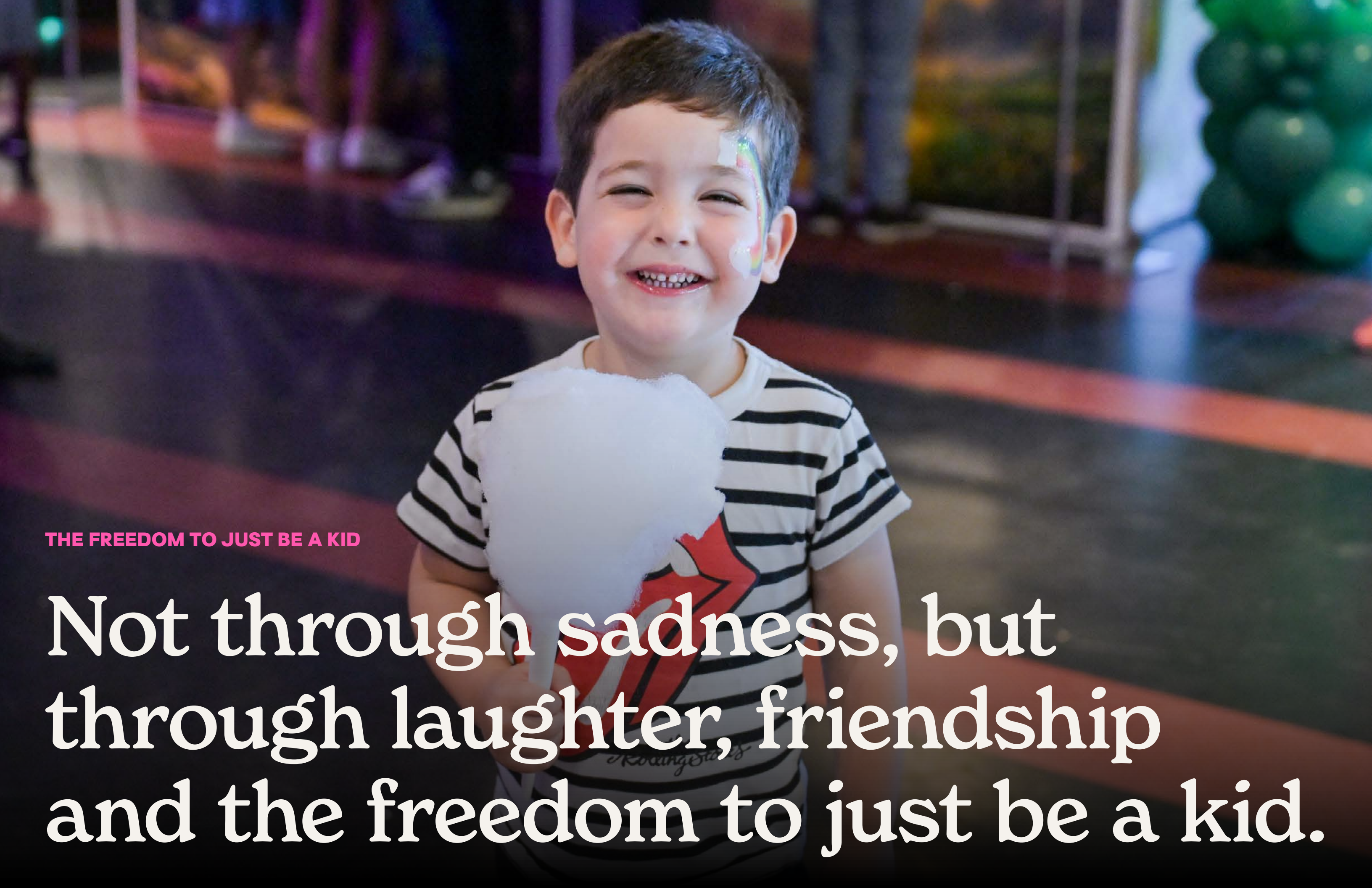
Led with Heart

This year’s event welcomed new Chair Hayley Waugh, whose connection to Nankind began with an Echoage give-back birthday party and has since grown into a deep, lasting commitment. As Chair, Hayley brought both experience and heart to lead the committee and the Waugh Family Foundation backed that commitment with \$200,000 in total support: \$100,000 to Nankind programming and \$100,000 as lead event sponsor, directly expanding support for families and children.



We also celebrate and acknowledge past Chair Joyce Frustaglio, whose 12 years of dedication transformed Nankind’s annual gala from an intimate gathering into one of Toronto’s most beloved multigenerational celebrations, a landmark on the philanthropic calendar that grows in heart and impact every year.

Together, Hayley and Joyce represent exactly the kind of leadership Nankind is built on: generous, committed, and in it for the long haul. One who lit the torch, one ready to carry it further.

A young boy with dark hair and a joyful expression is the central figure. He has a small, multi-colored rainbow sticker on his left cheek. He is holding a large, fluffy white cotton candy in front of his chest. He wears a black and white horizontally striped t-shirt with a red graphic on the front. The background is a blurred night scene of an outdoor area, possibly a park or boardwalk, with warm lights and some greenery visible on the right.

THE FREEDOM TO JUST BE A KID

Not through sadness, but
through laughter, friendship
and the freedom to just be a kid.

OUR IMPACT

What does it mean to truly show up for a family facing cancer? It means meals on the table when no one has the energy to cook. It means a child having someone to talk to who really gets it. In 2025, we showed up, hundreds of times, in so many ways. These numbers tell part of that story. The rest lives in the quiet moments of relief, connection, and joy.

Children

646 EMPOWERED

Meals

8,000 DELIVERED

Families

329 LIFTED & LOVED



Holiday

284 STOCKINGS
STUFFED WITH GIFTS

Mom
Support

52 HOURS OF VIRTUAL
GROUP CONNECTION

Hugs

COUNTLESS
DELIVERED

Grief

111 CHILDREN
GUIDED THROUGH
BEREAVEMENT

Fun-in-a-
Box

6,312 SHIPPED TO
BRING JOY

Memories

THOUSANDS
MADE

Volunteers

296 ENGAGED TO
SUPPORT KIDS

Summer
Camp

83 KIDS SENT TO
SUMMER CAMP

OUR IMPACT

Moments that Mattered

PEER SUPPORT

More kids, more connections. We expanded our peer support programs so children always have a space to meet others who get it, be heard, and feel less alone.

ROCK FOR NANKIND

Unforgettable nights of live music with Oui Be Jamon that had the crowd on their feet and our mission front and centre.



LAND OF OZ

Follow the yellow brick road! Our signature family event whisked families into a magical afternoon where cancer stayed at the door and joy took centre stage.



HOLIDAY CAMPAIGN

The generosity was real. Thanks to a generous match from La Fondation Emmanuelle Gattuso and support from TNT Fashion, our Holiday Meal Program smashed its goal and raised \$100,000+ for families who needed it most.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT

We celebrated our incredible volunteers with a little mystery and a lot of magic. An enchanting afternoon of palm reading, tarot, handwriting analysis, and mandala painting that was as unique and special as the people we were celebrating.



SUMMER CAMP

Best. Summer. Ever. The Ronda Green Camp Program, gave kids navigating a parent’s cancer or loss a summer break full of laughter, new friendships, and memories made with peers who get it.



THINGS TO KNOW T.O.

We kicked off our Holiday Campaign the right way, sharing Joanna’s powerful story on Giving Tuesday to remind our community why this work matters.

OUR PROGRAMS

When You Don't Have to Explain Yourself



There is something that happens when a child walks into a room and realizes they don't have to be the kid with the sick parent, they can just be a kid, with other kids who get it. No holding back. Just the quiet relief of finally feeling understood.

That's what Nankind's Peer Support and psychosocial counselling care is built on. Our team meets families at every stage of the cancer journey, and our psychosocial support specialists ensure that trauma-informed care shapes every interaction, with every child.



For our mothers navigating cancer, the Virtual Mom Support Group held by Nurse Navigator Miriam Sweet Goldstein remains one of Nankind's most treasured spaces. Week after week, mothers gather to speak honestly about fear, fatigue, and the impossible balancing act of being a patient and a parent.

This year, we also held a space for grief. Many of the mothers who sat in those virtual circles are no longer with us. Their absence is felt deeply, their legacy lives on and their children remain in our care.

Meeting Kids Where They Are

In 2025, we transformed how we show up for children, launching two new programs built around where kids actually are, developmentally and emotionally, and the difference has been profound.

NANKIND CLUBHOUSE

Age-specific peer groups built around how kids actually think and feel at different stages. Younger children explore big emotions through play and art. Older children go deeper, talking about identity, anxiety, and what it means to grow up in a household shaped by cancer. The evidence is clear, children thrive when they're with peers.

KIND CONNECTIONS: GRIEF & BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

When a parent dies, Nankind stays. Kind Connections walks with children and families through the full first year of loss, offering volunteer support, structured activities, and our Psychosocial Support team. This past year, we supported 111 children after the death of their parents. For some, that meant time at a bereavement summer camp where children find community, space to feel what they feel, and room to breathe again.



OUR FAMILIES

She Became Part of Our Family

How did you find the courage to talk to your children about your husband's cancer?

Honestly, I didn't know where to begin. Finding the right words felt impossible. Alyssa helped us navigate those conversations in a way the girls could actually understand, we took it slowly, watched videos together, talked things through. Having someone beside us who knew how to guide that process made something unbearable feel a little more manageable.

What does your Volunteer Angel mean to you?

Alyssa became part of our family. She understood my daughters in a way that was almost instant, her warmth, her empathy, the way she just showed up for them. She gave them ways to express their feelings, and she helped keep their dad's memory alive in small, beautiful ways they can return to whenever they need. She brought joy into some of our hardest days.

What surprised you most about Nankind?

When Ronnie passed, I thought the support would end. That felt like the natural thing. When Alyssa reached out and said she wanted to keep coming, I genuinely didn't know what to say. That kind of commitment, it stays with you. Every person at Nankind has been the same way. I never have to explain myself. They already understand it and know exactly what we need without having to ask for it.

What would you want other families to know?

That you don't have to do this alone. The practical support, the meals, the program activities for the kids, they give you room to breathe. The genuine human connection Nankind provides gives your children a safe place to feel everything they are feeling. This organization walks beside you through the hardest moments and in our case, helps us process grief so we aren't alone.

What has this journey taught you about your own strength?

I didn't think I would get through it. There were moments I truly didn't know how we would keep going. But watching my girls, how they've processed this, how they've grown, how they still laugh and love, that showed me something. We are more resilient than we know. And having Nankind beside us made it possible to find that out.



“We are more resilient than we know. And having Nankind beside us made it possible to find that out.”



OUR VOLUNTEER ANGELS

Showing Up Since 2016

Volunteering has always been a part of who you are, what brought you to Nankind?

I've always loved helping people, volunteering has been part of who I am for as long as I can remember. When I came across Nankind through a neighbourhood network, something about it just clicked. I have a background working with kids and recreation, and I had friends touched by cancer. This felt like a place where I could show up in a real, meaningful way.

You've been with Nankind since 2016 and supported 5 families and 12 children. What keeps you coming back?

The children. Every single week, seeing their joy and enthusiasm, it fills you right up. We do crafts, games, stories, all kinds of activities, and at the end of each visit they'll reflect on their favourite moment and it just melts your heart. Nankind gives me the chance to be there for a family during their hardest time, and that is a privilege I don't take lightly.

What's a memory that has stayed with you?

It's the small moments, honestly. The laughter. A child getting completely absorbed in a craft. The way kids can find pure joy even in the middle of something so difficult. Those moments remind me why this work matters. Knowing I've made even a small difference in a family's life during something this hard, that's everything.

What does being named Volunteer of the Year mean to you?

I am truly honoured. But I have to say, when you're surrounded by the kind of people Nankind attracts, people who pour so much heart into everything they do, volunteering doesn't feel like work. It feels like joy. I look forward to many more years alongside this incredible organization.

OUR PARTNERS

JENNY BIRD x Mother's Day

POSSIBILITIES FUND

Jenny Bird has always believed in the power of women lifting women. For Mother's Day, they brought that belief to life in a profound way, donating \$25,000 from their Possibilities Fund to Nankind.

This gift went directly toward supporting mothers facing the unimaginable, helping them receive prepared meals right to their doors. An act that removes the daily burden many mothers face, making them feel seen, held, and never alone during their most vulnerable moments.

We are deeply grateful to Jenny Bird for this beautiful act of generosity, and for reminding us that when we show up for mothers, we show up for entire families.



JENNY BIRD

OUR PARTNERS

Generosity in Every Form

The Waugh Family Foundation's \$200,000 commitment is transformational, a profound investment in Nankind and every family we serve. We are deeply honoured by their generosity and belief in Nankind's mission and for making a lasting impact for the families we serve.

The Delta Bingo community proved that generosity doesn't need a boardroom, just people who care. Their grassroots fundraising made a real difference this year.

When **Equifax** brought their team to Nankind, something special happened. They showed up with energy and heart, giving our families something as valuable as a donation: their time. Corporate volunteering at its finest.



Gilead Sciences Canada's support was tangible and meaningful: \$15,000 brought activity boxes to children who needed joy, \$15,000 provided holiday gifts to families, and \$10,000 helped make our Land of Oz event unforgettable.

When **La Fondation Emmanuelle Gattuso** matched donations to our Holiday Meal Program up to \$50,000, we didn't just meet our goal, we soared past it. Their generosity doubled our impact, bringing free holiday meals to more families facing cancer.



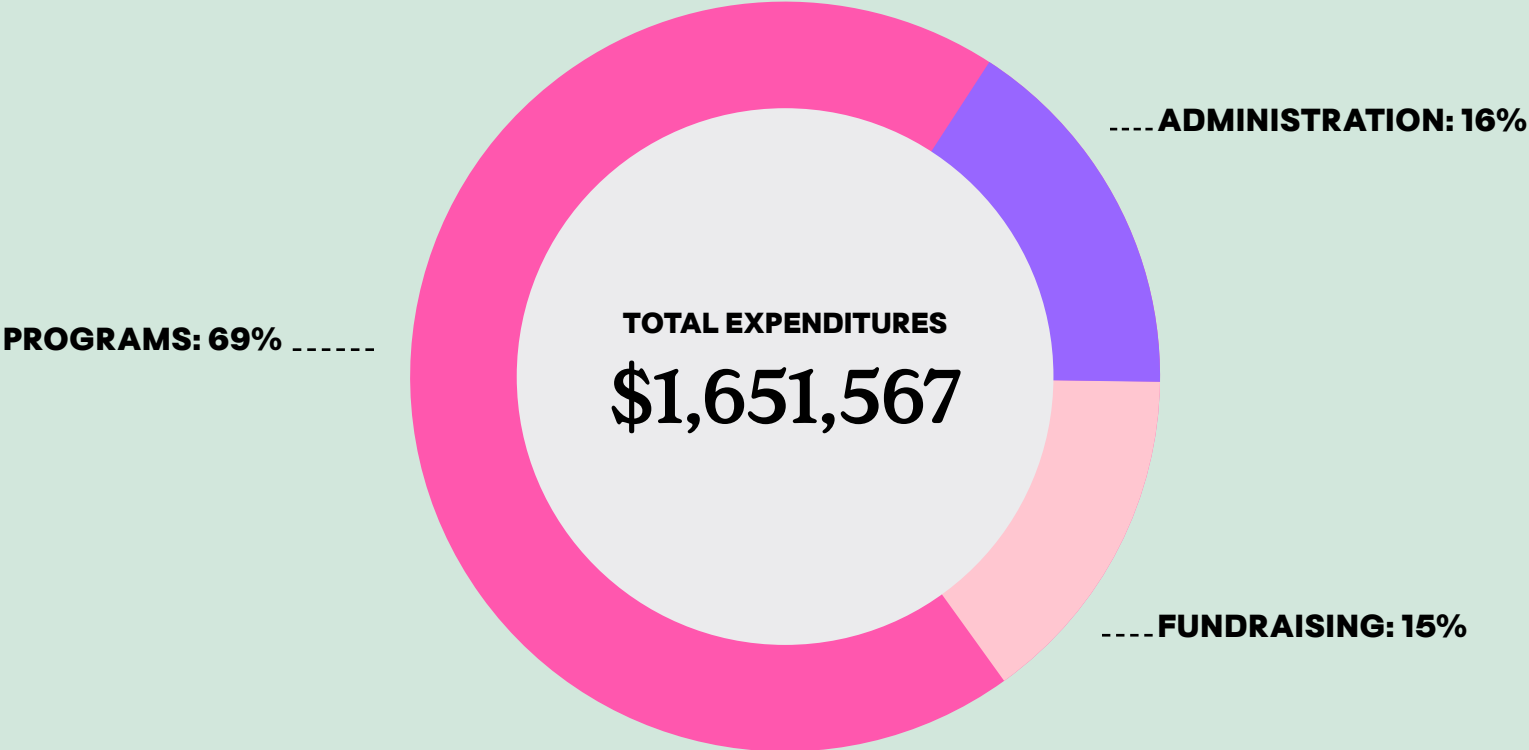
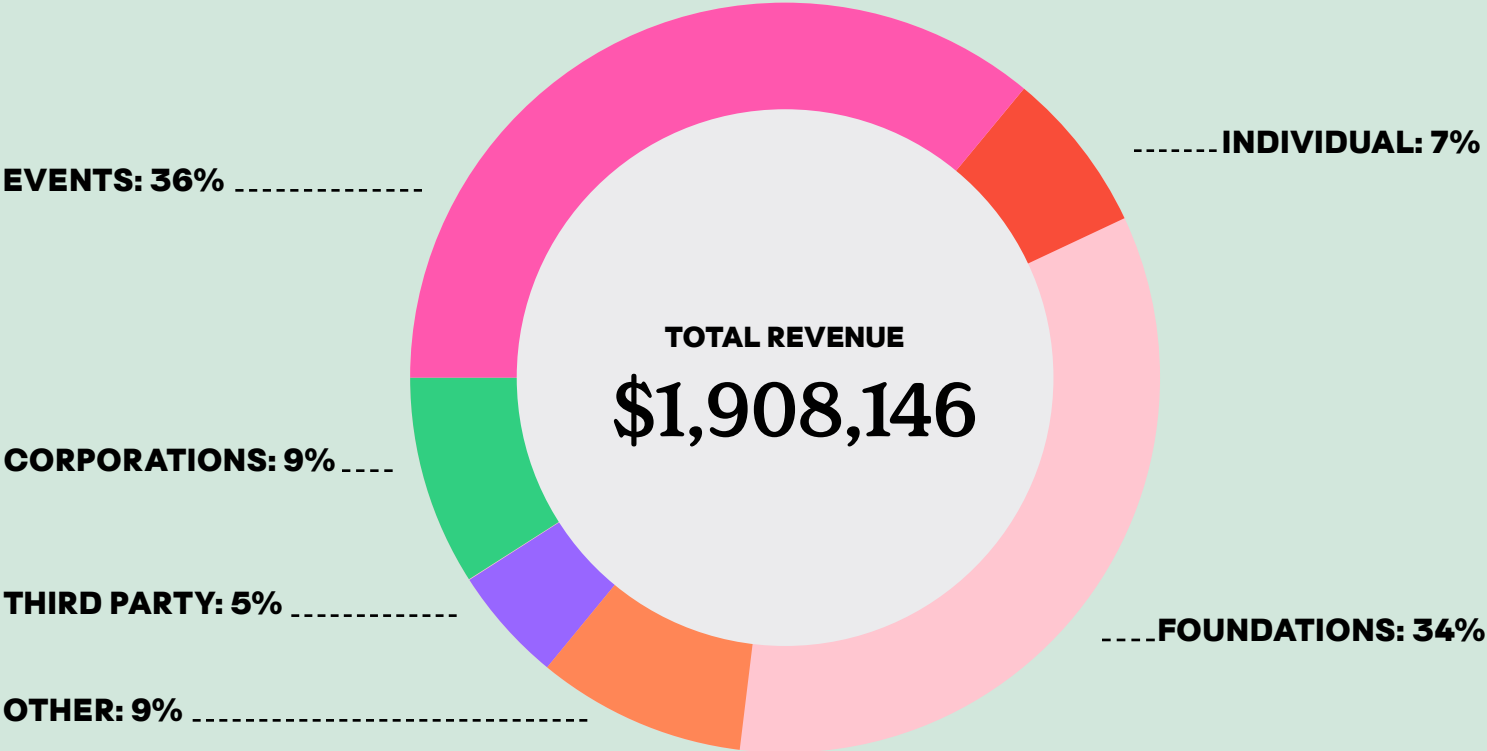
Every mission needs believers. In 2025, we were humbled by the generosity of new supporters who chose to invest in Nankind, growing our community united by one belief: no family should face cancer or loss alone.

The Samuel Family Foundation's extraordinary \$50,000 gift moves mountains. Their investment will be felt by families for years to come.

Who says shopping can't change lives. **TNT Fashion** transformed their Black Friday and Cyber Weekend into something far more meaningful inviting their community of shoppers to donate and unlock purchasing with purpose. Helping us kick off our Holiday Campaign with style through a \$25,000 gift.

The Gloria Baylis Foundation's generous \$10,000 gift made an immediate difference for families in our community. We are so grateful for their belief in our work and welcome them into the Nankind family.

OUR FINANCIALS



Nankind’s commitment to fiscal stewardship and financial accountability is validated by an independent Veritas Charitable Foundation SROI audit, confirming that every \$1.00 invested in our programs generates \$3.00 in tangible, lasting value for the families we serve.

OUR DONORS

\$100,000+

La Fondation Emmanuelle Gattuso
The Smith–Homestead Foundation
Waugh Family Foundation

\$50,000+

Bazil Developments Inc.
ERS International
Samuel Family Foundation
Surplus Furniture and Mattress Warehouse

\$25,000 +

Brampton Brick Ltd.
The Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation
CIBC Foundation
The Dunin Foundation
Gilead Sciences Inc.
Audrey and Fred Guth
Jenny Bird Holdings Inc.
Mackenzie Investments Charitable Foundation

\$10,000 +

Air Canada Foundation
Anna and Edward C. Churchill Foundation
The Bickle–Wilder Foundation
Bitove Foundation
Canada Summer Jobs
City of Hamilton – City Enrichment Fund
Corporation of the City of Vaughan
Equifax
Frederick and Douglas Dickson Memorial Foundation
Gloria Baylis Foundation
The Gordon and Payne Foyston Foundation
Roger Greenberg
Greybrook Realty Partners
Growing Tykes Learning Centre
Ivari
Kansun Family
MEH Foundation
Paradise Developments
Petrucci Family
Rotary Club of Toronto Charitable Foundation
SickKidsWomenPowered
TD Bank Ready Commitment
Temerty Foundation
Vault Mortgage Group
Village Craft and Candle
Peter Wookey

Your generosity makes Nankind’s work possible, funding the programs, volunteers, and moments of connection that help families facing cancer find their way through.

\$5,000 +

Alectra Utilities
The Alice and Murray Maitland Foundation
Amgen Canada Foundation
Lorrie Brown
Christina Mary Hendrie Trust
CIBC – Real Estate Finance Division
Cineplex
The Davies Charitable Foundation
Deltera Inc.
Gerry Di Leo
The George Lunan Foundation
Greenwin Holdings Inc.
The Henry and Berenice Kaufmann Foundation
IA Financial Group
Incredible Printing
Ipsen Canada Inc.
Joseph De Tommaso

Lipton LLP
The Michelin Construction Group Inc.
Motive Media
Ontario Heating Ltd.
The Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation
Regional Municipality of York
Rogers Communications Canada Inc.
Santos Auto Group
Sebo Canada
Slote Family
Substance Group
Rachelle Smith
Sofina Foundation
Stafford Homes Ltd.
Veritas
Yorkwood Homes

THANK YOU

Because of you, no
family has to face
cancer alone.

nankind