



PEDIATRIC ASSISTANCE FUND

powered by the HEALTHWELL FOUNDATION®

When a child is diagnosed with a chronic condition — like cerebral palsy or juvenile diabetes — their families not only face anguish and fear but many also struggle to pay their share of the medical bills. For working families with inadequate insurance, treating childhood illnesses may mean hundreds or thousands of dollars a month in out-of-pocket costs — much more than many people earn. Families can be left to choose between buying their child's medication or paying the mortgage, or can sink quickly into bankruptcy.

In response to the growing demand from families, we opened the HealthWell Pediatric Assistance Fund® to help children access the medical treatments they need so they can lead healthier lives. Their families have health insurance, but the costs of their child's medical treatments are often a barrier to accessing care.

Fund Highlights

Since launch of the fund in August 2013:

- *Assisted the families of more than 400 children in meeting their cost-sharing obligations for critical medical treatments with average grants of \$2,500*
- *Awarded over \$850,000 in grants to families*
- *Helped children start or continue critical treatments covering more than 90 disease areas and conditions*
- *Covered family cost-shares for counseling services, surgical procedures & medical devices, in addition to prescription drug copays*

When it comes to adults' own health, they often forego treatments because of financial issues. However, when it comes to the health of their children, they often incur substantial debt to save their lives. We know from assisting over 320,000 patients, what a difference \$500, \$1,500 or \$3,000 can make in helping pediatric patients follow their doctor's orders and get the treatments they desperately need.

About the HealthWell Foundation

The HealthWell Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that reduces financial barriers to care so that patients can focus on what is most important: getting better. We provide financial assistance to underinsured patients who are living with chronic or life-altering illnesses such as cancer and autoimmune disorders to help them afford their medical treatments. We put life-saving medications within reach for hundreds of patients in need every day with a special emphasis on helping underinsured children reach their full potential.



Meet Anna, 10 year-old HealthWell grant recipient battling Sturge-Weber Syndrome. (Over)

Partial List of Diseases and Conditions:

*Acute Lymphoid Leukemia
Autoimmune Hepatitis
Cerebral Palsy
Collapsed pes Planovalgus
Depression Disorder
Diabetes - Type 1
Dysphagia
Gastroparesis
Juvenile Diabetes
Metastatic Medulloblastoma
Panuveitis
Post Renal Treatment
Reflux Esophagitis
Respiratory System Disease
Retinoblastoma of Eye
Seizure Disorder
Stage 4 Neuroblastoma
Sturge-Weber Syndrome
Synovial Sarcoma
Turner's Syndrome*

Our daughter, Anna was born with a birthmark on her face and scalp. The doctors suspected there was more to the story. A CT scan of her head confirmed the diagnosis of Sturge-Weber Syndrome, a rare disorder affecting the brain. We spent the next few weeks as new parents trying to understand our beautiful little girl and the rare disease she had. When she was just 3 weeks old, she had her first set of seizures. It was terrifying to see her little body so out of control. She was admitted to the hospital and started on medication. The doctors were able to control the seizures, but never for too long.



Since that first seizure many years ago, we have celebrated many days without seizures and suffered through the days when they eventually returned. We changed medications, avoided activity that might over fatigue her, struggled through specialized diets and prayed for a cure. In January, Anna was scheduled to undergo a radical surgery to remove the diseased half of her brain. We knew this could offer her a future without seizures, but we also knew the incredible cost we faced.

With the help of the HealthWell Foundation, Anna had her surgery. She is back home, seizure free - healing and growing. Our family has been able to focus our attention on Anna's recovery knowing the financial burden has been reduced.

We are so grateful for the financial support the HealthWell Foundation has offered to us. With their help, we are able to celebrate the wonderful little girl God has blessed us with and we look forward to her bright future.

Mary (Anna's Mother), Delta, Pennsylvania