MEET NICHOLAS

In July 2018, Nicholas was diagnosed with B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia right before starting freshman year of high school. While he will be in treatment for three and a half years, Nicholas has not let it slow him down. His attitude and upbeat personality give him strength and courage for his cancer journey.

Nicholas truly treasures those who stand behind him, including his parents, sisters, family members, friends, medical staff, and the Jay Fund. As he faces countless doctor visits, hospital stays, and sleepless nights, Nicholas and his family are thankful there is a team supporting him to help ease the burden of tackling childhood cancer.
A childhood cancer diagnosis is a life changing event that affects the entire family. To put it bluntly, it interrupts everyone’s life. It interrupts the day to day, the finances, the planning, and the dreaming for the future. Childhood cancer can force a family to lose their home or declare bankruptcy. That’s why every contribution you make, each time you volunteer, or each social media post you share is vital to our work.

In 2018, the Jay Fund helped 749 families with $1.8 million in assistance. Half of that went towards basic human needs like keeping a roof over their heads, food on the table, and the lights on. And we were able to do this because of you.

$1.8 MILLION IN ASSISTANCE IN 2018

The Jay Fund is constantly reviewing and improving our programs to make sure we are serving patients and their families to the fullest. In 2018, the Financial Game Plan was revamped with 6 trained coaches who will volunteer their time to help Jay Fund families with the long term financial effects of cancer. We enhanced our programing for the Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) patient groups and launched J.A.Y.S. Team (Just Among You Siblings), a sibling support program.

The needs of our communities continue to grow and we have expanded our team to ensure we are able to provide assistance to patients and families when they need it most. Please join me in welcoming Sue Garbe, Program Manager for the NY/NJ area; Katika Chuon, Office Manager; and Susan DuBow, the newest member of our Board of Directors. Thank you for joining our team and choosing to BE THERE for our Jay Fund families.

“Damien had a blast at the last sibling event! Thank you so much for thinking about the siblings. They too need the attention and love.”
- Arianna, Damien’s Mom

“We are truly thankful for all the presents and food delivered today. It means so much for us and we cannot begin to show our appreciation for what the Jay Fund is doing for our family.”
- Nicholas, Aubrey’s Dad

“We thank you all so much for the food and gifts for both of my kids!!! They will have the best Christmas and it’s all because of you all!!! From the bottom of our hearts, thank you so much!”
- Destiny, Railynn’s Mom

We just cannot thank the Jay Fund enough for all of the blessings we have received since everything has happened. May God bless you all!”
- Alana, Lorenzo’s Mom

“We are so thankful for all of the help from you! It was so wonderful to be surrounded by a loving environment with other Jay Fund families who attended the zoo.”
- Anne, Jacob’s Mom
The Jay Fund chooses to BE THERE for families from DIAGNOSIS to RECOVERY and BEYOND. When a child is diagnosed with cancer, families are stressed and life changes in an instant. This feeling is amplified during the holiday season.

In 2018, the Jay Fund continued building its team. With the help of many organizations and donors, 50 families had a Thanksgiving and Christmas filled with joy and smiles, in hopes of combating some of the worry and stress. Thank you to Joe Cosgrove, Feeding Northeast Florida, the Jacksonville Jaguars Foundation, the PGA Tour, and many more for helping make spirits bright!

In Jacksonville, the holiday season wouldn’t be complete without the annual Jay Fund holiday party. This year, Woody and Jessie joined Mr. and Mrs. Claus, and 94 Jay Fund families, for a Western Wonderland! There were characters on stilts, jumping houses, pony rides, and even lassoing lessons.

In NY/NJ, families got a surprise from the Snee Family who visited St. Joseph’s Regional Medical Center. Patients were given presents to open, games to play with Chris and Kate Snee, and their children. The room was filled with lots of smiles.
The 15th Annual Wine Tasting Gala was a superb representation of the team behind the Jay Fund’s mission. A night to remember was spent with more than 1,000 friends, delicious food from Jacksonville’s top restaurants, and a wine selection like no other. In addition to the fantastic wine offered, this year’s gala featured a special Grey Goose bar, professional mixologists, and live entertainment who got the crowd excited! Thank you to the 2019 sponsors and all guests who chose to BE THERE. Your support raised $292,000. A special thank you to Byron Hayes, Hal Murdock, and the staff at Southern Glazer’s Wine & Spirits who make this event possible!
When a child is diagnosed with cancer, the entire family is affected. The Jay Fund creates opportunities for families to take a “day off” of cancer and meet others for peer-to-peer support.

Families gathered at Humdingers for Jay Fund Family Fun Day which included hitting baseballs in the batting cages to bowling and playing arcade games. Joining the group was NFL Alum, Kevin Boothe, who brought his Super Bowl rings and lots of smiles to the children as they tried them on!

Lions, Tigers, and Bears, oh my, was the repeated line at this year’s Zoo Valentine’s Day Celebration! Families joined one another at the Jacksonville Zoo for arts and crafts, lunch, and cookie decorating. The families finished the day exploring the zoo, riding the train, and making memories.

The Sibling Support Group, J.A.Y.S. Team, aims to BE THERE for siblings whose brother or sister is tackling childhood cancer because a cancer diagnosis can have long-lasting effects on siblings. They feel an array of emotions and their sibling’s diagnosis can be difficult to cope with. Recently, this group gathered together to paint pottery! Their creativity was endless as they laughed and enjoyed one another.

February teed off with NFL Alum, Josh Scobee, and Adolescent and Young Adults (AYA) tackling cancer gathering at Top Golf for an exciting night as they stepped up to hit their best shot. Everyone enjoyed golfing, but more importantly they connected with new friends who understand the struggles of cancer.
The Tom Coughlin Jay Fund is grateful for every single gift, regardless of amount. If possible, we would list every person who contributes. However, due to space limitations, this list is limited to gifts greater than $500.

November 2018 – February 2019

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The Impact Players Program helps motivated individuals and organizations raise funds and awareness for the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Foundation.
If you’d like to be an Impact Player, email debbie@tcjayfund.org today!

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Tom Doherty – Birthday Fundraiser
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Wicked Barley
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