



**JDJ Foundation**  
C H A R I T A B L E

# Q1 2021 NEWSLETTER

\* MARCH \*

## JDJ WHEELCHAIR PROGRAM UPDATE

The **5 wheelchairs** we delivered at the start of the year are being used often, and we could not be happier. Your donations and support are having a direct impact. Thank you so much!

### 2 NEW WHEELCHAIRS GRANTED TO PATIENTS

#### CHAIR 1

A little girl who truly needs a reclining medical stroller, as a wheelchair is way too heavy for the Mom to get in and out of a car. (Cost \$2,475)

She is a cutie pie who has a rare genetic disorder and has never held her head up on her own. She has always needed a wheelchair or an adaptive stroller. The wheelchair she has now has a lot of supports in it. It is way too heavy for her mother to get it in and out of the car on a daily basis. This limits her ability to go to the grocery store with her child and many other activities. Her mother has her own medical issues and has cried to me on countless occasions needing something else, so that her daughter can go to the park and enjoy more family time. We started the process of looking for grants to pay for a lightweight special needs stroller, but we hadn't had any luck so far. - CHOP Seating Clinic

#### CHAIR 2

A very smart 15-year-old who has a new manual wheelchair but is ready for a power wheelchair. She is locked inside her body and needs independence. Her insurance won't consider her for a power wheelchair for another 2 years. (Cost \$7,750)

She is a lovely 15-year-old, who came to seating clinic last summer, and already had a new manual wheelchair. Even though this girl cannot speak and is essentially locked inside her spastic body, she appropriately laughed at our jokes and had excellent eye contact. There was something special about her. We asked her mother if she had ever driven a power wheelchair. Mom said no. We were able to position her in a power wheelchair, and for the first time, she was able to move herself around. She was so surprised at herself, and of course it was a very emotional moment for Mom and us. Since that time, we have been searching for a donation of a used power wheelchair for her, as the insurance company won't pay for another wheelchair. - CHOP Seating Clinic



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## CONTINUING OUR SUPPORT OF MSKCC

We recently made a new **\$100,000** commitment to our research fund at **Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center** and became a member of [Cycle for Survival's Leaders Circle](#). The Leaders Circle is foundational to Cycle for Survival's impact and progress.

Contributions made by Leaders Circle members amplify every dollar raised towards achieving Cycle for Survival's mission, accelerating research and bringing new and better treatment options to people with rare cancers around the world.

[Dr. Ingo Mellingoff, MD, FACP](#) continues to lead our **"JDJ Glioblastoma Research Fund."**



## JOINING THE CBTN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

We joined the **Children's Brain Tumor Network Executive Council** and have committed **\$50,000** towards their mission. We will be providing insight and guidance on CBTN annual goals, as well as financial and advocacy/communications planning. The Children's Brain Tumor Network is dedicated to driving innovative discovery, pioneering new treatments and accelerating open science to improve health for all children and young adults diagnosed with a brain tumor. By accelerating the pace of translational research and the discovery of new treatments, we are a global community with the shared goal to save children and young adults from brain tumors.

[Learn more](#) about the Children's Brain Tumor Network and [read our feature](#) on their website.



## MIRACLE MUSTACHES RECAP

Year 3 was a major success, and we are so grateful. Thanks to **16 brave men** sacrificing their upper lip and crushing the fundraising, we raised **over \$16,000** (more this year than the last two years combined). Everything raised will be go towards our \$25,000 CBTN commitment this year and help fund pediatric brain cancer research. We also increased our care package delivery to **80 packs** and extended it from **CHOP** to

**Cohen Children's Northwell Health**. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you to all who donated and supported this effort. You have given generously to help children battling and made an impact in their fight. Special thanks to **Gerald Castaldo**, **Michael Long** and **Corey Cohen** for being our highest fundraisers. As well as **Chef Carreno** in Clifton for cooking and selling empanadas to benefit this campaign.

Check out his IG [@food\\_fuzion\\_kitchen](#) for some awesome local food.



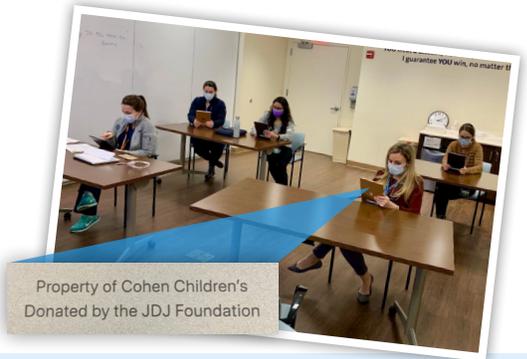
[SEE HOW WE DID](#)

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## IPADS

The **15 IPADS** we donated to **Cohen Children's Northwell Health** are being used frequently by their pediatric residency program. Just one small example of how JDJ continues to make an impact and help in different ways.



Property of Cohen Children's  
Donated by the JDJ Foundation

## "4 LEAF COVERS" FUNDRAISER

When **Supermutt** came to us last month and said they wanted to run a month-long virtual fundraiser for us, we weren't sure what to expect. After countless shout-outs, highlights, band covers, new music and **over \$7,000** raised for our Foundation, we were absolutely blown away. They did an incredible job, and we can't thank them enough for their kindness and generosity. Special thanks to all the bands that submitted covers to raise money for our pediatric wheelchair program. If you haven't checked out their [band page](#) or their latest single, "[Show them Fangs.](#)" you're missing out.



## CHARITABLE SPOTLIGHT



This quarter, the spotlight shines on [@NoteworthyNutley](#) which is focused on raising awareness about great events and activities going on in Nutley, NJ. Shout-out to this awesome team for spreading the good vibes and highlighting our mustache campaign earlier this month.

Join their **Relay for Life** team to help raise money for the **American Cancer Society** to help save lives. **May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 8-10PM Memorial Park** (Intersection of Passaic Ave & Vreeland Ave, Nutley, NJ)

[SIGN UP](#)

Noteworthy Nutley was created to positively influence our community through service and promoting all of the amazing things that are happening all around us.

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## IN THE NEWS

### NEW IMMUNOTHERAPY TARGET DISCOVERED FOR MALIGNANT BRAIN TUMORS

Scientists say they have discovered a potential new target for immunotherapy of malignant brain tumors, which so far have resisted the ground-breaking cancer treatment based on harnessing the body's immune system. The discovery, reported in the journal CELL, emerged from laboratory experiments and has no immediate implications for treating patients.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)

## CANCER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Many of you already know, we operate our own scholarship program, the **JDJ Charitable Foundation Scholarship**, to help lower the cost of college for students. In the past, this has been a \$2,500 scholarship for high school students looking to continue their education at a four-year university in the tri-state area. Since the start of 2018, we have awarded 18 JDJ scholarships.

**New in 2021, we are shifting focus to dedicate our scholarship program to assisting students who have been affected by cancer.** In order to qualify, either a direct family member or the student themselves must have some experience with cancer. We will be increasing the scholarship size to **\$20,000**, with a second-place scholarship of **\$5,000** and a third-place scholarship of **\$1,000**. The application process will be the same and can be found on our [website](#).

If you are a student who values giving back and volunteering your time to make your community better, we would love to ease some of the financial burden that continuing education often requires. If you meet the requirements, please submit a 1-page essay on how cancer has impacted you, your high school transcript, a letter of recommendation and the college you are attending to [applications@jdjfoundation.org](mailto:applications@jdjfoundation.org) by **May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**.

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Attends a NJ/NY Public or Private HS
2. Graduating high school senior
3. Must have a 3.7 GPA or above.
4. Plans to attend/has been accepted or has enrolled in a 4 year university for the fall
5. Scored at least a 1200 on your SATs
6. One page essay on how cancer has affected you and how this scholarship will make a difference in your life
7. Has completed 120 hours of community service

[LEARN MORE](#)



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## CALLING ALL PELOTON OWNERS

If you are like us, you love cycling and sweating it out together for a good cause. On **Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>**, we are asking you to join us for a **Peloton takeover**.

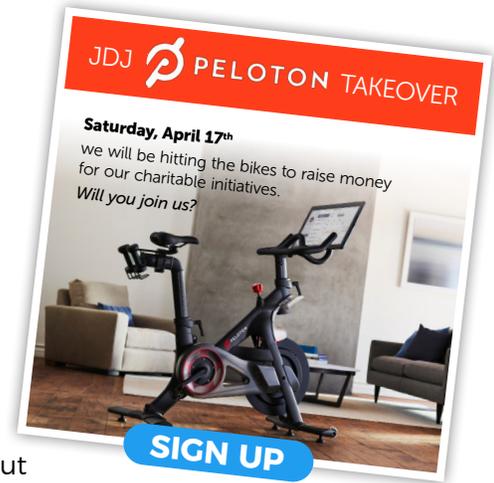
### HOW DOES IT WORK?

Please add **#jdjfoundation** as your bike hashtag so that we will know you are participating. The plan is to hop on our Pelotons, join an old 45min on demand ride and select "who is here now".

There will be two ride opportunities in case you share a bike with someone or want to impress your friends by doing both.

Prizes will be given out to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd finishers for highest output but don't feel like you have to be competitive to participate. All levels of riders are welcome.

Let's see if **Team JDJ** can reach a total output of 5,000 as a group. If that is achieved, our President, James Blauvelt, will personally donate **50 meals** to cancer families staying at the **Ronald McDonald House** on the Upper East Side.



## CYCLE FOR SURVIVAL



We are excited to start the fundraising for year 5 of **Cycle for Survival**. There are two opportunities to ride this year. The first is in-person via a socially distant ride on **May 2<sup>nd</sup>** at **MetLife Stadium**. If you are interested in riding with us for this event, Cycle asks that you commit to raising at least **\$1,000** for rare cancer research. If this doesn't sound like that right fit, there is also the opportunity to register for the virtual experience on **May 15<sup>th</sup>**. There is no fundraising commitment for this option and the workout will be on the Equinox app.

[SIGN UP](#)

## JDJ MERCH STORE LAUNCH

We are excited to announce that we have launched an e-commerce site with some of our latest JDJ gear for sale. All the proceeds raised from this store go to benefit our charitable initiatives.

Now you can rep your favorite charity while also supporting our mission of helping the sick and underprivileged.

[SHOP](#)

