# TEAM IMPACT & CHILDHOOD

CANCER

Each year, thousands of children and families face the life-changing diagnosis of childhood cancer. There is much work that needs to be done to advance both the medical and social and emotional care provided during and after treatment. **Our work at Team IMPACT is an extension of care** outside the hospital walls for the children and families navigating this disease.

## cancer in children



About **9,910** kids in the United States who are **under 15 years old** will receive a cancer diagnosis in 2023. (American Cancer Society, 2023).

Childhood, adolescent, and young adult cancer survivors are 57% more likely to **develop depression** and 29% more likely to **develop anxiety** in the years following treatment than their healthy peers. (Lee, et al., 2023).





Adolescents diagnosed with cancer **between the ages of 12** and 18 face the highest risk of suffering from severe depression as adults. (Lee, et al., 2023).

# the impacts of cancer

**Loneliness**, the emotional experience associated with isolation, is comprised of two parts:

#### Social Loneliness

lack of social contacts

#### **Emotional Loneliness**

lack of deep, meaningful connections





**Social isolation** due to prolonged hospitalizations in chronically ill children has been shown to impact the emotional well-being of the child. This can lead to a range of physical and psychosocial symptoms. (Madan-Swain A, 2004).

Increasing the **quality** and **quantity** of social connections is critical to support children who are lonely. (Ervin, 2022).

Survivors of childhood cancer are less active than their healthy peers. For childhood cancer survivors, **higher levels of physical activity** are associated with better health-related quality of life around physical, social, and cognitive functioning. (Gilliam, 2013).

## Team IMPACT ¿ pediatric cancer

315

945

1,147

Active matches with cancer or a related blood disorder Family members of actively matched kids with cancer or a related blood disorder

All-time matches with cancer or a related blood disorder

**Involvement with Team IMPACT** is related to improvement in emotional resilience, cooperation with care, self-advocacy skills, and physical activity. **These results can have a significant impact on the overall quality of life for a child with a rare disease.** (Team IMPACT Program Evaluation, 2023).

### the power of team

**Team IMPACT harnesses the camaraderie of team to support children with cancer and other rare diseases.** Participants have immediate access to a large number of teammates, and over time, are able to build deep and meaningful bonds, often sharing that they've gained a second family through their Team IMPACT experience. (Team IMPACT Program Evaluation, 2023).



of Team IMPACT
parents reported seeing
improved cooperation
with medical care from
their child



of Team IMPACT parents reported seeing **improved self-advocacy skills** from their child



of Team IMPACT parents reported seeing **increased levels of physical activity** with from their child















Team IMPACT changes the game for kids with cancer.