

CHILDHOOD, ADOLESCENT AND YOUNG ADULT CANCER RESEARCH WINS BIG WITH 10 AWARDS TOTALING \$10.8M IN FUNDING

March 11, 2021 (WASHINGTON, D.C.) – Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research is celebrating \$10.8M in funding granted by the Department of Defense's Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program. This amount includes 10 awards ranging from \$1.6M–\$616K and marks the largest budget and award count to date for research involving cancers that affect children, adolescents and young adults (AYAs). All awards are subject to final negotiations.

The awards include Eleanor Chen, University of Washington; Dalnim Cho, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center; Berkley Gryder, Case Western Reserve University; Masanori Hayashi, University of Colorado at Denver; Amy Hont, Children's Research Institute; Michael Koldobskiy, Johns Hopkins University; Steven Robinson, Mayo Clinic and Foundation, Rochester; Deanna Teoh, University of Minnesota Twin Cities; Lindsay Williams, University of Minnesota Twin Cities and Mei Zhang, Case Western Reserve University. Previously, cancers in children, adolescents and young adults received \$8.3 million for 11 awards in 2019, \$6.5 million for 11 awards in 2018 and \$3.1 million for seven awards in 2017.

"We are thrilled that, once again, our advocating efforts have paid off," said Dean Crowe, Founder and CEO of Rally Foundation. "This is an incredible triumph for every child, teenager and young adult fighting cancer, and we are incredibly thankful for each and every Rally Kid, their families, our staff, our Rally Researchers and our communities for their relentless efforts in the fight against childhood cancer. We can't wait to see the research opportunities and treatment advancements that this funding brings."

Each year, approximately 70,000 AYAs and 15,000 children are diagnosed with cancer. Yet the National Institutes of Health reports that cancers affecting this particular age group are significantly under-researched, leading to poor outcomes. What's more, 86% of the U.S. active military and their families fall into this group, meaning they are subject to the #1 disease-killer of this population: cancer.

These 10 awards mean that the U.S. military and their families, along with children around the world, can benefit from new and better treatments with fewer long-term side effects, and ultimately cures, for childhood cancer through the funding of cutting-edge research.

"My husband proudly served in the military for 12 years, and to know the DoD stands behind us speaks volumes as we wage our own war on childhood cancer," said Rally Family Member

Brigitte Lamon whose 10-year-old daughter fought cancer for two and a half years. "We can't say thank you enough."

"I want to thank the DoD for hearing our voices and furthering our efforts to raise funds and awareness for childhood cancer research," said Rally Family Member Lindsey Held whose husband is in active duty and child battled childhood cancer. "These awards will fund research that will hopefully allow millions of children like mine to continue to thrive through and after treatment."

ABOUT THE PEER REVIEWED CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM

The Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) has been charged by U.S. Congress to fund innovative basic, applied and translational cancer research to support Service members, their families and the American public. Members of the military are exposed to hazardous environments due to the nature of their service and deployments and, thus, are at risk for the development of many types of cancers. The mission of the PRCRP is to successfully promote high-impact research for cancer prevention, detection, treatment and survivorship.

ABOUT RALLY FOUNDATION FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER RESEARCH

Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research (Rally) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that empowers volunteers across the country to raise awareness and funds to find better treatments with fewer long-term side effects and, ultimately, cures.

Rally has awarded \$20 million in childhood cancer research grants, supporting 364 projects, and has also successfully advocated for \$27 million in new federal funding for 39 research projects through the US Department of Defense's Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program.

Rally has received the Independent Charities Seal of Excellence, and the highest ratings from Charity Navigator and GuideStar. According to independently audited financials, 93 cents of every dollar raised supports Rally's mission. To learn more about our mission, visit www.rallyfoundation.org and follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).