



CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH SEPTEMBER 2026 | QUICK FACTS

- The American Childhood Cancer Organization estimates about 1 in 264 children are diagnosed with cancer before their 20th birthday. The average age at diagnosis is 8.
- A total 718 children ages 0-19 in Nevada were diagnosed with cancer between 2018 and 2022. That equals about 144 kids each year.
- Blood and bone marrow cancers – such as leukemias – are the most commonly diagnosed childhood cancers in Nevada, followed by lymphatic and brain and spinal cord cancers.
- About 20% of children diagnosed with cancer will not survive it. It is the leading cause of death by disease for children in the U.S.
- Most – about 95% of survivors of childhood cancer – will experience a significant side effect by the time they are 45 years old.
 - Children who have had chemo are 15% more likely to suffer congestive heart failure later in life.
 - Additional physical problems including secondary cancers; lung, dental, vision, hearing, and digestive problems; challenges with memory and learning; growth and development problems; and reproductive and sexual health and fertility.
 - Emotional effects including anxiety and depression are common.
- About 20% of Nevada children travel out of state for some or all of their cancer treatment, averaging more than 750 miles per round trip. Dozens of families travel hundreds of thousands of miles each year to get this care from at least 15 different facilities in California, Utah, Arizona, Texas, Pennsylvania and New York, to name a few.
- Nevada has a severe shortage of pediatric physicians, and nearly half the national rate of pediatric sub-specialists (such as oncologists, cardiologists, etc.) as the national average.
- Childhood cancer affects an entire family, with emotions such as anger and guilt impacting self-esteem, social interaction and overall functioning. Financial strain is also common.

LOCAL RESOURCES

- Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation - <https://www.nvchildrenscancer.org/>
- Cure 4 The Kids Foundation - <https://cure4thekids.org/>
- Nevada Childhood Cancer Foundation - <https://nvccf.org/>
- Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation of Nevada - <https://www.candlelightersnv.org/>
- Zo's Bravehearts Foundation - <https://www.zbfnv.org/>
- Max Vincze Foundation - <https://maxvfound.org/>
- American Childhood Cancer Organization - <https://www.acco.org/>