



# 2024 IMPACT REPORT



THE  
**Ahmad Butler**  
FOUNDATION

*"In order for humanity to continue to exist,  
we must care for one another."—ABF*



We support families battling pediatric cancer and other life-threatening diseases while aiding in the improvement of their quality of life.

At the Ahmad Butler Foundation, we understand the profound challenges faced by families dealing with childhood cancer and other serious illnesses. Our heartfelt dream is to build a world where children's laughter remains bright and unhindered. We envision a world where every parent can cherish joyful moments, unburdened by the fear of pediatric cancer and other serious childhood diseases. We aspire to change the heavy shadows of sadness cast by these illnesses into light, love, and resilience through the power of a cure.



OUR  
IMPACT  
IN 2024



700+ children uplifted via Virtual Road Trip

3000+ students supported through Digital Learning

250 care packages delivered

500+ sporting event experiences gifted

25 letters to Santa fulfilled

120+ participants in Fight With Lights (USA, Canada, UK, Australia)

1500+ joined the virtual 1 Million Families March (including from Rwanda)

200+ hospitals engaged

500+ celebrated Pooday

Hundreds of volunteer hours served

Dozens of new partnerships

Dear Friends,

There are moments in life that change you forever. For me, that moment came in the front seat of a car while I was racing my grandson, Ahmad “Captain Poodaman” Butler, to the hospital for help. By this time, he was paralyzed from the waist down, and blood was slowly dripping from his nose. I did not believe he would survive the car ride.

But at that moment, when I was filled with fear and helplessness, Ahmad, as always, was filled with courage and love, and in his fighting spirit, he looked up at me and said, “Grandmom, when I become a grownup, I’m going to be a Police Officer. Do you think I’ll be a good police officer, Grandmom? Do you think I will help a lot of people?”

My heart smiled and shattered at the same time. I knew my “Poodadoo” would forever be a six-year-old. But I looked at him, holding back tears, and said, “Yes, baby, you will be a great Police Officer.”

The Ahmad Butler Foundation was born that day, born from a silent promise I made to my dying grandson, which has become the heartbeat of this Foundation.

In 2024, the heartbeat echoed in powerful ways. One being Philadelphia Police Commissioner Kevin J. Bethel, deeming Ahmad “Captain Poodaman” Butler an honorary Police Officer for the Philadelphia Police Department, along with 25 other Superhero Kids.

Our mission lives on, fueled by Ahmad’s spirit, driven by the fierce love of the families we serve, support from the community, and local and national businesses, and our belief that every child deserves joy, respect, and a fighting chance. In 2024, thanks to your support, we have positively impacted the lives of over 5,000 people.

I am FOREVER grateful to everyone who lifted me onto their shoulders when I was unable to stand on my own. FOREVER grateful to those who wiped my tears with words of encouragement and pushed me forward with their belief in me. FOREVER grateful for all of your support during our most challenging times and for helping to build something beautiful out of unimaginable pain. Together, we have turned loss into legacy, and it is my honor and privilege to serve as the Executive Director of Forever Captain Poodaman, The Ahmad Butler Foundation. I can never thank you enough for your support.

With Humility and Gratitude,

Latanya Morrison

Grandmother of a Superhero  
and Founder & Executive Director of ABF



“To every heart that guided me through the storm, lifted me when I had no strength to stand, and helped me transform heartbreak into hope, I say, “Thank you.” You are the reason my purpose rose from pain. You are the reason I can still stand, still serve, and still move onward.”

–LATANYA

# OUR PROGRAMS



## 1MFM

The 1Million Families March for the Cure of Childhood Cancer, our annual event held during Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. ABF hosts a string of events to support families diagnosed with pediatric cancer, advocate for increased funding, raise awareness of the impacts, and fundraise for our programs.

### Fight With Lights

A global landmark illumination program created to heighten awareness of the impacts of pediatric cancer while being a show of support for families amid their battles.

## The Digital Learning Program (DLP)

Created to ensure that children can continue to receive a quality education while hospitalized. Through our **Love of Learning Program (LLP)**, we donate devices to underprivileged children we serve, enabling them to participate in their school's curriculum during at-home recovery.

## Compassionate Care Division (CC)

ABF's Chaplaincy Division is committed to serving families with integrity, kindness, and enthusiasm. With respect to diverse beliefs and values, our Chaplains aim to provide service to families we serve in need.

### Parent Power Pack

are designed to provide essential support to parents and caregivers of newly diagnosed children.

## Family Support Division

Created to connect with other nonprofits to provide added resources to our families.

**Gift Cards** provide a little financial aid to families in need by providing gift cards to various establishments.

### Captain Poodaman

**Care Packages** were created to bring joy to hospitalized children by letting them know someone cares.

### Ready Meals and Food Insecurity Program

provides nutrition for parents or caregivers while staying in the hospital with their child, and partnered with Philabundance to ensure families in need have food at home.

### Superhero Overnight Bag

provides duffle bags filled with everything kids need so parents can grab and go in the event of an emergency overnight hospital admittance.

## Pooday

### National Ahmad Captain Poodaman Butler (Pooday)

A national day to honor, encourage, and celebrate the Superhero Kids we serve, while remembering those we've lost.

## Letters to Santa

Created to bring joy to children who celebrate Christmas.

## Wonderful Distractions

Through our Wonderful Distractions program, we partner with professional sports teams and family-friendly venues to provide families we serve with complimentary tickets to unforgettable experiences. These moments offer more than just a break. They bring joy, connection, and a sense of normalcy during unimaginable times. Most importantly, they allow families to create priceless memories they will cherish in their hearts forever.



# JAXEN RAX DONNELLY

In one of the most powerful moments of the year, we delivered a Superhero Overnight Bag to Superhero Kid Jaxen to bring him a bit of joy during an emergency hospital admittance, which meant that he would not be able to be honored as an Honorary Police Officer by Commissioner Bethel during the 1MFM. Though battling terminal brain cancer, Jaxen's smile and laughter brighten everyone's day. He enjoys life to the fullest despite his battle. When he opened the duffle bag and saw all of the toys and treats, he became filled with joy. We also took enough pizza for the entire pediatric oncology unit that day, wrapping the entire floor in comfort and care.

**“You gave Jaxen something to look forward to that day, and he opened and played with every toy. It meant more than we can ever say. We are so grateful for the Ahmad Butler Foundation. They make us feel like we are not alone, like part of the ABF family. Thank you so much.”**

**Jaxen's Nonna**



# What Our Community is Saying



**St. Christopher's  
Hospital for Children**  
A PARTNERSHIP OF TOWER HEALTH  
AND DREXEL UNIVERSITY

“ABF is now partnering with us in supporting our patients as they return to school this fall. The ABF Digital Learning Program will provide the technology our patients need to succeed this upcoming school year as they navigate challenges associated with COVID-19. We are committed to helping implement the ABF Remote Learning Program within our department and are hopeful it will greatly benefit the 70 patients we are currently treating.”

**Robin Capecci**

*MSW, LSW, Oncology Social Worker  
St. Christopher's Hospital for Children*



**Children's Hospital  
of Philadelphia**

“Since their founding, ABF has offered our families numerous opportunities for fun through tickets to Phillies and Union games. Their donation of two education carts and Chromebooks will allow our patients to stay connected to their classrooms while in the hospital. On behalf of these families, we extend our gratitude.”

**Jess Nambudiri**

*LSW, Patient Resource Navigator  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia*



**NEMOURS  
CHILDREN'S HEALTH**

“Nemours Children's Health ABF invests year after year, advocating for an increase in funding for the most promising childhood cancer research, working to ensure children have the best chance to survive their cancer without sacrificing their future health and quality of life. So thankful for Latanya and the ABF tribe, as it truly takes a village to conquer childhood cancer.”

**Sara Narimanian**

*Nemours Children Health  
Child Life Program Coordinator*



**Ronald  
McDonald  
House**  
Philadelphia

“We understand all too well that childhood cancer and serious diagnoses do not stop as the world faces a pandemic. Because of this, the families we serve need our support now more than ever before. RMHC Philly is honored to partner with ABF to provide families with technology to aid in their children's education as well as to easily connect with their loved ones back home.”

**Laura Van Tassel**

*Annual Giving Manager*

**Linda Pusatere**

*Administrative Office Manager*

“Like a horse in a race, the Forever Captain Poodaman: The Ahmad Butler Foundation is coming out of the gates fast and making strides. They are the best teammate a family can have when they need the support to keep going. I am Delco Spider-Man and I've been fortunate to work with the foundation on a few occasions. We both have the goal for supporting the families and children who are going through tough times. A child just wants to be a child, so we show them the love they need. Childhood cancer only gets minimal attention from the higher-ups, so a foundation such as the Ahmad Butler Foundation is needed. I'll fly with Captain Poodaman anytime.”

**Delco Spiderman**

*Super Supporter*



“Wow!! We loved Pooday. My son felt like a superstar. This was our first event, and we felt very welcome. Everyone was so friendly and kind. We will definitely join you again. What a wonderful day. Thank you for your generosity and welcoming demeanor.”

**Jen Justice**

*Superparent of a Supehero*

“Working as a volunteer with the Ahmad Butler Foundation was incredibly rewarding. I felt a strong sense of purpose helping the children battling cancer and other life-threatening illnesses and their families during such difficult times. While sometimes emotionally challenging, seeing the videos of the children fighting to stay alive and the families trying to stay strong for their loved ones, I appreciate the opportunity to be a part of this organization that made it all worthwhile. The primary benefit to me was the ability to directly contribute to a cause I cared about and to make a positive difference in other people's lives.”

**Darlene Epps**

*Super Squad / ABF Volunteer*

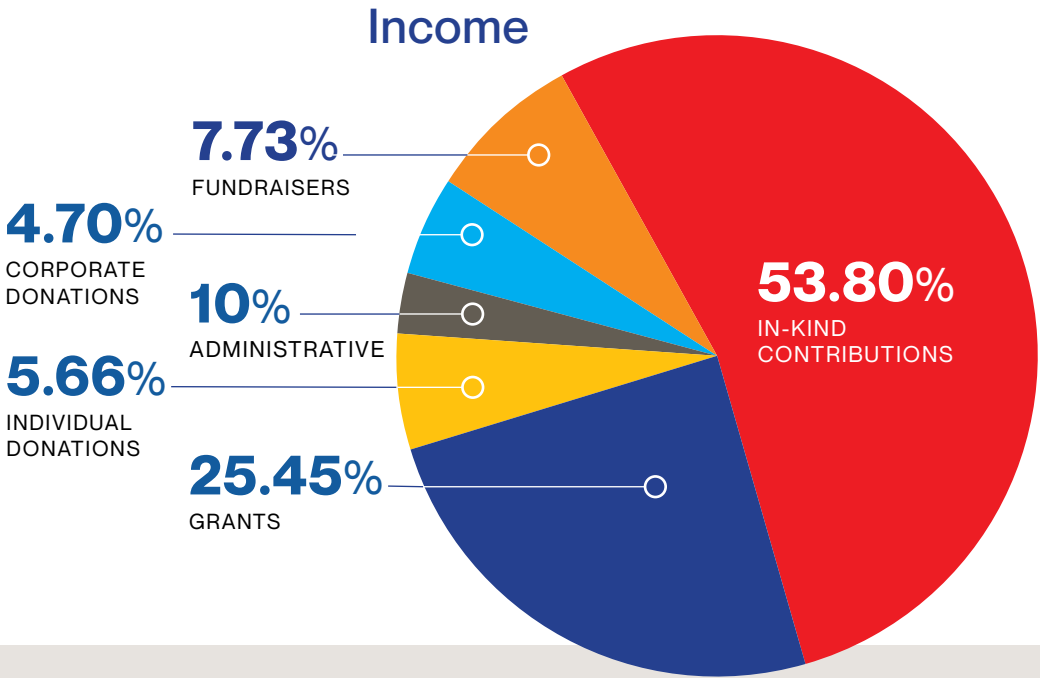
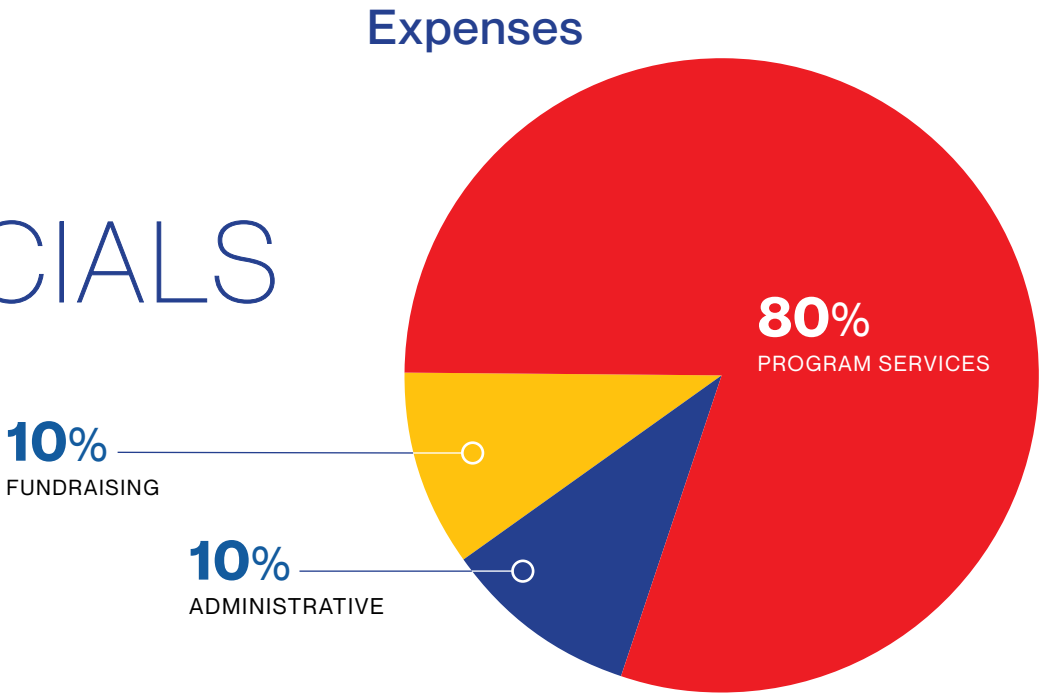
“From the first week that Ahmad got sick, I have been a prayer warrior for him. When he passed and ABF was formed, I have been doing everything I can to support this foundation. They work tirelessly to improve the lives of children with life-threatening illness and their families. Most recently, the thing you never expect fell into the lap of my family when a five-year-old member was diagnosed with a very rare and lethal form of brain cancer. Even though we live in Vermont, Forever Captain Poodaman ABF stepped up to the plate and has been helping us through this nightmarish journey. The love they share is wonderful and comforting!”

**Jeanne Ayer**

*Super Advocate*



# 2024 FINANCIALS



## Awards & Recognition

Proclamations from PA, DE, Philadelphia, Cambridge  
Town of Pelham, Ontario: Fight With Lights Flag Raising  
President’s Volunteer Service Awards (7 recipients)  
ABF Shining Star & Humanitarian Awards

## Message from the Board of Directors

We understand how devastating it is to have a child diagnosed with cancer or other life-threatening diseases. We recognize the severe impact this diagnosis has on the entire family, leaving feelings of hopelessness and helplessness in its wake. Our mission is to stand alongside these brave children and their families. We are dedicated to supporting the leaders of these families by providing guidance, assistance, and the tools they need to endure these challenging times. To the families we serve, it is our PROMISE that you will never sit alone, you will never stand alone, and, most of all, you will never fight alone! We are steadfast in standing by your side and fighting with you!

In solidarity, hope, and promise,

### The Ahmad Butler Foundation Board of Directors

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Keith Morrison</b><br>President      | <b>Anna Thomas</b><br>Board Member           |
| <b>Michael Tenney</b><br>Vice President | <b>Charlotte Nicely</b><br>Board Member      |
| <b>Tabatha Lupinetti</b><br>Secretary   | <b>Felicia Anderson</b><br>Board Member      |
| <b>Regina Banks</b><br>Treasurer        | <b>Abhishek Terala</b><br>Youth Board Member |

## STAFF & BOARD





THE  
**Ahmad Butler**  
FOUNDATION

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[ahmadbutler.foundation](http://ahmadbutler.foundation)

866-223-5485



## Your Support Makes Our Important Work Possible.

Every donation – small or large – makes an impact in our efforts to support families dealing with childhood cancer and other serious illnesses.

**VISIT:** [ahmadbutler.foundation/donate/](http://ahmadbutler.foundation/donate/)

## Get Involved Today.

**VISIT:** <https://ahmadbutler.foundation/get-involved/>