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The B Brave Foundation exists to enhance the quality of life for children and adolescents affected by rare fatal neurological disorders by supporting their families, empowering their caregivers, and pursuing a cure.

## Thank You

... to our wonderful family of donors and volunteers who loved and supported families in need last year. We are incredibly grateful for your donations of all kinds, in every amount. Our heart is to help children and families affected by progressive neurological disorders to weather the storm of grief, confusion and fear and to empower their caregivers with the necessary tools to provide empathetic, informed and courageous care.

Here's a snapshot of how we were able to help BRAVE families and caregivers last year:

- Provided Cleveland Clinic Children's Pediatric Palliative Care Team with a Holiday Comfort Cart loaded with toys, books, swaddling blankets, board games etc., for patients, siblings and parents. Also on the cart were numerous gift cards with encouraging notes for the many BRAVE caregivers that go above and beyond for these families
- Covered moving expenses for a family whose child has a rare seizure disorder
- Covered the cost of transportation to and from the hospital so a family could travel to visit with their sick child
- Purchased a new phone for a mom of a terminally ill child
- Covered meals and groceries for a number of BRAVE families
- Provided scholarship for grieving mom to attend Restoring a Mother's Heart Retreat
- Sponsored youth retreat for healthy siblings at the Annual National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases Association's Family Conference
- Provided several thousand dollars' worth of gift cards to numerous families through the B Brave Summer Support Program
- Educated residents and caregivers on the importance of BRAVE and difficult conversations

Thank you for believing in us and our mission. As a donor, you have made our mission possible and there are some new very exciting projects on the horizon as we move forward.

Each individual touched by B Brave Foundation has a unique perspective on the personal assistance that our organization offers to families across the Northeast Ohio and beyond. Below are personal accounts of how B Brave has affected members of our community.

## Holiday Comfort Cart



"Joey and B Brave helped me spread so much joy through the hospital today. It's not something our team often gets to do, so it was a true blessing to bring smiles to several families, many of whom have been sitting vigil in an ICU for weeks or more. A toy for a small girl who has yet to be home since birth may not seem like a big gesture, but it meant a lot to her family. Joey's beautiful legacy continues through the important work of the B Brave Foundation, and I'm so grateful to be able to be a part of it."

— Ashley Ison, Nurse Practitioner

Pediatric Palliative Care at  
Cleveland Clinic Children's

## Restoring a Mother's Heart Retreat



"When I arrived at the Restoring a Mother's Heart Retreat I had lost my son a few months prior. So many women had tagged me in this retreat for women that had lost their children as well...I was so unsure and afraid. That weekend those grieving, courageous women helped me change my direction and the way I was grieving. And, I learned new ways to continue my relationship with my son. Restoring a Mother's Heart gave me perception and helped me also see the beauty in all my heartache. Thank you for sponsoring me."

— Mindi Zollar, Nikko's mother

## Second Annual B Brave Fundraiser

Save the date and make plans to join us on March 23rd for our second annual B Brave Fundraiser! Keep an eye out on social media and our website for more information. Ticket sales go live on February 7, 2019!



# SAVE THE DATE!

## SECOND ANNUAL B BRAVE FUNDRAISER

saturday, march 23

HARNESS CYCLE DOWNTOWN  
1965 E 6th St, Cleveland, OH 44114

5PM RIDE

6-8PM HAPPY HOUR

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS TO COME

[WWW.BBRAVEFOUNDATION.ORG](http://WWW.BBRAVEFOUNDATION.ORG)

## How To Give:

- [Donate securely here.](#) Your valued support keeps B Brave's mission alive and allows us to continue in our efforts of supporting, empowering, and finding a cure. Donations can be made in honor of a loved one & are tax-deductible.
- [Purchase 'Josiah's Song'](#), lovingly written and recorded by Joey's grandfather, Jim Scaparotti. All proceeds go to B Brave.
- Give back to B Brave when you shop for anything on Amazon! Click the link below to use our Amazon Smile site, and bookmark <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/82-2057232> to support B Brave with all future Amazon purchases.
- Donate items for our Comfort Cart (please see list of items below):

Gift cards (restaurants, grocery stores, gas stations, Target, Starbucks, VISA, etc.)  
Comfy Socks  
Board games  
Children's books  
Universal chargers  
Coloring books and crayons  
Journals

To coordinate drop off, please email Sara at [sarascaparotti@bbravefoundation.org](mailto:sarascaparotti@bbravefoundation.org)

## Who Is B Brave?

Josiah (Joey) Scaparotti, his story and his life are the inspiration for all of B Brave's efforts. At 15 months of age, Joey was diagnosed with GM-1 (infantile gangliosidosis), a fatal neurological disorder that causes progressive destruction of the central nervous system. Affected children, even with the best of care, die early in childhood, as there currently is no treatment or cure. Though he never spoke a word, he left behind a lasting legacy of bravery and love that continues today.

### B Brave Background

During Joey's brief life a large community of people in Cleveland and beyond came together to rally behind this precious life and his family. Near and far, friends and strangers alike were moved to serve the Scaparotti family and to offer support and encouragement. In the midst of heartache and exhaustion the Scaparotti's were sustained through their Faith and the encouragement they received from the community of people who rallied on their behalf.

Upon Joey's death the Scaparotti's were inspired to pass it on, to help other families find peace and reassurance in the midst of a desperate and daunting journey. With the support from dear friends Scott and Susie Brown, the Scaparotti's founded B Brave Foundation. Sam and Sara Scaparotti and an Executive Board manage the direction of the Foundation and its day-to-day operations. The mission of the Foundation is to enhance the quality of life for children and adolescents affected by rare fatal neurological disorders by supporting their families, empowering their caregivers, and pursuing a cure.

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#### Growing Solutions

An objective of the B Brave Foundation is to grow solutions larger than the needs presented to us. As you can imagine, this is a lofty goal that cannot even be imagined without your support.

Be sure to visit [www.bbravefoundation.org](http://www.bbravefoundation.org) for more information, mission, opportunities, and how to donate and to stay up-to-date on events and activities.

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#### Questions?

For general inquiries or to be added to our mailing list please email us at [info@bbravefoundation.org](mailto:info@bbravefoundation.org).

We welcome your involvement!

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