

2018

THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!



**PLANNING FOR
THE FUTURE,
PROVIDING FOR
THE NOW**

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Planning for the Future, Providing for the Now

Getting something checked off a list just to get to the next item. The backbones of entire industries built on saving us time. Why are we in such a hurry?

I find myself personally trying to slow down, and to slow time down with me. A lot. (Confession: I'm not good at it.) But I fully believe that when we slow down is when we get the most out of life. The ability to slow down and be present, specifically with an ailing child, is precisely what Me Fine seeks to give to the parents and caregivers of the families that we serve. And in a world of constant pressure to be faster, more efficient, and to milk every last ounce of productivity out of every second, YOU stepped up to the plate and helped us to slow down...and make more meaning out of moments for our families.

2018 was a record year in so many ways...and with changes in the landscape of healthcare and more people moving to our area every day, I've no doubts that we'll be called upon to do more next year. But even as we continue to march forward and strengthen our community one family at a time, we're not going to be in any hurry.

*Joey Powell
Executive Director, Me Fine Foundation*



The Me Fine Foundation Believes:

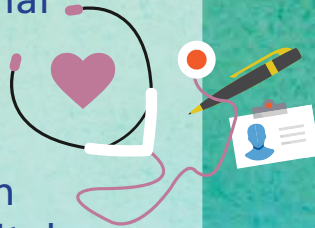
Children and families come first.



Family dignity must be preserved and their stories must be honored.



OUR MISSION: to provide hope through emotional support and financial assistance to families whose children are receiving care at North Carolina partner hospitals.



Inclusivity is paramount in delivering our mission.



OUR VISION: to build and sustain partnerships to eliminate barriers so families can focus on their children.





Your Impact in 2018

Family Financial Assistance Program



Since 2004
1,900+ FAMILIES
benefited from financial support

From January 1 through December 31, Me Fine Foundation **provided financial assistance to 286 unique families**. The greatest need for families was utility bill assistance (25.7%) followed by rent and mortgage expenses (24.8%); vehicle expenses (11.9%); and hospital parking (9.1%). Other requests that Me Fine filled included gift cards for groceries, gas cards, baby needs, medical expenses, funeral costs, and household needs.

Additionally, families at Me Fine's partner hospitals received **\$73,419 worth of in-kind donations**. These included toys, puzzles, games, art supplies, and other pediatric patient-specific items delivered to hospitals throughout the year, in addition to gifts distributed during Christmas in July and Hope for the Holidays.

\$297
average family
request filled



Your Impact in 2018

Emotional and Social Support Programs



UNC Teen Support Group:

Being a teen is hard enough. Having to grow up undergoing treatment for cancer can make these years even harder. Fortunately, **Meghan Fox and her colleagues at UNC Hospital revived a dedicated support group for such patients.** This group offers monthly activities that alternate between community outings and hospital gatherings. From "Cheerwine & Design" to a holiday party, the UNC team finds creative ways for teens to interact and have fun!



Beads of Courage: BeadStrong

Long-time Me Fine supporters may already be familiar with Beads of Courage, the internationally-renowned program that enables pediatric patients to record, tell, and own their stories using colorful beads as meaningful symbols of courage and hope along their treatment journey. **Me Fine sponsors Beads of Courage programs for patients in nine pediatric units across our three partner hospitals.** But how can we celebrate the unique journey that caregivers experience during their child's treatment? Enter the BeadStrong parent program! Me Fine is proud to expand our sponsorship of Beads of Courage to include this arts-in-medicine supplement especially for caregivers to recognize their unique moments of courage and hope.



UNC Teen Night with Evander Holyfield

Your Impact in 2018

Emotional and Social Support Programs

● Sensory Carts



The hospital can be a scary and anxiety-producing place for anyone. The bright fluorescent lights, constant beeping of equipment, and unfamiliar routines can be especially challenging for pediatric patients who have sensory processing issues or require sensory distractions to help manage their emotions in the moment. **Hospital staff came to Me Fine with a request for toys and tools proven to soothe patients with a wide range of sensory differences.** For example, “fidget” items, such as the Busy Fingers Marble Maze, an air-filled “wobble seat”, or Frik Frack Fidgets, offer an outlet for excess energy; Find-It Games and Sight & Sound Tubes help focus an active mind. Noise-reduction headphones, weighted blankets, and weighted stuffed animals provide sensations of safety and security, helping to calm anxiety. Liquid Motion bubblers and LED Light Projectors bring soothing visual fluidity to a sharp, stark, and scary hospital room. All of these tools in the hands of hospital staff can help de-escalate tense treatment situations and ensure the best possible outcomes—medically, emotionally, and psychologically—for the entire family system.



NICU Parent Education Sessions



Visiting your baby in the NICU can be an isolating experience: in the quiet and dim light, it's easy to feel alone, despite other bassinets and fellow parents just steps away. **Me Fine recognizes the value of bringing caregivers together for mutual support and education on topics specific to prematurity.** However, we also know that parents are focused so deeply on their little ones that they often only leave cribside to grab a quick meal. To help create that community of support, Me Fine sponsors weekly or monthly meals as an opportunity for caregivers to talk, share, and learn together. During these sessions, NICU staff provide education on topics such as “Keeping Germs Away” or “Self-care in the NICU” and answer common questions.



Your Impact in 2018

Emotional and Social Support Programs

Christmas In July

Me Fine visited select units at our partner hospitals to bring some excitement and entertainment to inpatient children, siblings, and caregivers during our annual Christmas In July program. **From baby photos with Santa in the NICU to superheroes and carnival games, Me Fine staff, board, and volunteers showed up and showed out for these kids!**



Hope for the Holidays

While countless organizations adopt families over the holiday season, very few keep their referral rosters open past Thanksgiving. Just as Me Fine serves as a safety net for families in crisis through our financial assistance program, our **Hope for the Holidays** program is designed to **support families whose children receive a new diagnosis or are in medical crisis in the weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas.** We call our donors for this program the "Dream Team" because of their dedication to fulfill the holiday wishes of these families on such a tight timeline. Thank you to everyone who made 2018's program a huge success!



How You Raised Awareness

Music for Me Fine 2018

The third time was a charm on April 20th when nearly 250 members of our community turned out at All Saints Chapel for Music for Me Fine 2018. The show featured the stellar musical lineup of talented North Carolinians: Eric Scholz, Skylar Gudasz, and Django Haskins.

Me Fine Foundation board member Ben Steel has led the charge on this annual event from day one, with the hope of connecting his passion for music to a cause he cared deeply about.



Between sponsorships, ticket sales, donations, and the auction...

\$60,000+ was raised for the children and families Me Fine serves!



How You Raised Awareness

Me Fine Gala 2018



Dr. Benny Joyner, Division Chief of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine and the Clinical Director of the Clinical Skills and Patient Simulation Center at the NC Children's Hospital, moved the crowd with his first-hand experiences working with children for the majority of his career. Dr. Jim Helm of WakeMed Health & Hospitals received the 2018 "Hero For Life" Award, which is Me Fine's highest honor. The award recognizes those who go above and beyond to help critically ill kids and families in ways aligning with Me Fine's mission.

More than **375 of our best friends filled the City Club in downtown Raleigh on October 27, raising more than \$220,000 for Me Fine families.** Me Fine's annual Gala generates nearly 30 percent of the organization's revenues. Presented by Centrifuge Media, this year's Mardi Gras themed gala was the 11th year of celebration of Me Fine's work.



Other major sponsors included Carolina Wealth Partners, Thompson GMC-Buick, Blue Water Spa and Sunbelt Rentals.

The 2019 Gala will be held on October 26th at the Cotton Room in Durham.

“This year's event was a powerful testament to our community's shared values,” said Colleen McGowan, Gala chair and board member. “People recognize the difference that their dollar can make. We're grateful to all of our sponsors and attendees, as well as all those who invested in the event from afar.”

How You Gave in 2018

Major Donor:

Adam Dickinson & Susan Novak



Me Fine's work to support families whose children are being treated for critical and terminal illnesses has resonated with us since we were first introduced to the charity at the 2016 Gala. We spent a life-changing two weeks in the NICU after our first child was born 10 years ago, the stress of that time changed us forever, but we were grateful that we could afford to be with our baby around the clock. While in the NICU, we did notice a couple of babies who didn't have visitors. Nurses explained that it was sometimes because the family couldn't afford to take the time off work and or travel to the hospital each day to be with their child. No family should ever have to choose between spending time with their sick child and keeping their lights on or paying their mortgage. That's why we support Me Fine.

— Susan Novak

Me Fine Sustainer: Megan & Mike Thelen

Meghan and Mike Thelen have been committed from the moment they first learned of the Me Fine Foundation. Meghan served on the Foundation's Board of Directors for a number of years, and she remains an involved member of the Foundation's Board of Advisors. In Meghan's words, "The worthiness of Me Fine's mission, the generous and courageous leadership of Me Fine Founder, Lori Lee, as well as the selfless values and hard work of Me Fine's staff, board members, and supporters is moving to me and to Mike." Meghan adds, "By supporting Me Fine, we believe we are making a meaningful contribution to the lives of those families facing unimaginable and very real hardship. Formalizing our ongoing commitment to Me Fine, and to those families, in monthly financial contributions is just another way to advance the mission we hold dear."



How You Gave in 2018

Corporate Sponsor: Oakbridge Financial Group

One of our main pillars is giving back to the community. It was not simply any nonprofit we decided to partner with – it was Me Fine! We didn't take that commitment lightly. We believe the work Me Fine does speaks for itself!

Whether it's emotional support or financial, families with ailing children need our help. It is our responsibility as a society to protect those who cannot protect themselves. When you must pay \$15/day for parking at a hospital or leave work for prolonged periods of time when you're barely making ends meet, the weight of caring for a sick child is unfathomable. If we can support by lifting some of that weight we have to rise to the occasion.

— Daniel Paradise, Co-Founder, Oakbridge Financial Group



In-Kind: Erik & Emily Cole - Carolina Hurricanes Suite



We live in such a tremendous area and community where we have amazing resources and we're fortunate enough to be in a position to donate a suite. The response we get from the families is more than enough: the kids are so thankful just to have a night out with their friends getting to see a Carolina Hurricanes game. You think about your own family and how fortunate you are...this is just something that Emily and I love doing.

— Erik Cole

How Your Support Fits into the Bigger Picture

Financials

Statement of Financial Position (condensed), as of 12/31/18

Current and Other Assets:	\$184,615.81
Fixed Assets:	\$152,197.93
Total Assets:	\$336,813.74

Long Term Liabilities:	\$67,603.63
Equity:	\$241,083.78
Short Term Liabilities:	\$28,126.33
Total Liabilities:	\$336,813.74

Statement of Financial Activity (condensed), as of 12/31/18

Donations and Grants:	\$169,489.77
Event Revenue:	\$324,102.21
Retail:	\$238,820.05
Miscellaneous Income:	\$11,240.26
Total Revenues:	\$743,652.29

Org. Performance	\$662,873.72
Fundraising	\$97,164.10
Total Expenses	\$760,027.82

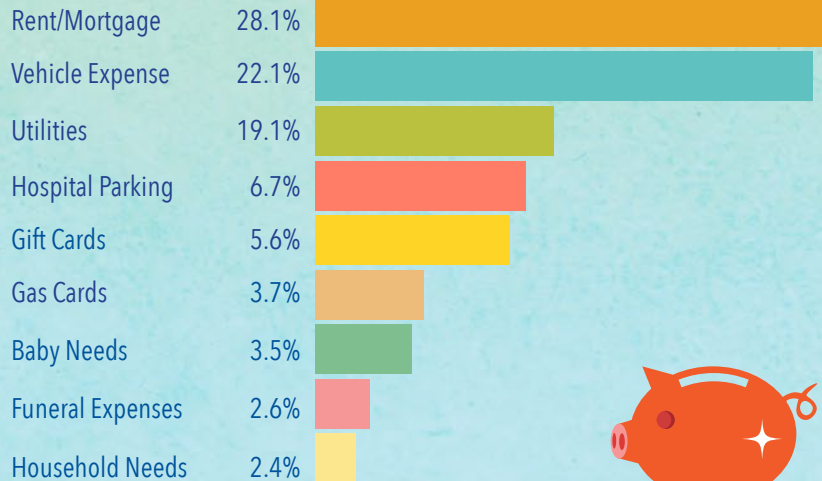
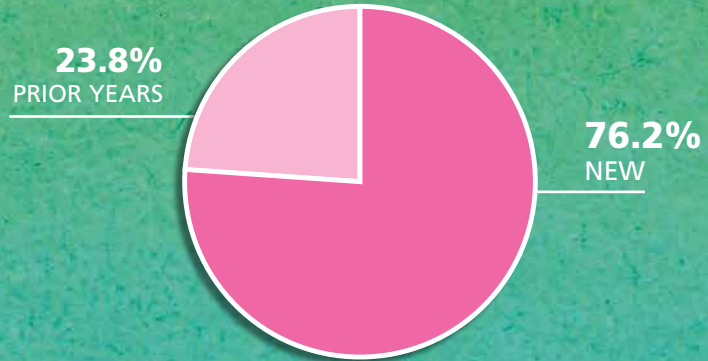
How Your Support Fits into the Bigger Picture

IMPACT by the Numbers

Financial Assistance:



Percentage of
New vs. Prior Families

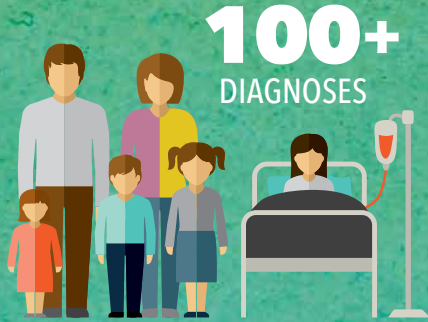


1 NEW
HOSPITAL PARTNER
Expansion to
WakeMed Children's



How Your Support Fits into the Bigger Picture

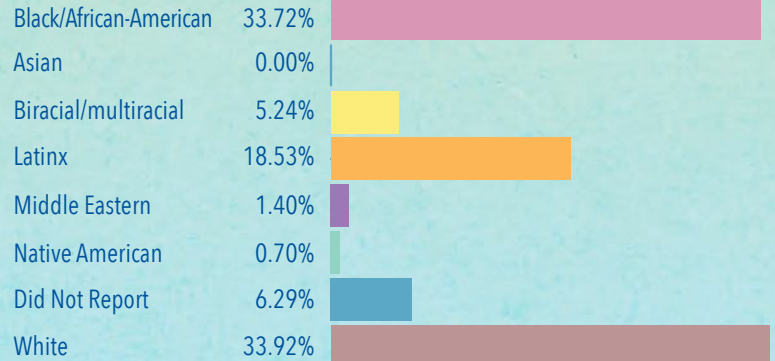
IMPACT by the Numbers



601
DONORS



Average Number of Children Served Annually



Continue to Provide Hope

Volunteer

Me Fine serves hundreds of children and families each year, and we couldn't do it without community team members like you.

Me Fine delivers support to our families as they need it, and our volunteer opportunities reflect that focus.

You can volunteer by collecting gas cards. Throughout the year, we have opportunities for individuals and small groups to join us in packing toys at our storage unit. Me Fine also relies on the generous assistance of volunteers at our two major events, the Me Fine Gala, and Music for Me Fine.

Contact us as these events near for opportunities to support fundraising, logistics, registration, design, and more.



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@ MeFineNC



@ MeFineFoundation



Me Fine Foundation



MeFineFoundation.org

Continue to Provide Hope

Second Hope Shop

5100 US Hwy 70 East, Princeton, NC 27569

Want to make a bigger impact? Coordinate a neighborhood drive by posting on social apps like NextDoor or your neighborhood email listserv. Thrift Drives are a great way to involve your work team, civic or religious group, and other groups of people. The Second Hope Shop team can even come pick up your group's donation!



The Second Hope Shop is always looking for new or gently-used items to resell, specifically large (working) appliances and furniture.



Items that the Second Hope Shop cannot accept:

mattresses; waterbeds; computers; printers; pianos and organs; rolling infant walkers; cribs; car seats; newspapers or magazines; worn or stained furniture; ammunition and firearms; hazardous materials; or items that are broken or in need of repair.

Wish List:

new or gently-used

- Clothing (all sizes and seasons)
- Shoes
- Purses
- Jewelry
- Books
- Kitchenwares
- Appliances, large and small *(must be functional)*
- Household items
- Towels/Linens
- Home decor
- Furniture
- Electronics
- Toys
- Baby items
- Tools
- Automotive accessories



(919) 202-0445



MaryAngel@SecondHopeShop.com



SecondHopeShop.com



@SecondHopeShop

Who We Are

2019 Board of Directors

Webb Bostic, Chair
Colleen McGowan, Chair-Elect
Richard Averitte, Immediate Past Chair
Josh White, Finance Committee Leader
Lori Lee, Executive Member & Founder
Jaclyn Starritt, Programs Committee & Gala Chair
Matt Phillips, Development Committee Chair
San Parikh, Governance Committee Chair
Ben Steel, Music for Me Fine Chair
George Diatzikis, Technology Chair
Laura Brewer, Board Member
Claudia Cadet, MD, Board Member
Jennifer Fields, Board Member
Doug Greene, Board Member
Katherine Hutchinson, Board Member
Shriya Soora, Board Member
Philip Deibel, MD, Board Member

2019 Me Fine Foundation Staff

Joey Powell, Executive Director
Mary Angel Bastin, Second Hope Shop Manager
Meredith Richbourg, Program Director
Heidi Wulczyn, Development Director

Feeling inspired? Make another impact on the lives of children and families right now with a donation: mefinefoundation.org

You can also mail contributions.
Me Fine Foundation
318 Blackwell Street, Suite 130
Durham, NC 27701



In Their Own Words

"My name is Ashley. I have a seven-year-old boy named Levi. He has ALL leukemia. I also have four other children. Before Levi's sickness, our life was organized. We had schedules. Levi was a very active little boy: he ran, jumped, wrestled. But, since he has gotten sick, our lives have gotten off of schedule. Bed times are off. Everything has gone off-track. Now Levi is less active. His sickness has made a big impact on this family."

"I just told mom that this was taken care of and she said, 'Thank you SO much... You have no idea what this means to me!' Just wanted to pass this on. It was actually pretty much the same response as the mom you helped with car payments a couple of days ago"

— *from NC Children's Hospital social worker, about two instances of Me Fine helping with car payments to prevent repossession.*

"When she [social worker] told me that Me Fine could make a mortgage payment on our behalf, it was just like a weight off my shoulders."

— *mom of baby in NICU at WakeMed*

Down Highway 15-501, Jenny J. found her son, Samuel J., admitted to UNC Children's Hospital for persistent asthma. Her six-year-old experienced difficulty breathing for more than two weeks. This was Samuel's fourth hospitalization. The family hails from Dunn, North Carolina. Jenny and her family traveled for nearly 90 minutes one-way, when traffic was "normal", each time Samuel required medical intervention. Samuel's social worker referred his family to Me Fine for some assistance. The organization, because of our supporters, provided Jenny a \$200 grocery gift card in order to eliminate one more out-of-pocket expense weighing on the family.

"Thank you so much! This makes things a little easier during the scariest time in our lives!"

— *mom after Me Fine provided a week's worth of free parking at UNC Children's hospital*

In Their Own Words

Me Fine received this referral from Ronald McDonald House -- which has become an increasingly important partner as hospital social worker positions are cut or reduced. The mother of premature twin babies confided that her little ones were ready to come home, but they couldn't be discharged until the family had car seats. With two other young children at home and being in and out of work due to the twins' hospitalization, the family didn't know where they were going to get car seats or the money to pay for them. Me Fine shipped two infant car seats directly to them at Ronald McDonald House and the babies were scheduled to go home as soon as they arrived.

"You all are a blessing. This will help our family tremendously. Thank you thank you thank you."

— mom of child with brain tumor, recently relapsed, upon receipt of grocery assistance

You really are such lifesavers at Me Fine. Thank you for what you're able to do and the generosity with which you do it.

— Duke Pediatric social worker

"Me Fine has been so good to my family. I have two boys that were diagnosed with two different types of cancer at two different times. I was losing it. From bone marrow biopsies, ports, chemo, radiation, and tons of procedures, I didn't know what to do. I called Me Fine on the off chance that they could help. They did. They were able to help with more than one thing. Me Fine gave us gas cards, helped with groceries, paid a few bills and did even more things that I can say. Me Fine really helped my family get through a very difficult time."

"I really appreciate your guys help!! Thank you so much!! Mom was so relieved.."

— social worker after Me Fine assisted family with rent and utilities



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Me Fine Foundation



MeFineFoundation.org



Me Fine Foundation, Inc.
318 Blackwell St, Suite 130
Durham, NC 27701

Indicia



OEL TRAY PKG SEQ
FULLNAME
COMPANY
ADDR1
ADDR2
CITY, STATE ZIP