Dear Friend of Swifty,

Welcome to our 2017–2018 Impact Report! This is our chance to say thank you to our donors for your generous support and to share how that support is helping children with brain cancer. We take a look back as we celebrate the work we have accomplished together, and a look forward to what is on the horizon.

Tissue continues to be the issue for Swifty. The truth is, without tissue to study, research cannot progress. However, as a researcher put it at a recent conference we attended, “tissue is not sexy.” Inside we explain what he means.

Regarding our efforts to get more tissue in researchers’ labs, this past year our program at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia hit full stride; we started a new initiative at Lurie Children’s in Chicago; and in 2018... California here we come!

Speaking of California, read how our friend, Eric, helped Swifty raise $125K for research hiking the Pacific Crest Trail. If that isn’t cool enough, Swifty raised the money with three other foundations creating a collaborative new model for pediatric cancer fundraising... “Four Pennies”.

More collaboration efforts and our 2017 audit are presented in this report. This Impact Report, our Annual Appeal and thank you notes are the only U.S. mail you will receive from us. To follow Swifty more closely, please join us on social media or go to our website and sign up for our monthly e-newsletter.

Thank you for continuing to help us make my twin brother Michael’s dream of ending pediatric brain cancer a reality!

Bridget Gustafson
Co-Chair Junior Board
Tissue is the Issue

**Tissue is Sexy?!**

While attending the International Symposium of Pediatric Neuro-Oncology we heard many researchers talk about the need for tissue to study, including Dr. Stefan Pfister of Heidelberg University Hospital. He said, "tissue is not sexy but it is the most fundamental thing philanthropy can fund." Only through tissue can we understand the heterogeneity of tumors and start constructive research projects. Furthermore, it is impossible to get government funding for tissue donation and insurance won’t cover it.” But, as you know, Swifty does!!

Tissue is not sexy because the cure will be found in a clinical trial, the final step in the research process. Understandably, most funders want to fund the final step. But tissue is required in all the steps leading up to the trial. **No tissue, no trial.** Just as no one sees the foundation of your house, we all know without that foundation, there wouldn’t be a home for your family to gather in.

Swifty is helping build the foundation for the clinical trials that will lead to the cure and perhaps **redefining what sexy is.** Michael, who chose to donate his tissue is pictured here in one of his favorite hats. He knew a little something about redefining sexy.

**A Tissue Navigator**

Our 2017 Annual Appeal focused on raising money to fund a Tissue Navigator at Lurie Children’s Hospital in Chicago. **You responded so generously... thank you!** We presented Lurie a check for the first installment of the $300,000 grant at the end of 2017.

In May of 2018, **Kayleigh Eisenstein became the first pediatric Tissue Navigator in the country** and she has hit the ground running! She has formalized an autopsy donation protocol at Lurie modeled after the program Swifty started at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Her primary role is to provide services to children and families that will increase the number of tissue donations at the time of diagnosis, recurrence and autopsy. Not only will she be working with the patients at Lurie, but she will also be coordinating tissue donations from smaller regional hospitals.

Our first impression of Kayleigh is she has the **right combination of compassion and enthusiasm** that makes her perfect for this important work.

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Michael Gustafson sporting his sexy hat

Lurie Tissue Navigator, Kayleigh Eisenstein, with board members David McHugh, Al & Patti Gustafson
California Here We Come!
We began in Philadelphia, moved to Chicago, and now in order to create a coast to coast network of the best children’s research institutions focused on increasing post mortem donations, we are looking to California, specifically to the lab of Dr. Michelle Monje at Stanford. We have been in conversation with Dr. Monje and hope to finalize plans for a Tissue Navigator at Stanford when we visit her lab in August. Stay Tuned!

Our Big Hairy Audacious Goal
Swifty’s ultimate vision is to develop 5 Integrated Regional Centers of Excellence for tissue collection and processing across the country. These regional centers must be able to process whole brain and spine donations. The donation protocol will be standardized among the five centers. In addition to tissue, other bio-specimen and clinical data from the patient and parents will also be collected.

Then all the data that the gift generates will be collected and shared throughout the research community in order to assure the child’s gift makes the greatest impact possible.

Swifty on the Road
Swifty has been busy networking, advocating and leading the charge for post mortem tissue collection:

- Coalition Against Childhood Cancer Annual Summit Chicago, IL June 2017 – Participant
- Kid’s First Data Resource Center Launch Meetings Baltimore MD August 2017 – Participant
- Post Mortem Tissue Donation Consensus Meeting – Chicago, IL. Sept. 2017 – Participant, Exhibitor
- ASPHO Conference Pittsburgh, PA April 2018 – Conference Exhibitor
- Children’s Brain Tumor Tissue Consortium Investigator Meeting Philadelphia, PA May 2018 – Conference Exhibitor and Facilitator
- International Symposium of Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Denver, CO June 2018 – Participant.
Together Toward Hope

**SWIFTY SPOTLIGHT: Junior Board Member, Kira Couch**

Kira spent the summer of 2017 in DC advocating on "The Hill" for the **RACE for Children Act** and this important pediatric cancer legislation has now been signed into law and more importantly funded! Kira’s commitment to making Michael’s dream of a childhood cancer free world come true stems from their close friendship. For now, that means advocating and fundraising for the Swifty Foundation and in the future, Kira hopes to have a more direct impact as a pediatric oncologist. No matter where she’s at in her life though, Kira will find a way to help kids with cancer.

**Four Pennies**

When Eric Montgomery told us he was going to take four months of his gap year before he starts medical school to hike 2659 miles on the Pacific Crest Trail and raise $5200 for Swifty, we were inspired. His herculean effort inspired us to make his hike bigger than Swifty! We recruited three other pediatric foundations and branded the hike Four Pennies … to remind donors that the National Cancer Institute spends only 4 pennies of every federal dollar available for research on **children’s** cancer research.

**Working together, our four foundations aimed to raise four pennies for each of the 4.6 million steps**

Eric would take on his hike. Every dollar raised supports a collaborative research project targeting **DIPG**, a childhood brain cancer that is always fatal and has a median survival time of 9 months. At the time of this writing, **Eric’s hike has raised more than $125,000!**

Together Toward Hope!

Eric’s hike has raised more than $125,000.
Kacie is a lovely 8th grader who has a passion for dance and for service.

She decided to host a dance-a-thon for Swifty to raise money for children with cancer. She and her family worked their tails off locating a venue, decorating, finding dancers to participate, getting donations, the list goes on and on. The event was a great success and raised $3500! Now Kacie is asking for donations to Swifty at her bat mitzvah and her family is hosting a garage sale and giving the proceeds to... you guessed it, Swifty! Wow, right?

PEER TO PEER FUNDRAISING: A Way for You to Lead

Swifty has raised over $400,000 from people just like you who said yes to hosting a peer to peer fundraiser. These fun, personal events add up! Not only do they raise money but they play a major part in spreading awareness. These events are simple, fun, quick and a great way to take the lead on building the momentum we need to find a cure! Anyone can do it. No one is too young, too old, or too far! You can find inspiration on our website and register there to host your own event.

Swifty Community Leaders

Thank you to our Swifty Community Leaders who hosted a recent peer to peer fundraiser in 2017! Their creativity ranged from growing a beard to shaving a head, from trivia to triathlons, and from sharing a birthday to sinking a putt.

- Caitlin Holzer & Kira Couch’s Shaving for Hope
- Chris & Laura Gilmartin’s Givinia Concert
- David Hartstein’s Crazy Beard
- Facebook: Donate your birthday to Swifty events
- Heaven on Seven Lundi Gras Event
- Inversion Jazz Trio
- Indiana University Pub Crawl
- Kacie Morris’s Dance-a-thon
- Kennedy Junior High School Coin Wars

- Kennedy Junior High School No Shave November
- Lou Malnati’s Swifty Pizza Night
- Naperville Central High School Senior Class Gift
- Naperville Central and Naperville North High Schools Girls Golf Tournament
- Naperville Central and Naperville North High Schools Mikey Match Play
- Naperville North High School Council for Exceptional Children Variety Show
- Naperville North High School NHS & DECA Yard Sale

- Naperville North High School Hockey Club Fundraiser
- Naperville North High School Kate’s NHS Naperville Marathon Donation
- Northwestern University Delts Trivia Night
- Prairie Elementary School’s Coin Wars
- Tammy Linder’s Work Like a Dog Event
- Tribute/Memorial Gifts

SWIFTY SPOTLIGHT: Community Leader, Kacie Morris

Kacie is a lovely 8th grader who has a passion for dance and for service. She decided to host a dance-a-thon for Swifty to raise money for children with cancer. She and her family worked their tails off locating a venue, decorating, finding dancers to participate, getting donations, the list goes on and on. The event was a great success and raised $3500! Now Kacie is asking for donations to Swifty at her bat mitzvah and her family is hosting a garage sale and giving the proceeds to... you guessed it, Swifty! Wow, right?
**Swifty By The Numbers**

**Statement of Financial Position**
December 31, 2017

**ASSETS**
- Cash & Equivalents $143,302
- Investments $1,335,981

**TOTAL ASSETS** $1,479,283

**LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants Due</td>
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<td>Accrued Expenses</td>
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**TOTAL LIABILITIES** $152,400

**Net Assets**

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Board Restricted (Admin Expenses)</td>
<td>$382,983*</td>
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**TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS** $1,479,283

* The founders of the Foundation made a contribution to the Organization in 2013 to be restricted for use on paying any and all administration expenses. As part of the Foundation’s annual review of designated assets, the Board has restricted $382,983 as of December, 2017. Administrative costs of $43,473 were paid and released during the year ended 2017.

**Statement of Activities**
For year ended December 31, 2017

**REVENUES & OTHER SUPPORT**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>Program Service Revenue</td>
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<td>Realized Gain</td>
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<td>Dividends &amp; Interest</td>
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**TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE** $458,934

**EXPENSES**

**Program:**

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**TOTAL EXPENSES** $589,797

**Change in net assets** $130,863

**Net assets, beginning of year** $1,457,746

**Net assets, end of year** $1,326,883

* To receive a copy of Swifty Foundation’s 2017 independent audit report conducted by Desmond & Ahern Ltd., please contact info@swiftyfoundation.org

**Summary of Swifty 2017 Grant Making**

- **$300,000** Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago Tissue Navigator
- **$160,000** Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia Post Mortem Tissue Donation Program
- **$25,000** John Hopkins Medulloblastoma Project
- **$25,000** University of Denver Medulloblastoma Project
- **$510,000** Total 2017 Grant Making
Impact Report
2017–2018

Pediatric Brain Cancer