# Superhero Kids Fund 2017 First Quarter Report (January 1 – March 31, 2017)

# *Children's Blood & Cancer Center at Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas*

Thank you for supporting the Art Therapy program for our patients and their families!



April 15, 2017,

Dear Superhero Kids,

We are kicking off 2017 with more inspiring stories coming out of art therapy! Thank you for continuing to support this program for our patients and their families! Ruth Airhart's artistic work with patients and their siblings help them to express the feelings that arise out of their new life circumstances. The vibrant child featured on the cover has medulloblastoma — he needed help connecting with his body and affirming his new physical features as a result of his surgery and cancer treatment. Given that, Ruth led him through this art therapy intervention to create a life-sized self-portrait. She traced his body onto a large sheet of butcher paper and he drew in his unique features, spontaneously highlighting his glasses, bald head and rainbow leg braces! They worked collaboratively to color it all in using vibrant oil pastels, making sure to replicate his exact skin color and the specific design of his new leg braces. By session's end, it was complete and he was so proud of it, as you can see in the picture!

The drawings below were created by a child who has a younger brother who is successfully completing cancer treatment.



This (a) first drawing is a bridge drawing: an art therapy intervention used to help this child reflect on her family's life before, during, and after her brother's cancer. She highlighted the middle stage, when her sibling had cancer, represented in blue. Here she drew her family standing together to support her brother (the smallest figure with the sad face). The pink section to the right represents their future, cancer free.



The second drawing (b) is a spontaneous image created in session using chalk pastel on black paper. The words she wrote are: think, care, lead. She drew herself in three symbols: sitting at her desk thinking, as a big heart to show her caring nature, and leading a line of people (from small to big). We think this image represents her many roles and responsibilities; as a student, a friend, and a big sister of a cancer survivor.

#### **Emergency Financial Assistance**

Superhero Kids, this year, you continued to support the CBCC families financially with items ranging from utility bills, a gift card for clothing a patient and his siblings, rent assistance, and patient funeral expenses. Thanks to your funding, we were also able to repair the vehicle of a patient's brother: he is the main caregiver and transportation mode for the patient. By supporting the purchase of gift cards, we have been able to help families "in the moment". We have had families who needed food, clothes, and even gas. The gift cards allow the CBCC to assist the families immediately!

These CBCC families are incredibly appreciative of your generosity and your support of them in their utmost time of need. Thank you for all that you do!

### Superhero Kids Fund Support

### 2017 First Quarter Report

During the first quarter (January-March 2017), the Superhero Kids Fund provided \$12,961.03 in direct financial assistance.

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	\$150	
	\$100	
bill	\$117.14	
	\$229.99	
ral assistance	3,000	
epairs for brother (primary caregiver)	\$875.84	
n removal from property	\$499.00	
y bill	152.31	
	219.99	
	189.99	
jet Gift cards (60)	\$3000.00	
Gift cards (80)	\$2980.00	
TOTAL DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE		\$12,961.03
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	TOTAL DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	

## Total Superhero Kids Fund Support

Superhero Kids Fund Support (Dec. 2011– Dec. 2016)		\$702,394.07
Superhero Kids 2017 First Quarter Summary		
Direct Financial Assistance	\$12,961.03	
TOTAL 2017 FIRST QUARTER EXPENSES		\$12,961.03
TOTAL SUPERHERO KIDS FUND SUPPORT (December 2011 – March 2017)		\$715,355.10