

ABOUT SOLVING KIDS' CANCER

MISSION STATEMENT

Solving Kids' Cancer finds, funds, and advocates for breakthrough treatment options to cure children with the most fatal childhood cancers.

HISTORY

Solving Kids' Cancer (SKC) was founded in 2007 by two fathers who each lost a child to pediatric cancer. Their experiences led the two families to establish an organization to fill the void they had identified: There was no single group, institution, or research entity exclusively and effectively devoted to solving the deadliest forms of pediatric cancer.



Hazen Kennedy

January 14, 2001 - November 1, 2006

Son of Scott Kennedy, was diagnosed with neuroblastoma at age 3. Hazen died two months before he celebrated his 6th birthday.



Penelope London

July 6, 2002 - May 19, 2007

Daughter to John and Catherine London, was diagnosed with neuroblastoma at 16 months. Penelope died two months before her 5th birthday.



THE SKC BUTTERFLY: Look at the design of the upper wings and you will see the letter "P" on the left and "H" on the right, a tribute to these two children.

SKC was created not as a conventional charity, but as a nonprofit enterprise dedicated to fostering a new collaborative approach to pediatric cancer research that makes therapeutic benefit and increasing survivorship the primary funding criteria. SKC serves as a bridge between the key stakeholders including scientists, translational researchers, clinicians, and the life sciences industry.

Today, the clinical trial work that SKC funds can be found at over 117 institutions across 15 countries worldwide.

ANECDOTAL STORY OF SKC'S WORK:

Late last year (Nov 2018), there was some really incredible news about the successful use of a modified polio vaccine used to treat adults with glioblastomas (the brain tumor that Senator McCain had and that Bo Biden died from). Really bad cancer, dismal prognosis.

When Scott read about an early adult trial, way back in 2013, he and Donna went to the researcher and told him that this idea looked very promising and that it desperately needed to be available to kids as well. Not all that surprising, the doctor wasn't comfortable "trying" this new treatment on children.

As a reminder: Phase I is where we try something new. The children who would be on a phase I trial are desperate to try anything because nothing else is working for them. Nothing. They are out of options.

SKC did not accept "no" for an answer. Scott and Donna did not stop pushing this researcher to try. In fact, they were relentless. For two years. In 2015, they finally got that researcher to come around and in December of 2015 they formed an agreement to open an SKC funded pediatric trial.

So, when the news broke in late 2018 about the break-through success of the adult trial, the SKC funded pediatric trial was already open and had enrolled its first child in the fall of 2017.

That's what SKC does. Works to put kids first!

MORE EXAMPLES OF PUTTING KIDS FIRST:

- SKC funded the first use of a genetically engineered oncolytic virus in children. This treatment is still used today as a basis for a variety of combination immunotherapies.
- First use in pediatrics of an innovative device to deliver a drug directly to the brain stem to treat DIPG, a pediatric cancer that is terminal upon diagnosis with a life expectancy of only 9-12 months. This trial, over the course of five years, shows patients alive and active, with no serious side effects. Project has advanced to Phase 2.
- Established a new category of immunotherapy using immune cells (Natural Killer Cells) that are donated from a parent and screened for having anti-tumor properties. From this SKC funded study, several cancer centers are now using parentally donated Natural Killer Cells in combination with other agents against several childhood cancers.
- First transatlantic combination trial initiated by nonprofits. This project was initiated by SKC in partnership with 3 other non-profits. By opening locations outside the US, in UK and Germany, this project provides greater access to children who would otherwise need to travel to the US and pay for their treatment here. Parents are able to stay focused on their child, and not on raising funds to get their child to the US. Led by SKC, the nonprofits faced giant hurdles with regard to international approvals and clearing the healthcare systems of other countries.
- First polio virus therapy for pediatric brain tumors. Like a vaccine, an oncolytic virus works by killing tumor cells and initiating a secondary immune response against the cancer. Unprecedented results in the adult phase I trial demonstrated promising potential for pediatrics and SKC encouraged and pushed the research team at Duke to initiate the first pediatric trial.

SKC participates in consortiums, coalitions, and committees worldwide:

- Patient Expert, National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI), (2015-present)
- Member, Pediatric Drug Development, Accelerate Working Group 2, (2015-present)
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), Drug Appraisals, (2015-present)
- Member, National Cancer Institute (NCI), Pediatric Central Review Board, (2015-present)
- American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Pediatric Cancer Steering Committee, (2015-2018)
- Member, Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC), (2013-present)
- Founding Member and Board Member, Coalition Against Childhood Cancer (CAC2), (2012-present)
- Chair, New Approaches to Neuroblastoma Therapy (NANT) Advisory Council, (2010-present)
- FDA Patient Representative and FDA Oncologic Drugs Advisory Committee, (2010-present)

SKC has been invited to present at conferences and meetings around the world:

- Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Roadblocks & Opportunities for Pediatric Clinical trials, (2018)
- Panel Member, ANR/CNCF Parent Education Conference, Relapse Road, San Francisco, CA (2018)
- Panel Member, FDA Public Meeting on Relevant Molecular Targets in Pediatric Cancers, MD (2018)
- Panel Member, 2nd Pediatric Precision Oncology Conference, Scottsdale, AZ (2018)
- Presenter, FACTOR Osteosarcoma Conference, Collaborative Funding Model, Miami, FL (2018)
- Presenter, International Society of Pediatric Oncology, Oral & Poster Sessions, Washington, DC (2017)
- Panel Member, AACR Annual meeting, Pediatric Cancer Drug Development, New Orleans (2016)
- Organizing Committee, CAC2 Research Conference, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, NY (2016)
- AACR Pediatric Cancer Predisposition Workshop, Boston (2016)
- Presenter, Advances in Neuroblastoma Research Association (ANR), Australia (2016)
- Panel member, NCI Genomics Workshop, Advocate, Embryonal tumor panel (2015)
- Presenter, Bristol-Meyers Squibb Advocate Council meeting, (2015)
- FDA Advisory Committee, Pediatric Drug Label, Silver Spring, MD (2011)
- Presenter, The International Society for Pediatric Oncology (SIOP), (2011)
- Presenter, Neuroblastoma Children's Cancer Alliance/SKC EU, England (2011-2017)
- Presenter, Children's Neuroblastoma Cancer Foundation, (2010-2012)