



# THE AARON MICHAEL WILLARD FUND

*2020 Impact Report*

Last year was unlike any other in the history of Riley Children's Foundation. The uncertainty brought by waves of the COVID-19 pandemic touched all Riley programs. Amid the turmoil, the Aaron Michael Willard Fund has never been more important.

## Social Work Snapshot 2020

- 28 social workers providing patient services
- 30,000 patient/family encounters
- 3,093 families were provided with one-time financial assistance totaling more than \$440,000 made available by donors.

**Riley would not be the same without the Social Work team, and we are all indebted to the generous hearts of our donors and the work of Riley Children's Foundation.”**

Cheryl Ramey-Hunt, MSW, LCSW  
Director of Integrated Care Management

**We are honored to share a few examples of the Aaron Michael Willard Fund in action!**

## EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

- A NICU graduate was admitted to Riley Hospital Pediatric ICU in July for 20 days. The infant's father contracted COVID-19 shortly before the admission and was unable to work. He is the primary provider for the family. The family began rationing their food in order to pay their monthly bills. Social work funds covered a monthly car payment to ensure that the mother was able to get to work every day.
- One of our Riley kids recently received a stem cell transplant. Their parents were required to limit their work hours to prevent exposure to COVID-19 and thus experienced a decline in income. The Riley Relief Fund assisted in paying monthly utilities.
- A father and sole provider for a Riley family tragically passed away during the pandemic. The now single mother of three only receives social security income. Social work support stepped in with rental assistance to keep the family in their home.

## FOOD PANTRY

- The pandemic has disproportionately impacted low-wage, hourly workers. Social Work donor support ensures that Riley families and team members never run out of daily food and other essential supplies.