



Riley Children's Health social workers interact daily with patients and families whose lives have dramatically changed in the blink of an eye. Your generosity to honor the life and memory of Aaron Michael Willard supports the families of critically ill children by helping them to take care of non-medical needs such as lodging, transportation, and meals. This support helps families to maintain physical, emotional, and spiritual wholeness.

With your generous philanthropy, the Aaron Michael Willard Fund supported approximately 20 families with more than \$14,000 in financial grants between July 2022 through February 2023.

Recently, the social work team at Riley Children's provided support to a single mom of five who is working and going to school. Mom has had to limit her work hours in order to address the needs of the patient. Then the family car broke down, and she didn't know how she was going to repair the car, while also paying all of the other family bills. These funds provided support to the family to pay the internet bill, which allows the mom to continue going to school. The family was referred to other resources in the community, and she was so grateful.

Between July 2021 and June 2022, the social work team provided aid to almost 5,000 families with one-time financial grants totaling more than \$490,000 of philanthropic funds. These grants often serve as a lifeline for families during incredibly difficult circumstances.

Services provided by the 30 licensed Riley social workers can include psychosocial assessment, crisis intervention, therapeutic clinical support, coordination of financial resources, assessment for substance abuse, resources for family violence and abuse, transition planning and

problem solving, advocacy for patient needs, and education/navigation through the healthcare system.

Social workers serve as guides, resource experts, and advocates to many families in need - helping them to access support services close to home, connecting them with resources to help with medical bills and living expenses, and teaching coping skills to families who have a child with significant healthcare needs.

The Social Work team at Riley covers all inpatient units, the emergency department, and some outpatient clinics. The social work team is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, and 365 days per year. Social workers ensure that Riley kids and families have an advocate to empower and support them as they navigate the complex healthcare system.

Thank you for your continued generosity to honor the life of Aaron Michael and to support Riley kids and families during their most difficult times.

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