



AGAINST THE STORM
FOUNDATION

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**Against the Storm Foundation Partners With
P.U.N.T. Pediatric Cancer Collaborative to
Support the Organization's Helping Hands Program**

***Funding will provide financial support for
Western New York families facing pediatric cancer***

BUFFALO, N.Y., October 30, 2026 – Against the Storm Foundation, Inc. presented a \$10,000 check to P.U.N.T. Pediatric Cancer Collaborative today to support the organization's Helping Hands program. The funding will provide financial assistance to Western New York families facing pediatric cancer.

"When a family receives the devastating news their child has cancer, they often face incredible financial challenges as well," said Thomas Lillis, president of the Against the Storm Foundation. "This funding will help families with their rent or mortgage payments, utility bills, and other expenses."

According to Gwen Mysiak, CEO of P.U.N.T. Pediatric Cancer Collaborative, the financial ripple effect of a pediatric cancer diagnosis can be debilitating and catastrophic. On average, pediatric hospitalizations for cancer cost almost five times as much as hospitalizations for other pediatric conditions, with an average cost of a stay for a child with cancer being \$35,000.

As a result, she said bills can pile up and wages are often lost as a parent must choose between being by their child's side or going to work. Helping Hands is an important program that works as a financial safety net for families in pediatric cancer treatment.

"A pediatric cancer diagnosis is a storm of epic proportions and gravity that destabilizes every aspect of a family's life," said Mysiak. "P.U.N.T. averages \$20,000 per month helping alleviate financial burdens for parents in the fight for their child's life. We are honored and grateful to have Against the Storm Foundation as a valued partner providing vital support and steadfast hope for families navigating the turbulence of a storm they never saw coming."

Mysiak said each bill is paid directly to whom the money is owed on behalf of the family and requests are prioritized by medical social workers who are on the frontlines with the families they serve.

Lillis said the funding for Helping Hands was made possible due to the proceeds from the Against the Storm Foundation's fundraising events including the recent 9th Annual Rock for the Cure held August 15 and its inaugural Vegas at the Valley event held this past June.

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About the Against the Storm Foundation

Established in 2019, the Against the Storm Foundation, Inc. is a New York State authorized not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Its mission is to help fight blood cancers and support other causes that will improve the health and quality of life for people in need. For more information visit: <http://againstthestorm.org>.

P.U.N.T. Pediatric Cancer Collaborative The P.U.N.T. Pediatric Cancer Collaborative was founded in 2004 by former NFL Pro Bowl and Buffalo Bills Punter Brian Moorman, and his wife, Amber. P.U.N.T.'s programs have grown significantly in both scope and impact over the past 12 years, making the nonprofit organization a well-respected and heavily relied upon source of assistance for local families dealing with the effects of pediatric cancer. The P.U.N.T. acronym stands for Perseverance, Understanding, Need and Teamwork.

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