



Chai Lifeline is a leading international children's health support network, providing social, emotional, and financial assistance to children with life-threatening or lifelong illnesses and their families through a variety of free, year-round programs and services.

# Our Mission

To bring joy and hope to children and families impacted by serious illness, crisis or loss.

www.chailifeline.org 212-465-1300



### **A Community-Based Approach**

As we transition to a (G-d willing) post-pandemic world, it is important to reflect and take note of the lessons COVID-19 has taught us. We all have our different takeaways, but for me, the past few years have underscored just how critical community is and how necessary that sense of belonging is in each of our lives.

For children and families confronting serious illness, crisis, or loss, life can be very lonely. Pandemic lockdowns, quarantines, and restrictions have only exacerbated that feeling of isolation. Undeterred by these limitations, Chai Lifeline rose to the challenge, providing support to nearly 6,000 families in 2021. We shifted our approach from the hospitals to the community—bringing our programs and services directly to our families, in innovative, impactful, and safe ways.

Our dedicated case managers and volunteers pivoted from hospital consultations to home-based and virtual visits. If a child could not travel to Camp Simcha, we brought Simcha to them through Camp Simcha Without Borders initiatives across our 12 regions. More than 800 children living with illness or loss in their families took part in i-Shine afterschool programs hosted in their local schools. In place of one national retreat for hundreds of families, we offered a series of weekend events targeting smaller, peer cohorts and fostering more meaningful relationships. When communities around the globe—from Meron, Israel to Surfside, Florida—were struck by catastrophic events, Project Chai crisis intervention teams mobilized to offer immediate mental health support and resources, reaching tens of thousands worldwide. As this report outlines, while our approach may have changed, our impact has strengthened.

**Of course, none of this would be possible without you.** Your generosity and friendship enable Chai Lifeline to build that community of support, helping families navigate the complex and lonely medical journey or cope with crisis and loss.

As I look to the future, I do so invigorated and inspired, knowing that together we will continue to transform lives for the better and bring joy and hope to those that need it most.

Rabbi Simcha Scholar, Chief Executive Officer

# **2021: The Year in the Review**





In January, Chai Lifeline announced the appointment of **Matthew Weisbaum** as director of its Southeast region.

More than 400 participants around the world took part in **Team Lifeline's first-ever virtual marathon** in support of Chai Lifeline on January 31.

On February 1, Chai Lifeline welcomed **Jack Tabbush** as its inaugural director of Camp Simcha Without Borders.

**After a blizzard devastated Texas** in February, Chai Lifeline Southeast mobilized its volunteers to deliver Shabbos meals and care packages to families in the area.

**Following the tragic crowd crush in Meron** on April 30—the most devastating civilian disaster in Israel's history—Chai Lifeline's Project Chai crisis teams mobilized to provide mental health support, interventions, presentations, and educational resources to tens of thousands across the globe.

In the aftermath of the horrific June 24 condominium collapse in **Surfside**, **Florida**, the Project Chai team was on the ground, offering resources, guidance, and support to the local community.



Project Chai's Rabbi Dr. Dovid Fox addresses community leaders in partnership with Jewish Community Services of South Florida



Jack Tabbush leads Camp Simcha Without Borders

In summer 2021, **more than 1,000 children** impacted by serious illness took part in Simcha programming in cities across the globe.



On July 29, more than 600 cyclists took part in **Bike4Chai**, the world's largest experiential fundraiser per capita. One week later, on August 5, more than 100 women took part in Tour de Simcha.

In October, **New Jersey** 

**Governor Phil Murphy** paid a visit to the new offices of Chai Lifeline NJ/PA in Lakewood, NJ.

More than 800 gathered to celebrate and support Chai Lifeline at its **November 16 Annual Gala**, featuring a musical performance by Ishai Ribo and a one-of-a-kind kosher culinary experience presented by Wolfgang Puck.

More than 1,200 children with serious illnesses and their families got into the Chanukah spirit with Chai Lifeline's first-ever **Simcha Cruise** on November 21. Chanukah parties and events were held in regions across the country and more than 50,000 toys were distributed as part of the Chai Lifeline's annual toy drive.

Chai Lifeline ended the year with a series of **weekend retreats** at Camp Simcha for families and volunteers, helping them reconnect and recharge for the year ahead.







Simcha Cruise

# 2021 Impact

#### More than 800

children living with illness or loss in their homes took part in i-Shine afterschool programming in cities across North America

families received emergency financial assistance through the Evan Levy Z"L Fund

# 91,954

meals delivered to hospitals and homes

12 regional and international offices provided critical care and support families across the globe

4,413

**Volunteers Worldwide** 

5,690
families supported

Families were provided with 6,098 hours of insurance advocacy and support, helping them navigate complex claims and save over \$1.2 million

**Project Chai led** 

2,083

crisis interventions, trauma and bereavement workshops in schools, camps, and synagogues, reaching tens of thousands in communities across the world

12,979

rides provided to medical appointments

# More than 1,000

children impacted by cancer and chronic illness experienced the summer of a lifetime at Camp Simcha, Camp Simcha Special and Camp Simcha Without Borders



cost of programs and services to Chai Lifeline families thanks to your support



Rabbi Aharon Yisroel Wasserman
 CEO of Yeshiva Toras Chaim of Denver



"We are so grateful to Chai Lifeline for providing the critical tools, learning and process to our staff, as well as the staff of other disaster response teams and those who were providing support to first responders and victims of tragedy, for managing their own mental health and well-being in the aftermath of the Surfside towers collapse."



When the unthinkable happens, Project Chai, the crisis intervention, trauma, and bereavement department of Chai Lifeline is ready to respond. Project Chai offers support for children, families, schools, synagogues, and community organizations following an illness diagnosis, sudden death, terror attachk, natural disaster, and all forms of trauma.

Project Chai Services include:

- 24-hour / immediate support
- Clinical interventions
- Virtual and onsite consultations and workshops with schools, synagogues, and community organizations
- Educational resources and presentations for community leaders, rabbis, educators, and parents
- Weekend retreats
- Volunteer training in your community

Our paraprofessional volunteers are pre-screened and undergo rigorous training by leading experts, enabling them to respond immediately and effectively, with cultural sensitivity and respect. With hundreds of volunteers around the world, Project Chai teams are ready to respond immediately as crises unfold.

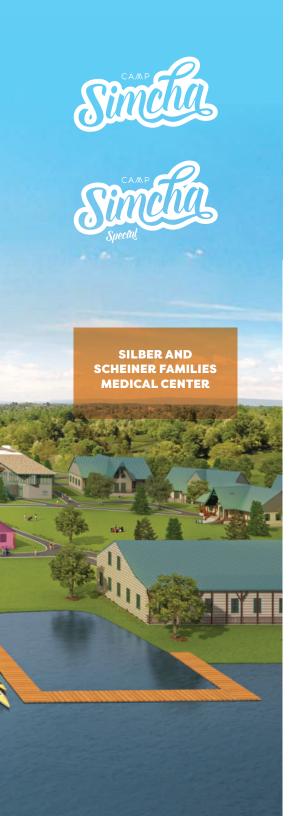
For immediate emergency assistance, contact Project Chai's 24-hour crisis helpline at **855-3-CRISIS** or email **crisis@chailifeline.org**.

# **Memorable Summers Start with Simcha**

# **Camp Simcha and Camp Simcha Special**

For over 30 years, Camp Simcha and Camp Simcha Special, have lived up to their names by bringing joyful and meaningful summer memories for children with pediatric illness. Camp Simcha, named in memory of Dr. Samuel Abraham, was established in 1987 to bring fun and life-changing summer experiences for children battling cancer and other hematological illnesses. Camp Simcha Special, named in memory of Zvi Dovid Obstfeld, brings a positive, growth-oriented environment for children facing the challenges of serious chronic illness to be active and reach their fullest potentials. Through their fully accessible facilities, their dedicated staff and fun and confidence-building activities, Camp Simcha and Camp Simcha Special impacts many children and teens to grow, be inspired and live life to the fullest.





# VILLAGES AND COTTAGES AT CAMP SIMCHA

Meridian Village Dedicated by Meridian Capital Group

Scharf Village
Dedicated by Martin and Melodie Scharf
of Lawrence, NY

Beit Daniella In Memory Of Daniella Nechama Moffson, a"h

Faye's Castle In Memory Of Harav Yaakov Zakheim, z''l and Reb Dovid HaKohen Rand, z''l

Mayer and Chaya Rivka Fischl

In Loving Memory of Avraham ben Ephraim HaKohen, z"l

**LH Financial Services** 

Matt's Place A gift of Matthew Arbess and Daniel and Marlene Arbess

Teena and Stu Rubinfeld and Family and Esther Wertenteil and Family In Loving Memory of Fred Rubinfeld, z"I and Louis Wertenteil, z"I

Debbie and David Seltzer

# ENDOWED FACILITIES AT CAMP SIMCHA

Jack and Moishe Horn Campus

Silber and Scheiner Families Medical Center

The Steven A. Greenberg Children's Wellness Center

The Steven A. Greenberg Medical Wing

Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Year Round Center

Stella K. Abraham Family Center

The Yoel Abramowitz Garden

The Dream Palace

In memory of Sarah Esther Bas Yehuda Gershon, a"h

The Erber Family Happiness Center

Fischl Recreation Center at Matt's Place

Illean K. Goldberg Social Hall

Pam and Craig Goldman Creative Arts Pavilion

Alexander and Charlotte Herman Residence

Kahal Lev Shlomo

The Kindler Family Sports Center

Norma Kligman Infirmary

Yaakov Nussbaum Photography Center

**Obstfeld Pavilion** 

Martin D. Schnall Woodshop

Rochelle's Gardens In loving memory of Rochelle Berkowitz, a"h

Sari's Castle

Dedicated in memory of Sari Ort, a"h

Seeling Pool

The Shamah Family Way

Strasser Family Dining Hall

Strasser Family Library

Stanton Lake House

Shaul and Mary Tawil
Bet Hakneset/Beit Midrash

**Tepper-Davis Recreation Center** 

**Uri's Place** 

The West Wing
Dedicated in honor of Hilda Tryfus Hess

# Camp Simcha Without Borders

Launched in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Camp Simcha Without Borders was developed to bring the magic of Simcha to children and communities around the world. Camp Simcha Without Borders operates day camps and hosts special events in cities across the United States and across the globe, providing children who are unable to travel the opportunity to enjoy Simcha in their own hometowns. The program is open to Chai Lifeline clients and their siblings.

In 2021, more than 1,000 children took part in Camp Simcha Without Borders programming and special events in Baltimore, Chicago, Miami, Los Angeles, Lakewood, Deal, Monsey, Brooklyn, Long Island, Canada, England, and Israel.





















By encompassing the true spirit of camp and creating an atmosphere that is full of joy and enthusiasm from the performing arts among campers and staff, Camp Simcha Without Borders provides an escape from reality for children going through tremendous hardships."

- Arianna Halpert, program coordinator at The Ralla Klepak Foundation for Education in the Performing Arts

## Simcha: A Life-Changing Impact

In summer 2021, hundreds of campers, parents and staff were surveyed as part of an ongoing effort to improve services and offerings. The following results highlight the transformative nature of Camp Simcha and reflect its commitment to providing children with an unparalleled summer experience.

97%
of parents were
very satisfied
with their child's
medical care in
camp

92% of campers said they strongly felt like they belong in camp



3 out of 4 campers reported feeling more independent because of camp

100% of campers said they wanted to return to camp

96% of staff said their experience at Camp Simcha made them more likely to volunteer in their community 97% of campers said all activities were very accessible

96% of counselors reported their camper's confidence grew over the summer

93% of parents said their child developed new friendships

"Due to her condition, my daughter could never have experienced sleepaway camp without Camp Simcha Special. There, she has joy and is well cared for... She makes friends with other sick kids, internalizing the empathetic values of tolerance and inclusivity as 'normal'-giving her strength to go home for the next year and face her illness. We as a family also get a break from the meds and the busy schedule. We have confidence she is ridiculously happy, and the other kids can get extra attention. The respite is great for everyone!"

- Tova, Baltimore, MD

"Camp boosted my son's confidence to become more independent even when it takes so much effort!"

- Shlomo, Brooklyn, NY

"Thank you for making my daughter feel like the luckiest girl in the world. Thank you for making her feel like she has a place all her own, where she gets to do whatever she wants with no limits. Thank you for giving our family two weeks to slow down our pace and be present with each other in a different way.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!"

- Rachel, Passaic, NJ

## i-Shine After School Programming

Designed to meet the unique needs of elementary and middle school-aged children living with illness or loss in their families, i-Shine provides afterschool programming in a supervised, nurturing, and fun environment. The program pairs young participants with high school-aged mentors and counselors who provide homework assistance and tutoring, play games, and engage in sports and other recreational activities. Dinner, snacks, and transportation are provided. Learn more at www.chailifeline.org/ishine.













Watching how the high school students from our community invest their time in these children is so special. i-Shine was profoundly impactful on me and I would encourage everyone to get involved."

- Rabbi Shay Schechter, Rabbi and Rosh Beit Midrash at the Young Israel of Woodmere, NY











## **A Lifeline For The Entire Family**

From the moment of diagnosis, Chai Lifeline is there to provide unparalleled support to young patients and their families through a variety of innovative services and programs. Coping with pediatric illness can be extremely difficult and isolating for the sick child, their parents, and siblings. The dedicated case managers serve as the family's portal to Chai Lifeline, helping the entire family navigate the complexities and uncertainties of the medical journey.

From counseling and crisis intervention to Big Brothers/Sisters activities and year-round family events and retreats, all of Chai Lifeline's programs and services are provided at no cost to families, allowing them to focus on what matters most-caring for their loved ones.









"Chai Lifeline is not an organization. It is a family!"

- Chai Lifeline father Steven, Chicago, IL

### **Year-Round Programs & Services**

## MAYER & CHAYA RIVKA FISCHL CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Disney World Trip Sponsored by the Ohr Meir Foundation Four days that change lives for sick kids.

Friends 'n Fun Weekends In memory of Sari Ort, a"h Weekend boosts of confidence and courage.

Honey Engel Toy Drive Holiday toy drives

Leon and Zipporah Goldstein Simcha Program Holiday food packages for hospitalized children.

Hartman Family Foundation
Wish at the Wall
A project of Chai Lifeline Midwest
A celebration of life over illness for teens.

i-Shine

After-school fun, assistance, and friendship.

i-Shine Teaneck In memory of Ilana Michal Schwartz, a"h

i-Shine West Coast Sponsored by Helena and Steven Usdan

i-Shine Westchester/Riverdale In memory of Robert A. Finkelstein, z"l

Kidz/Tweenz Konnect (NJ): Sponsored & hosted by Mayer & Chaya Rivka Fischl

Joseph and Chana Kornwasser Color My World: Kids Helping Kids Through Art In memory of Mark (Mottel) Kornwasser, z"l Creative arts help children express themselves and find friendship.

The Joseph and Elsie Listhaus ChaiLink Program Connecting children to classrooms, teachers, and friends.

Louis Wertenteil Heart-to-Heart "Big Brothers and Sisters" for kids and sibs.

Elimelech Moskowitz Homebound Educational Learning Program

**Shaindy Leffel Memorial Lending Library** 

Ari Adler Adventures in Art

Creative and therapeutic self-expression through art.

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

Bellows National Crisis Intervention Project CHAI, counseling, and retreats to help families and communities heal after tragedy.

David J. and Dina Lipins Publications

Bryna Fertig Volunteer Training

Martha Prince 6xChai Volunteer Program

Dr. Leon and Frances Gersten Z"L National Counseling Program

#### **FAMILY SERVICES**

Solomon's Children's Initiative: A SuperFund for the Future

**Professional Case Management**Ongoing emotional support for families.

LH Financial Services
Annual Winter Retreat
A weekend of unprecedented support for
Chai Lifeline families.

National and Regional Retreat Programs Intensive peer and professional support.

**Insurance Support Service** *Professional advice and assistance.* 

Donald Alan Harris Healing Hearts Bereavement Program Facilitates healing after untimely deaths.

Stella K. Abraham Family Center Located on the Jack & Moishe Horn Campus

Time out and away from illness.

Pamela and Craig Goldman River Retreat A private, single-family retreat.

Chai House

"Home away from home" for families of hospitalized children.

Bernice Rimberg "Our Sibs" (Specially Important Brothers and Sisters)

Activities for brothers and sisters.

**Ariella Horenstein Music in Our Lives** *Integrating music into programs and activities.* 

Joan and Shael Bellows Family Day A Project of Chai Lifeline Midwest An exciting day at a major theme park.

The Sohacheski Family Relax, Renew, and Reconnect In memory of Leo Presser, z"l Weekend getaways for parents.

The Sohacheski Family Beauty From Within In memory of Florence Presser, a"h
A rejuvenating day for moms.

**Chai Family Centers** 

Bernard & Lucille Katz ChaiLine Telephone Support Groups

# SUMMER PROGRAMS LOCATED ON THE JACK & MOISHE HORN CAMPUS

Camp Simcha

Named in memory of Dr. Samuel Abraham, z"l The foremost summer camp for youngsters with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.

Camp Simcha Special Named in memory of Zvi Dovid Obstfeld, z"!

A magical camping experience for chronically ill children and teens.

Camp Simcha Without Borders

Bringing the Simcha experience to children and communities around the world.



# Special Funds and Initiatives

#### THE EVAN LEVY Z"L FUND, encompassing:

Solomon's Children's Initiative: A SuperFund for the Future

Ralla Klepak Midwest Performing Arts Summer Scholarship Fund

Anne and Lee Samson Fund for Tomorrow

The Herman and Pearl Altman Children's Fund

Rochella and Uri Benenfeld Sibling Fund

Honey and David Berger Fund

Colburn and Sobel Families Children's Fund

**Uncle Danny Fund** 

Shimmy Golub Grant-a-Wish/Weingarten Wishathon Fund

Reana Greenfield, a"h Chesed Fund

Mary and Mortimer Greenstein Memorial Fund

**Evelyn Plotsker Goldstein Family Fund** 

Charna Radbell Gift of Sunshine Fund

Scott Satran Memorial Fund

Ann and Pinky Sohn Fund

### **Where You Can Find Us**

#### **Regional Offices**

#### New York

151 West 30th Street New York, NY 10001 (212) 465-1300

#### **New Jersey**

5 Airport Rd Lakewood, NJ 08701 (732) 719-1700

#### **Mid-Atlantic**

600 Reisterstown Road. Baltimore, MD 21208 (410) 205-2085

#### **Midwest**

6600 N. Lincoln Avenue Lincolnwood, IL 60712 (847) 763-1818

#### **West Coast**

Sohacheski Family Center 475 S. Robertson Boulevard Beverly Hills, CA 90211 (310) 274-6331

#### Southeast

2699 Stirling Road, Suite B303 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312 (305) 956-9990

#### **Camp Simcha**

430 White Road Glen Spey, NY 12737 (845) 856-1432

#### **Chai House**

Philadelphia, PA 3434 Sansom Street, Apt. 3F Philadelphia, PA 19104

#### **River Retreat**

Mahwah, NJ Pamela & Craig Goldman River Retreat 1058 Ramapo Valley Road Mahwah, NJ 07430

#### **Chai Family Centers**

Brooklyn, NY Ilana Schindler Chai Family Center 1034 East 14th Street Brooklyn, NY 11230

Chicago, IL 6600 N. Lincoln Avenue Lincolnwood. IL 60712

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 2699 Stirling Road, Suite B303 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312

Long Island, NY Adeline S. Zucker Chai Family Center 91 Carman Avenue Cedarhurst. NY 11516

Monsey, NY 321 Route 59, Suite W5 Tallman, NY 10982 New York City, NY 151 West 30th Street New York, NY 10001

#### **International Affiliates**

#### **Belgium**

Sint Thomasstraat 36 2018 Antwerp, Belgium (32) 495-198-100

#### Canada

Toronto Office 300A Wilson Ave. Toronto, ON, M3H 1S8 647-430-5933

#### **Montreal**

1090B Pratt Montreal, QC H2V2V2 514-667-7041

#### **England**

Camp Simcha Amélie House, 221 Golders Green Road, London NW11 9DQ (44) 208-202-9297

#### Israel/Chaiyanu

HaRav Raphael Katsenelbogen St 81 Jerusalem, Israel (972) 02-658-3000

### Leadership

#### **Board of Directors**

Sol Mayer Mordy Rothberg *Presidium* 

Joe Hammer Chairman of Executive Committee

Larry Spiewak
Co-Chairman of Board

Melvin Brill
Chairman Emeritus

Mechel Berger Secretary

Shimmy Bertram *Treasurer* 

Mayer Fischl
Brian Haimm
David Klein
Moshe Klein
Abie Maleh
David Mandelbaum
Hillel Moerman
Elliot Moskowitz
Avigail Rosemore
Eli Schron
Alan Shamah
Shalom Stein
Moshe Taub

**Daniel Weingarten** 

Roth & Co. *Auditors* 

Members

#### **Executive Leadership**

Rabbi Simcha Scholar, Chief Executive Officer

Rabbi Abraham Cohen, Executive Director

Rabbi Mordechai Gobioff, MSW, Director of Client Services, National

Rabbi Dr. Dovid Fox
Director of Project Chai

Nachman Maimon, Director, Camp Simcha/Camp Simcha Special

Esther Bergman
Chief Financial Officer

Matt Yaniv Chief Marketing Officer

Rabbi Sruli Fried, MSW
Executive Director of Bike4Chai

Elliot Halperin
Chief Development Officer

#### **Development**

Rabbi Arye Adest
Director, Community Affairs

Boruch Ber Berman
Director of Development NJ/
PA

Rabbi Levi Katlowitz
Director of Community
Development

Andy Lauber
Director of Community
Relationships

Nataly Weiss Director of Leadership Development

#### Bike4Chai

Rabbi Sruli Fried Executive Director

Zevi Bamberger Director

#### **Team Lifeline**

Moshe Turk
Director

#### **Regions and Affiliates**

#### **Greater New York**

Dr. Cheryl Book Director of Clinical and Family Services

Esther Schwartz, MA
Director of Hospital Services

#### Mid-Atlantic

Nechama Miller Senior Case Manager

#### **Midwest**

Rabbi Shlomo Crandall *Director* 

#### New Jersey/Pennsylvania

Rabbi Sruli Fried, MSW

#### Southeast

Mathew Weissbaum *Director* 

#### **West Coast**

Randi Grossman, MPH Director

#### **Camp Simcha UK**

Neville Goldschneider Director

#### **Chai Lifeline Antwerp**

Avi Maier Betty Maier *Directors* 

#### Chai Lifeline Canada

Rabbi Mordechai Rothman *Director* 

#### Chaiyanu/Chai Lifeline Israel

Elad Maimon Director

# Together, we can make a difference in the lives of those impacted by childhood illness.

### **How You Can Help**



#### **Make A Monetary Contribution**

Every donation to Chai Lifeline helps ease the suffering of children confronting pediatric illness and their loved ones. Make a tax-deductible donation online by visiting www.chailifeline.org/donate or by calling 877-CHAI-LIFE.



#### **Stock Donation**

Maximize your philanthropic impact and minimize your potential tax liability by donating your long-term appreciated securities. Chai Lifeline accepts gifts in the form of stock donations, as well as contributions from donor-advised funds. Call 877-CHAI-LIFE to learn more.

#### **Donate A Vehicle**



Donate your used car, truck, motorcycle, boat, RV or trailer to Chai Lifeline. Schedule a free pickup or tow over the phone, or by filling out a secure online form. Visit www.chailifeline.org/cars or call 844-485-4663 for more information.

#### **Real Estate Donation**



Giving a gift of real estate, such as a personal home, vacation home, or undeveloped property, can be a highly effective philanthropic and financial strategy. By donating all or part of your real estate to Chai Lifeline you may be able to reduce your capital gains tax or receive a tax deduction for the appraised value of your property. Learn more at www.chailifeline.org/realestate or by calling 732-719-1721.



#### **Planned or Estate Gift**

Help transform lives for years to come with a bequest, estate contribution or other legacy gift. Visit www.chailifeline.org/legacy or call 212-699-6608 to learn more.



### Cryptocurrency

Save on your taxes by donating cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin to Chai Lifeline. Your generous donation will help provide critical programs and services to thousands of families around the world. Visit www.chailifeline.org/crypto.

Learn more at www.chailifeline.org/support

### **Volunteer**

Make a difference in the life of a sick child and their family. From serving as a Big Brother or Big Sister to a hospital respite volunteer or transportation assistant, Chai Lifeline offers numerous ways to get involved. Join our global volunteer network today. Visit www.chailifeline.org/volunteer.

# **Create Your Own Fundraiser**

Launch a Chai Lifeline fundraiser in memory of a loved one, to mark a milestone, or for any special occasion. Start your personal campaign today.

www.chailifeline.rallybound.org





# Get the Kids Involved

From Bar/Bat Mitzvah projects and birthdays to lemonade stands and bake sales, have your children run their very own fundraisers in support of children with serious illness.

www.chaiathon.org



# **Financial Highlights**

In 2021, your contributions allowed Chai Lifeline to further its mission and provide unparalleled support to its client population. Eighty-six cents of every dollar donated, was used for programs and services that directly benefit our children and families.

