

Caruso Family Charities Funding Families Program

What We Do:



MISSION STATEMENT

Caruso Family Charities is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to assisting families of a child, adolescent, or young adult who is being treated in Colorado for a life-threatening disease or life altering event. Through our Funding Families program, our mission is to relieve some financial pressures so the family may focus on caring for their sick child.



Family Assistance

The family above is a single father caring for three gravely ill daughters. CFC was able to purchase a wheelchair accessible van for the family.

CFC built a sidewalk from the front door to the backyard as well as a patio so that Calvin, pictured below, could enjoy his favorite past time of being outside.



FUNDING FAMILIES

Caruso Family Charities (CFC) receives requests for families needing assistance from Doctors and Social workers at Children's Hospital Colorado, The Butterfly Program, Centura Health, Brent's Place, and Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children at Presbyterian/St. Luke's. Jerry Caruso, founder of Caruso Family Charities, makes a personal visit to each family after they have completed CFC's required application. An assessment of each application is made to determine how much help is needed. This process is immediate, since in many cases, the family's situation has become desperate. In keeping with a very accountable process, the bills to be paid are given to CFC, where the creditors are paid directly. Over the years, CFC has assisted families with such necessities as rent, groceries, phone and energy bills, car repairs, and much more. CFC has also provided wheelchairs, built wheelchair access ramps, widened doorways and more.

THE JOHNSON FAMILY:

"I want to make it clear to other people out there...that \$500 to pay electricity while my son was in the hospital for 22 days might just be \$500 to someone, but to me it meant having the electricity on for my son and to have a safe environment to come home to".

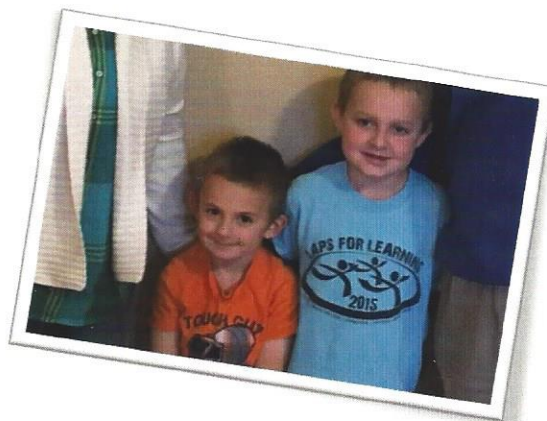
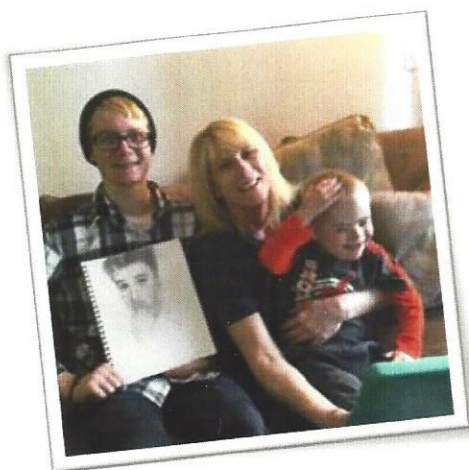
— Andrew Johnson, father



Since its inception as a 501(c)(3) organization in 2006, Caruso Family Charities has helped approximately 650 families and has raised over \$2 million dollars. In the beginning, CFC was only able to provide assistance to 3 or 4 families per year but has grown to providing assistance to 55 families for the year 2018. CFC has a "hands-on" hardworking board of 12 members. One board member, Pediatric Oncologist Dr. Tom Smith, has stated that, "The need is so great, that currently Caruso Family Charities is helping approximately 2% of the families who are in desperate need."

CFC DOESN'T FORGET ABOUT THE SIBLINGS

Caruso Family Charities also gives assistance to siblings who are in need of comfort and a sense of normalcy during the hardest of times for their family. CFC has provided funding for art lessons, dance lessons, Tae Kwondo, and more. CFC also provides an annual scholarship presented to a former patient or a sibling.



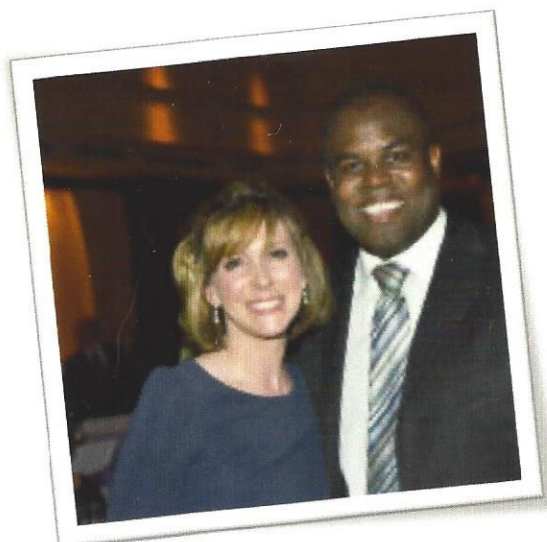
FUNDRAISING EVENTS



2018 Comedy Works Night
Comedian Henry Cho and Jerry Caruso



2018 Golf Tournament
Volunteers working hard



Gala 2017 - Emcee,
Becky Ditchfield and Live
Auctioneer, Reggie Rivers

Fundraising Events and Volunteers

Caruso Family Charities holds two fundraising events each year, a Golf Tournament and either a Comedy Night or a Gala. This doesn't include the numerous third party events held by people in the community that believe in CFC's mission and love to support our cause!

The Golf Tournament is held every August at Rolling Hills Country Club and includes, 144 golfers, a silent auction, live auction, margarita machines, cars and ice cream sandwiches on various holes.

The Gala is held every other year and includes a silent auction, live auction, paddle raise, dinner, program, and dancing.

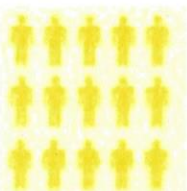
The Comedy Night is also held every other year and features two comedians and is emceed by Vic Lombardi. Caruso Family Charities has an abundance of volunteers from the community, family and friends, and the Board of Directors.



FAST FACTS

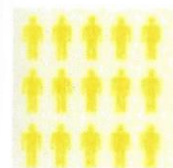
Number of volunteers for the 2015 Gala

32+



Number of volunteers for the 2016 Golf Tournament

35+



Family Stories included on the CFC website and Facebook page



The Steinberg Family

"The help Jerry gave us was the greatest gift that we received through the whole process. The feeling of not being able to provide for your child, is the hardest thing, and the worst feeling you can have as a parent." -Jillian Steinberg



The Rendon Family

4-year-old Elizabeth has Spherocytosis, which causes a shortage of red blood cells and an enlarged spleen. She remains on daily antibiotics and is at extreme risk of contracting a life-threatening infection. She has to visit numerous specialists to manage her ongoing health needs.

Sadly, the family experienced an apartment fire. They lost not only their home but also their belongings. After living in their van for several weeks, they were connected with Caruso Family Charities. CFC found them housing, paid unpaid bills, and with the help of many friends, gave the Rendon family a Christmas for their kids.



The Wilson Family

18 month old Cooper was born with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. He spent the first 5 months of his life in the hospital receiving chemotherapy. He has recently undergone two more cycles of chemotherapy and needs a bone marrow transplant. Coopers parents Eric and Danielle are committed to Cooper's frequent medical care and have remained at his bedside throughout each hospitalization. Caruso Family Charities was there to help too. We immediately provided assistance to cover hotel expenses and are removing the mold from the Wilson home.

