

Cure JM Foundation 2026 Impact Report

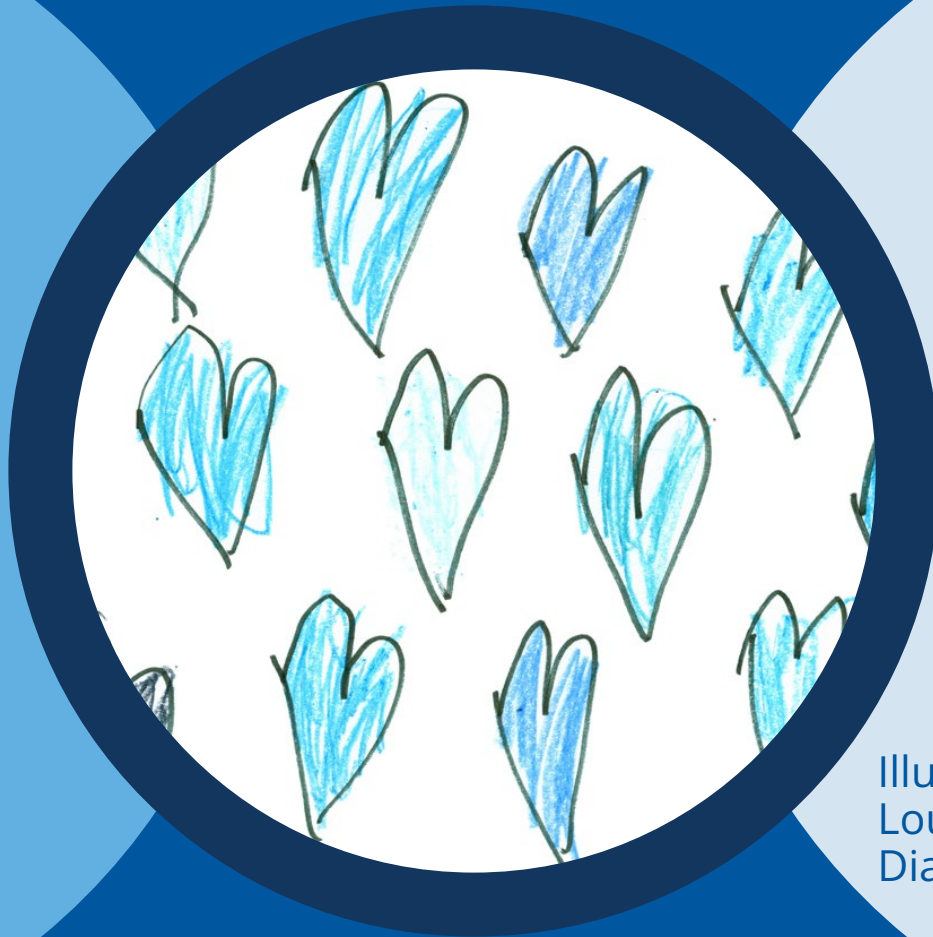


Illustration by
Louise N.
Diagnosed at Age 3

A New Era in JM Research

Moving Research into Reach

Dear Cure JM Families and Friends,

There has never been more reason for hope in juvenile myositis.

Clinical trials are advancing. CAR-T cell therapy is now being studied in children with JM. JAK inhibitors and other emerging treatments are creating new possibilities for controlling disease and reducing reliance on the harsh medications families have lived with for decades.

The science is moving. Our challenge now is to make sure that progress reaches children.

A promising treatment does not move from discovery to a child's bedside on its own. It takes clinical trials that can enroll, hospitals that are prepared, physicians who understand the latest advances, and families who know where to turn. It takes coordination across research, clinical care, and the JM community.

That is where Cure JM is positioned to make a unique difference.

Over more than 20 years, we have built relationships among families, researchers, physicians, and leading medical centers. Today, that network gives us an opportunity to serve as the bridge between scientific progress and the children who are waiting to benefit from it.

This next chapter is about more than discovering better treatments. It is about helping move those treatments through trials, into clinics, and ultimately into the lives of children with JM.

That work carries both tremendous promise and real urgency. A scientific breakthrough matters most when it becomes a better outcome for a child.

Everything in this report reflects the community helping make that possible. To our families, donors, volunteers, physicians, researchers, and partners, thank you for bringing Cure JM to this point and for helping us move what comes next forward.



Jim Minow

Executive Director, Cure JM Foundation

Stronger Together

Dear Friends,

I serve Cure JM because I know what this disease asks of families, and I believe children should not have to suffer.

As a JM mom, I understand how frightening a diagnosis can feel. Parents want answers. Children need support. Families need to know they are not alone. That is why Cure JM's work matters so deeply to me.

Knowledge is power. The more families understand juvenile myositis, the better prepared they are to advocate for their child, ask informed questions, and make decisions with confidence. Cure JM helps turn fear into understanding by connecting families with trusted education, expert clinicians, research updates, and one another.

That connection is just as important as the science. Local chapters, Family Days, walks, and community events bring Cure JM's mission close to home. They give families the chance to meet others who understand their journey, build friendships, share hope, and feel part of something larger than themselves.

Cure JM is strongest when our families are connected and involved. Every volunteer, donor, chapter leader, walk participant, clinician, researcher, parent, grandparent, and young adult helps move this mission forward.

Research and the science of JM take away some of the scariness. Community takes away some of the loneliness. Together, they help families face this disease with more strength and more hope.

Thank you for being part of Cure JM and for helping make this work possible for every family we serve.

"Children should not have to suffer. As a JM parent, I've seen how knowledge empowers families and research takes away the fear."

Debbie Daum

*President, Board of Directors
Cure JM Foundation*



23 Years of Progress and IMPROVING LIVES

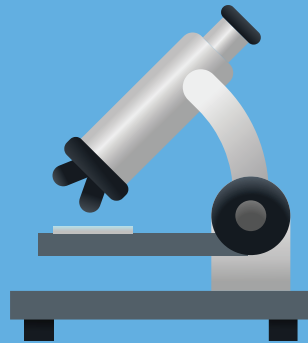
\$33 million
invested
since inception



Largest juvenile
myositis funder
on the planet

8

CLINICAL TRIALS
in progress for new &
better treatments



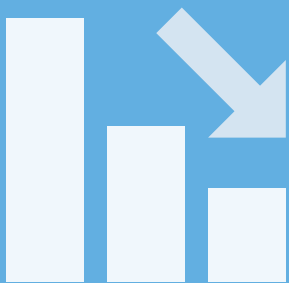
226

RESEARCH
PROJECTS
FUNDED



83

Cure JM Clinical
Care Network
Partners



Reduced time to
diagnosis by
more than

75%

From 12 months to under 3 months
Early treatment leads to
better outcomes



4,000+

FAMILIES CONNECTED
with other families
and resources

Family Days

Family Days are Cure JM's signature community-based events, bringing families together with trusted information, expert insight, and a broader network of support.

Designed to be accessible and locally hosted, these events remove barriers to care and connection—ensuring more families can engage earlier in their journey and stay connected over time.

20
Chapters.



400
Families
Served.

Kids

Build Friendships

Children forge friendships, gain confidence, and a sense of belonging with others who understand life with JM.



Parents Learn

Families share their stories, learn from one another, and build a network of support that extends beyond Family Day.



Doctors Teach

Leading specialists bring the latest research, treatment advances, and expert care insights directly to families.

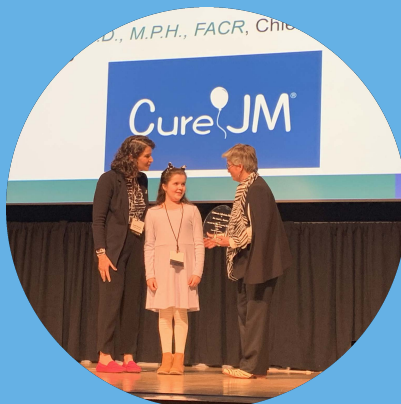


Teens & Young Adults Connect

Young adults meet others their age who understand JM, form meaningful connections, and find encouragement in a supportive community.



POWERING PROGRESS: 2026 HIGHLIGHTS



In this report, we highlight 3 key areas driving progress in the fight against juvenile myositis

1. Improving Patient Care and Outcomes:

More children now reach expert care faster through our Clinical Care Network and physician education.

2. Advancing Groundbreaking Research:

Global, innovative research is accelerating safer treatments and progress toward a cure.

3. Supporting Families Navigating JM:

Providing the tools, resources, and support families need at every step.

Together, we're entering a new era of progress. Your support is transforming lives and bringing hope to children and families.

Highlights from 2026:

- **Supported a groundbreaking CAR-T clinical trial**, a promising “immune system reset” therapy.
- **\$5 million in active grants** driving research and innovation.
- **71% of U.S. pediatric rheumatologists** engaged in our JM education programs.
- **Expanded the Cure JM Clinical Care Network** to 83 partners.
- **Advanced new treatments** reducing reliance on steroids and chemotherapy.
- **Provided free 24/7 education and support** for families navigating JM.



"Living with JM has taught me resilience, but Cure JM has taught me purpose. When I advocate for others, I see how powerful our voices can be. Helping young patients feel seen and supported is what keeps me moving forward."

Maddy Coffey, Chair, Cure JM Young Adult Advocates Council
Director, Board of Directors, diagnosed in 2010



IMPROVING CARE FOR PATIENTS: CLINICIAN EDUCATION INITIATIVES



EXPANDING THE BEST CARE



4

Global JM Summits
held annually



500+

Clinicians participated
in our trainings
last year



30+

Countries
represented

CLINICIAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS

We improve care. Summits, Clinician News, and the Clinical Care Network connect providers and raise standards of care.

We invest in the next generation. Fellowships and training programs like the JM Mastery Series prepare early-career clinicians.

We accelerate research. Collaborations and the Clinical Trial Readiness Bootcamp keep clinicians at the cutting edge of new research.

We bring therapies to families faster. Educating clinicians and families ensures breakthroughs reach patients quickly.

Cure JM's physician education program equips healthcare providers with critical knowledge about juvenile myositis, leading to earlier diagnoses and improved patient care. By training clinicians across specialties, it helps ensure that more children receive timely, effective treatment, ultimately improving outcomes for JM patients.



The Cure JM Clinical Care Network continues to grow and that means more families in more locations have access to doctors who know this disease and are collaborating together to improve care for patients."

Julie Houpt, Co-Chair, Cure JM Research Committee, mother of a child treated at Cure JM Clinical Care Network partner Scottish Rite in Dallas, TX

IMPROVING CARE FOR PATIENTS: THE CURE JM MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD



Brian Feldman, MD, MSc, FRCPC

Chair, Medical Advisory Board
Head Division of Rheumatology
Hospital of Sick Children, Toronto

Led by Brian Feldman, MD, MSc, FRCPC, the Cure JM Medical Advisory Board (MAB) serves as the principal scientific, medical, and research advisory group to Cure JM Foundation. The Medical Advisory Board is responsible for reviewing Cure JM's strategic research direction and priorities, including investments in research, development, translation, and clinical practice/treatments. They oversee assessments of research grants, the Cure JM Clinical Care Network, fellowship implementation strategies, Cure JM Centers of Research Excellence, and other current and future funding priorities to advance the Foundation's mission.



Lucy R. Wedderburn, PhD, MRCP
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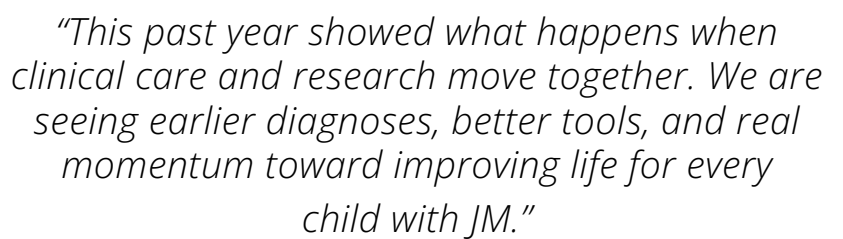


Stacey Tarvin, MD
Program Director,
Pediatric Rheumatology Riley Hospital,
Chair, Cure JM Clinical Care Network



Andy Mammen, MD, PhD
Associate Director, Johns Hopkins
Myositis Center Investigator, National
Institutes of Health

Locations with at least one
Cure JM Clinical Care Network partner



UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital

IMPROVING CARE FOR PATIENTS:

CURE JM CLINICAL CARE NETWORK



Stacey Tarvin, MD, MS,
FAAP, FACR
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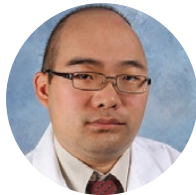
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Lauren Covert, MD
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IMPROVING CARE FOR PATIENTS:

CURE JM CLINICAL CARE NETWORK



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Primary Children's Hospital



Sandy Hong, MD
Stead Family Children's Hospital



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Dalhousie University



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(Kansas City, MO)



Ginger Janow, MD, MPH
Joseph M. Sanzari
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Hackensack Meridian Health

IMPROVING CARE FOR PATIENTS:

CURE JM CLINICAL CARE NETWORK



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IMPROVING CARE FOR PATIENTS:

CURE JM CLINICAL CARE NETWORK



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Sara Sabbagh, DO
Children's Wisconsin – Milwaukee Hospital



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Jacob Spitznagle, MD
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Lucy Wedderburn, MBBS, PhD, FRCP, MRCPCH
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Meredyth Wilkinson, PhD, BSc, MBBS
University College London
Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health (UK)



Eveline "Eve" Wu, MD, MSCR
University of North Carolina
Children's Hospital



IMPROVING CARE FOR PATIENTS: INVESTING IN OUR CLINICAL CARE NETWORK

Cure JM Clinical Care Network Investment Highlights:

Rady Children's, San Diego

Established a JM Clinic, purchased a nailfold capillaroscopy microscope, and trained staff across physical therapy, emotional health, and dermatology.

UPMC, Pittsburgh

Established a JM Clinic and launched an annual Cure JM Family Day.

Children's Hospital of Los Angeles

Establishing a JM Clinic and purchased a nailfold capillaroscopy microscope.

Montefiore Children's, New York

Purchased a nailfold capillaroscopy microscope.

Johns Hopkins Children's Center & Myositis Center

Purchased a nailfold capillaroscopy microscope and partnering together to expand the JM clinic.

Scottish Rite Children's Hospital, Dallas

Upgraded nailfold capillaroscopy microscope and supporting staff participation in the 2026 Cure JM Texas Regional Conference.

Cincinnati Children's

Educated physicians on using the nailfold capillaroscopy microscope and validated new measures of JM disease activity.

Riley Children's, Indianapolis

Expanded the JM clinic and strengthened the pediatric rheumatology education program for medical students.

Children's Hospital of Orange County

Trained clinicians in JM care and advanced JM research.

Children's Hospital Colorado

Developed a UV education packet for families. This will be shared in the coming months.

Boston Children's

Building a system to help parents measure JM disease activity online.

Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto

Researched the impact of exercise and supplements on JM.

Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Funded a research assistant to accelerate the CAR-T clinical trial.

Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, Rome

Advanced CAR-T case studies and shared findings at the Cure JM Family Conference.

What is a nailfold capillaroscopy microscope?

Abnormal blood vessels can signal active JM. A nailfold capillaroscopy microscope magnifies these vessels **up to 600 times**, allowing doctors to spot flares earlier. Early detection means better outcomes. **By funding this equipment, we are helping kids get the care they need sooner.**



POWERING PROGRESS: CURRENTLY FUNDED RESEARCH

Cure JM is proud to have invested over \$33 million in research commitments since inception, including a record *\$130,000 in Miracle Grants*. Here are a few snapshots of that progress.

NEW CURE JM FOUNDATION GRANTS AWARDED IN 2026:



Shannon O'Connor, MD, PhD
Cincinnati Children's

Supports Dr. O'Connor as she studies the different JM subtypes, known as autoantibodies, to understand how they form and how they shape disease patterns. Her work aims to improve treatment decisions, predict flares, and reduce the trial-and-error families often face.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To guide more precise treatment choices and improve the ability to predict flares across JM subtypes.



Brian Feldman, MD,
MSc, FRCPC
Hospital for Sick Children
Toronto, Canada

To test "MyoPal," an at-home strength-testing app that guides families through a simple assessment and provides an automatic score. Dr. Feldman will lead an international team across the U.S., Canada, U.K., and India to determine whether MyoPal can match the accuracy of in-clinic testing and improve access to care.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To validate an at-home strength test that can detect flares earlier, shorten clinic visits, and expand access to clinical trials.



Jessica Turnier, MD
& Ray Zuo, MD, MS
University of Michigan

This project will investigate how immune system factors interact to drive inflammation and calcinosis in JM. Drs. Turnier and Zuo aim to identify early triggers of tissue damage and better understand why calcinosis develops in some children.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To identify the early triggers of tissue damage and calcinosis, and guide new strategies to prevent or treat this painful complication of JM.



Jessica Neely, MD
**University of California,
San Francisco (UCSF)**

To investigate the JM subtype known as NXP2, focusing on whether T-cells contribute to muscle damage in children with this autoantibody. Understanding these mechanisms may explain why NXP2 can be harder to treat and help guide more personalized care.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To clarify how T-cells drive disease in the NXP2 subtype and identify new pathways for targeted treatment.



Tamar Rubinstein, MD, MS
Amanda Zaid, PhD
Montefiore Medical Center
New York City

This project will design the first JM-specific mental health program for parents, aiming to reduce stress and burnout, strengthen family resilience, and create a model that JM centers nationwide can adopt.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To build a scalable parent support program that reduces stress and improves family well-being.

CONTINUED RESEARCH FUNDING



Joanna Parkes, PhD

**Harwell Science and Innovation
Campus, Nucleic Acid Therapy
Accelerator Hub, UK**

This project will study potential “nucleic acid” therapies for JM, with the goal to identify novel gene therapy interventions. Gene therapy is an emerging field of research with the potential to revolutionize the way we treat diseases.

What is the Desired Outcome?

It is our hope that this might lead to better treatments and early interventions that might stop JM in its tracks.



Melissa Morales, PhD
State University of New York

To investigate deucravacitinib, the newest of the “JAK inhibitor” drugs. These are a new class of drugs that work by stopping the Janus kinases (JAK) from responding to triggers that might cause inflammation. These drugs are being developed to treat a variety of diseases, including cancer, autoimmune diseases, and inflammatory disease. JAK inhibitors are still under development, but have shown promise in clinical trials.

Deucravacitinib shows promise in juvenile myositis and has a low side effect profile.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To investigate deucravacitinib as a potential new treatment for juvenile myositis.



Sarah Tansley,
BSc, MBChB, PhD, MRCP
University of Bath, UK
(with Prof. Neil McHugh,
MBChB, MD)

To use specially adapted detection methods to identify ‘new’ myositis specific autoantibodies that have yet to be discovered in approximately 40% of myositis patients.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To aid in understanding how to treat these subtypes of myositis and improve outcomes for the nearly 40% of JM patients who do not test positive for the current autoantibodies.



Andrea Knight, MD, MSCE
**Hospital for Sick Children,
Toronto, Canada**

To study how childhood-onset of inflammatory diseases impacts the developing brain. Data will be gathered through interview questions and non-contrast brain MRIs.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To determine how the brain is impacted when an inflammatory disease begins in childhood.



Sara Sabbagh, DO
Medical College of Wisconsin

For development of a new animal model to screen new or repurposed

drugs for effectiveness and safety in JM. This is an important step in identifying new treatments for JM.

What is the Desired Outcome?

This study can lead to new, safer, and more effective treatment options with drugs that have been effective in treating other diseases.



Jessica Neely, MD
**University of California
San Francisco**

Using artificial intelligence to analyze data from three sets of participants: JM patients who have received treatment, JM patients who have not yet received treatment, and healthy volunteers.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To use AI to uncover biological differences between treated patients, untreated patients, and healthy volunteers — improving how flares are detected and care is personalized

CONTINUED RESEARCH FUNDING



Sara Sabbagh, DO
Medical College of Wisconsin, and
Jessica Turnier, MD
University of Michigan

Combining a **nailfold capillary** observation technique that is widely used in many JM clinics with a new technique to examine the cells that line the insides of the vessels.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To deepen our understanding of nailfold image analyses and interpretation to better diagnose patients, identify flares earlier, and determine earlier how patients are responding to medication.



Melissa Morales, PhD
Binghamton University, New York

This project will test and screen potential medications on the effect of **Type 1 interferon** (a prime factor in inflammation on muscle function and weakness in myositis).

What is the Desired Outcome?

A better understanding of how to target and more precisely treat muscle inflammation in JM patients.



Steve Balevic, MD and
Kaveh Ardalan, MD, MS
Duke University, North Carolina

Funding pre-trial work on **vamorolone**, a new steroid with all the **benefits of prednisone** and **virtually none of the side effects**. Cure JM is working with Duke University, the FDA, and the distributors of **vamorolone** on a clinical trial plan to test the safety and effectiveness of the drug in juvenile myositis patients.

What is the Desired Outcome?

That this project might lead to a clinical trial for an **"anti-steroid steroid"** that could be useful as a first-line treatment option for JM patients.



Younghun Han, PhD
Baylor College of Medicine, Texas

To better understand what **drives JDM** by identifying which **genes and gene combinations** predispose patients to JDM.

What is the Desired Outcome?

We aim to expand our knowledge of the causes of JDM to improve treatments and minimize environmental triggers and disease flares.



Chack Yung Yu, D.Phil
Nationwide Children's Hospital, Ohio State University
(With Samantha Coss, MD, PhD)

To study changes in immune cells and proteins in **different phases of JDM**. We also hope to understand how genetic factors (in particular, a low level of an immune protein known as complement C4) contribute to a higher probability of developing JDM.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To provide new markers to predict disease status and help guide treatment and disease management decisions.



Jayne MacMahon
MB, BCh, BAO,
LCRP&SI, MRCPCH
SickKids, Toronto, Canada

To define a **scoring system** for a molecule known as **interferon** to help define how active JDM is. Interferon plays a crucial role in the immune system and is a prime factor in inflammation.

What is the Desired Outcome?

We know that JDM is a variable disease that affects different patients differently. We aim to develop more individualized approaches to disease management and better outcomes for patients. For example, a scoring system for **interferon** may help clinicians know when to start and stop different medications.

CONTINUED RESEARCH FUNDING



Christian Lood, PhD
University of Washington

This project aims to understand how mitochondria contribute to disease in JDM patients. The mitochondria are the “powerhouses” of the cell, responsible for generating most of the cell’s energy.

What is the Desired Outcome?

Understanding how mitochondria contribute to JDM may allow us to target this process with new therapies. We also hope to develop mitochondrial-related biomarkers to enable preventive treatment of calcinosis and help improve patients’ quality of life.



Meredyth Wilkinson, PhD
University College, London, UK

Dr. Wilkinson was awarded Cure JM’s early investigator grant to study the potential use of drugs categorized as JAK inhibitors, including Baricitinib (Olmiant), Tofacitinib (Xeljanz), and Ruxolitinib (Jakafi). She will also investigate how problems with the mitochondria might cause inflammation in JDM.

What is the Desired Outcome?

This study could lay the foundation for future clinical trials resulting in new, alternative, and supplemental treatments that would reduce reliance on harsh medications such as steroids. These treatments could be less disruptive to a patient’s life, resulting in better long-term outcomes.



Jeff Dvergsten, MD
Duke University, North Carolina

(with George Truskey, PhD and Lauren Covert, MD)

As JDM is a rare disease, it can be difficult to have enough patients to test new medications. This project aims to develop a new muscle model that mimics JDM to test the effectiveness of new drugs.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To find better treatment options for juvenile myositis, with fewer side effects, that could later be tested in clinical trials.



Rie Karasawa, MD, PhD
St. Marianna University School of Medicine, Japan

To study how myositis-specific autoantibodies (MSAs) influence protein expression in the inner cells of blood vessels in JDM. Dr. Karasawa will collaborate with Cure JM’s Clinician Care Network and North American partners, including Dr. Lisa Rider, to share samples and advance this work.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To understand how MSAs contribute to blood vessel injury and guide new therapies targeting vascular damage in JDM.



Christian Lood, PhD
University of Washington



Sara Sabbagh, DO
Medical College of Wisconsin



Jessica Turnier, MD
University of Michigan

Collaborating with Dr. Turnier and Dr. Sabbagh, Dr. Lood will develop a standardized protocol for collecting samples and measuring biomarkers to improve how we track disease activity and identify new treatment targets in JM.

What is the Desired Outcome?

To advance more accurate disease monitoring and support personalized treatment plans for every child.



“Every gift helps turn scientific progress into real progress, giving children with JM and their families greater reason to hope for healthier futures.”

-Tim Shelby, Treasurer,
Board of Directors



SUPPORTING FAMILIES: EMOTIONAL HEALTH INITIATIVES

We are deeply grateful to the RB DenUyl Family Foundation for their generous support, which makes our emotional support program possible.



1.1 million
minutes of peer support
from other families, so
no one has to walk this
journey alone.



77 trained peer
support
representatives
Our network of young adults, teens, parents,
and grandparents provides mutual support
and understanding for families facing JM.

24:7 support

Get the support you need 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
by phone, text, or through our online support groups.



Emotional check ups at your rheumatologist

Cure JM is integrating emotional health screenings and support into routine
JM care at rheumatology visits, with plans to expand as resources allow..

Life-changing information

Browse hundreds of free resources on treatments,
exercise, nutrition, and social support. Resources are
available in English and Spanish on our website.

100+
Free
Resources



20+ chapters to educate and support families

Together, we create stronger, more connected communities.

Parent and Family Connect Groups

- Our *Moms' Connect* and *Dads' Connect* Zoom calls give parents a welcoming place to share and connect with others understand their journey.
 - Our *Grandparent Connect* provides support and community for grandparents of JM patients.
 - *Young Adult Connect* offers a safe and supportive space for young adults ages 18 - 30.
- To join the invitation list, visit www.curejm.org/join

Contact Mental Health Coordinator Ronda Thorington at ronda.thorington@curejm.org

FAMILY EDUCATION: TOWN HALLS

Cure JM's virtual Town Halls connect families with leading JM specialists that bring trusted information, practical guidance, and expert care directly into their homes.

Learn

Gain trusted information about JM research, treatments, and everyday disease management from leading specialists.



Ask

Connect directly with physicians, researchers, and experts during live Q&A discussions.



Apply

Use what you've learned to advocate for your child and navigate the JM journey. Topics include diagnosis, treatment, and daily care so families feel more confident every step of the way.



journey
with

12

Town Halls.

Nationwide access
to expert care.



500+

families reached
through virtual
education

A Place for JM Families



to Connect, Understand, and Feel Empowered

POWERING PROGRESS: OUR FUNDRAISING SUCCESS

From Cure JM's first fundraiser – a lemonade stand held over 20 years ago – through to today, you are powering our progress.

This is true for most rare diseases: research is powered by friends and families.

Highlights from 2026:

Our signature Walk Strong program raised \$700,000 for research. Find a walk near you at curejm.org/walkstrong.

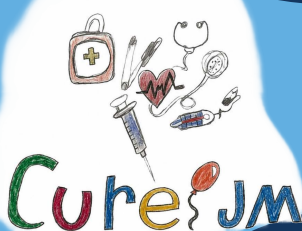
Last year's Giving Tuesday Holiday Challenge raised over \$1,000,000 for research. Visit curejm.org/acurestartswithyou to learn more about this year's campaign.

Families and friends hosting DIY Fundraisers raised over \$20,000.

Visit curejm.org/diy to learn more about these fun events, including a pickleball event, golf "8th Annual Swing Fore a Cure Ohio", and others.

Progress is building, and it's critical that we don't lose that momentum. Too many children are still waiting, and every delay means waiting even longer for the care they deserve.

Zack Harrison, Co-Chair,
Development Committee and
Co-Chair, Southern California Walk



WALK STRONG TO CURE JM 2026



POWERING PROGRESS: OUR LEADERSHIP

Our mission is carried out by:

- **Our Board of Directors**, which leads our work to fulfill Cure JM's mission.
- **Our Medical Advisory Board**, which provides insight, scientific direction, and expertise to Cure JM's work to advance research and care.
- **Our Clinical Care Network**, which provides expertise and direction to Cure JM's work to help kids and young adults get the best care.
- **Our Staff**, which provides leadership to move our mission forward.

(click on photos to learn more)



Cure JM Board of Directors



Cure JM Medical Advisory Board Chair
Dr. Brian Feldman
Head, Division of Rheumatology,
Hospital of Sick Children, Toronto



Cure JM Foundation Staff



Cure JM Clinical Care Network Chair
Dr. Stacey Tarvin
**University of Indiana School of
Medicine Riley Children's Hospital,
Indianapolis**

POWERING PROGRESS: OUR COUNCILS

Founded by parents and grandparents of children with juvenile myositis, for 23 years Cure JM has been driven by the passion and commitment of our families.



Cure JM National Leadership Council



Cure JM Young Adults Advocates Council



Cure JM Grandparents Alliance

Our mission is carried out by:

- National Leadership Council leads the charge to raise the funds needed to advance our work.
- Young Adult Advocates Council engages our patients aged 18-30 to advance Cure JM's mission.
- Grandparent Alliance provides a platform for grandparents of patients to get involved, share ideas, and support their families.
- Community Advisory Board provides guidance on ensuring diverse participation in clinical trials and research. Learn more at curejm.org/cab
- Chapter and Walk Leaders support Cure JM Fundraising, informational seminars and community activities as a state and local level.
- Family Support Network offers a warm, practical place to meet other parents, grandparents, teens, and young adults who understand the journey.

(click on photos to learn more)



Cure JM Chapter and Walk Leaders



Cure JM Holiday Challenge Committee



Cure JM Family Support Network



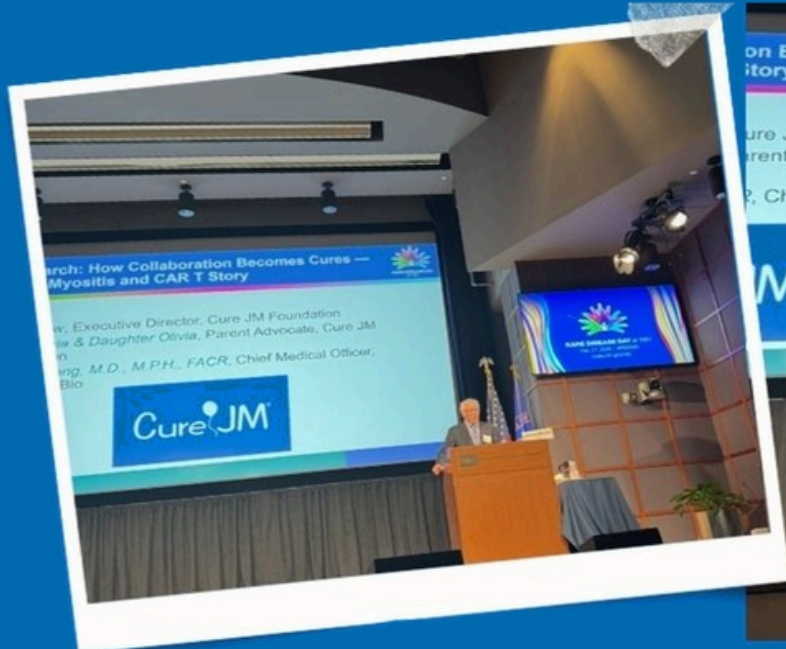
Cure JM Community Advisory Board

FEB 28



I ♥ someone rare

2026 NIH Rare Disease Day Keynote Speaker



**Thank you to Leah Kania and daughter Olivia
for advocating for Cure JM**

CELEBRATING GEMS: GIVING EVERY MONTH

GEMs are Cure JM's community of monthly donors who provide steady, reliable support all year long.

www.curejm.org/gems
www.curejm.org/grandparent-gem

CURE JM GEMS

We gratefully recognize the following members of the GEM community:

Brenda Alvarez
Trina Anvelink
Kevin & Kori Atwood
Kelly Barker
Paul & Taylor Beeler
Patrice Brown
William Brown
Christina & Edward Burke
Matthew Carlson
Rosalie Davis
Love-Anne Feather
Tracy & Cindy Gullett

William (Champ) & Deborah Hardee
Melinda Hanrahan
Peter Reichard & Linda Hiatt
Kimberly & Ed Kalletta
Sasha & Marcus Kloos
Elise Leonard-Demick
Nancy Lew
Ryan & Ayano Loren
Melanie Figueredo Marsh
Ryan McCrone
Stephanie McMaster

George Mowbray
Susan Nieman
Tom Peterson
Deborah Pierre
Cynthia Robinson
Heike Ruelle
James & Judith Sall
Lyttleton & Nadine Shurland
Timothy Silver
Tracey Sykes
Brandi Sutton



CURE JM GRANDPARENT GEMS

Suzanne Becker
June Bowers
Marjorie & Keith Carpenter
Lori & Joe Kania
Gary & Vicki Link
Susana Morini
Karen Norling
Harriet Sharkey-Ingoglia (Great Aunt)
Mike & Francine Mule (Great Uncle & Aunt)
Joel & Laurel Reed
Terry Tobin

Cure JM

GEMs

Giving Every Month.
Advancing Cures and Care Every Day.

POWERING PROGRESS: OUR GRANDPARENT SUPPORTERS

Please join us in celebrating the special role that grandparents play within their families & within our community. Since Cure JM was founded by parents and grandparents in 2003, grandparents have always been a special part of Cure JM. We treasure the special role of grandparents and are grateful for their support.

Cure JM is honored to recognize the following grandparents for their lifetime giving

	⋮	\$50,000-\$499,000
\$1,000,000+	⋮	Michael & Susan Duke
Marge Coffey	⋮	Mike & Patricia Fox
Bruce & Judy Leetz	⋮	Robert & Karen Hahn
	⋮	Rosemary & James Hower
	⋮	David & Carol Pearson
	⋮	Joel & Laurel Reed
	⋮	Robert Slater
	⋮	Merrianne Van Ness

Grandparents who gave \$10,000+ in our Fiscal Year 2026*

Mike and Patricia Fox
Bruce and Judy Leetz

David and Carol Pearson
Joel and Laurel Reed

Robert Slater
Michael and Susan Duke
Foundation
Heather and Mike Weiss

Grandparents who gave between \$1,000 - \$10,000 in our Fiscal Year 2026

Cathy Allen
Harold & Eileen Blitz
Jennifer Cantrelle
Sheryl & Stuart Chuzmir
Janet & Allen Cumbie
Elinor & Andrew Dahil
Dorothea & Fletcher
Gleason Family Foundation
Mary Ann & David
Eisenreich
William & Lynne Elsesser
Carl & Carolyn Erite
Dennis & Patricia Grundy
Robert & Karen Hahn
Joanne & Jeffrey Hall

Linda & Randall Hart
Carol Herrmann
Laura Hill
Mike & Nancy Howe
Rosemary & James Hower
Rita & Richard Jacoby
Jeanne V. & Joel E. Reed
Charitable Foundation
Lori & Joe Kania
Annemarie & Grant Kessler
Anne Lybrand
Celene & Michael Marsallo
Lenard & Charlotte Meyer
Sharon & David Naccarati

Lynn & Skip Neuenswander
Ginnette Pimentel
Kenneth Priest
Randy & Jenny Putt
Sue Renner
Nan & Daniel Schaper, MD
Linda Sestak
Laurette & Michael Shulman
David & Enid Stoms
Terry Tobin
Mary Vander Hoek
Walter J McKeever & Co LLC
Becky & Donald Whitt

This list was accurate at the time of publication. If you have any questions regarding the list, please reach out to Angela Suppa at Angela.Suppa@curejm.org

*October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026

In Loving Memory of

Nancy Hume

Dixie Slater

Merrianne Van Ness

POWERING PROGRESS: OUR CORPORATE PARTNERS

We are deeply grateful for our corporate partners, whose generosity drives progress toward better treatments and a cure for juvenile myositis.

Their support fuels research, expands education, and provides essential resources to families. Together, we host impactful events, strengthen care, and create lasting change for children living with JM.



Our Corporate Sponsors:

PLATINUM SPONSOR



GOLD SPONSORS



SILVER SPONSORS



BRONZE SPONSORS



QTS: POWERING PROGRESS IN JM CARE



QTS is helping Cure JM strengthen the hospitals, clinicians, and tools needed to bring better care and emerging treatments closer to children with JM.



5 LEADING PEDIATRIC INSTITUTIONS

Strengthening JM programs across the country.



- Scottish Rite for Children
- Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
- Children's Mercy Kansas City
- Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
- Dell Children's Medical Center



INNOVATION + RESEARCH

Investing in advanced tools, research capacity, and clinical trial readiness.



- Advanced nailfold capillaroscopy
- AI-supported imaging tools
- Research coordination support
- Staff training
- Support for studies like the Cabaletta CAR-T trial



WHOLE-CHILD CARE

Improving the daily experience of children and families through compassionate support.



- Mental health and coping programs
- Family education resources
- Buzzy Bee devices and upgraded infusion experiences
- Provider training in CBT and JM-specific coping toolkits



From advanced research tools to a more comfortable infusion experience, QTS support is helping transform what better JM care looks like for children and families.

Thank you, QTS,
for investing in a stronger future
for children with JM.



Partners in innovation.
Committed to children.
Changing what's possible.

On behalf of the Cure JM Foundation,

Cure JM's mission has always centered on improving lives through research, care, and community, and this year showed how powerful that mission can be. Families continue to face juvenile myositis with courage, but they should never face it alone. I met parents this year who shared how Cure JM helped them move from fear to confidence during their child's diagnosis. They found trusted education, expert clinicians, and a community that stood with them. That support is just as essential as the scientific breakthroughs that are shaping the future of JM care.

Your generosity strengthened the programs families rely on most. Family Days expanded across the country, giving parents clear information and helping children build friendships with others who understand life with JM. Our Clinical Care Network grew to eighty-three partners, increasing access to expert care and helping families reach specialists sooner. These efforts reflect Cure JM's commitment to supporting families throughout their JM journey with resources, guidance, and connection.

As Treasurer, I am proud of the way Cure JM stewards donor support. In 2026, more than five million dollars in active research commitments moved forward, including studies on CAR-T therapy, JAK inhibitors, and other emerging treatments. We invested in clinical trial readiness, physician education, and programs that improve early diagnosis and care coordination. These investments reflect our responsibility to use donor dollars wisely and to fund work that delivers meaningful progress for children.

We are encouraged by the advances taking shape, and we are grateful for the families and supporters who make this work possible. At the same time, we recognize that there is still important work ahead. Promising treatments must continue moving through trials, expert care must reach more communities, and families must have the support they need at every stage of their JM journey. Your partnership ensures that Cure JM can keep pushing forward.

Thank you for standing with us and helping bring the next chapter of progress within reach.

Tim Shelby

Tim Shelby, JD

Treasurer, Cure JM Board of Directors



Cure JM has been recognized with awards for its public accountability, program effectiveness, and cost effectiveness.

Since our inception in 2003, Cure JM has invested approximately 89% of all donations into research and educational programs.

The foundation has received the Top-Rated Award from GreatNonprofits.org every year since 2011, and GuideStar USA has awarded Cure JM the Platinum Seal of Transparency for our commitment to financial transparency and accountability.

www.curejm.org/financials

POWERING PROGRESS: EVERY GIFT HELPS



Ways to Give:
www.curejm.org/donate

By Mail: Send a check
made out to "Cure JM" to:

Cure JM Foundation
P.O. Box 45768
Baltimore, MD 21297

Every gift, no matter the size, makes an impact!

\$5

sends a teen patient to a peer support group

\$15

gives a children's book about JM to a child

\$33

provides a 1-hour educational session to a parent, to learn to care for their child with juvenile myositis

\$47

distributes treatment protocols to doctors

\$92

provides one dose of medication for a clinical trial to discover treatments that are less harsh than today's treatments of steroids and chemotherapy



Cure JM Foundation is a 501(c)(3)
non-profit organization.
Tax ID number 35-2222262.



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Top-Rated Since 2011

