



2020-2021

Gratitude Report

All the things you made possible
in the year of the pandemic.



He won't back down!

11-year old Tonoto had been seeking treatment for Medulloblastoma, a fourth stage Brain Tumour at our partner hospital BBCI, Guwahati. When Covid happened, Tonoto's parents did not stop his treatment. Despite the lockdowns and the risk of COVID, Tonoto and his mum, Vilika, would travel from Nagaland to Assam every other month to make sure Tonoto got the life-saving treatment he needed so badly. But the lockdown eventually forced the family to close their small business and the family was under pressure from their landlord to stop the hospital visits or risk losing their home. So Tonoto and his mum moved to a lodge closer to the hospital in Guwahati, leaving the rest of the family behind. Here's when your support of an assured supply of food and supplements helped them keep the faith and fight cancer. By 2020, they could complete his treatment and head back home to Nagaland.

“

HERE'S VILIKA'S MESSAGE TO YOU:

“We're very grateful to you for all the nutritious food we received throughout Tonoto's treatment. It helped boost his immunity and made him stronger for chemotherapy. Tonoto's dad passed away in 2020... and it was very hard on us, especially on Tonoto. But thanks to Cuddles and our other supporters, we were able to go on.”



You are a part of this journey!



You are a part of Tonoto and Vilika's story and of 6100 others who had to fight cancer during COVID in 2020-21. Despite the significant impact of COVID-19 and the additional burdens it created for us, we did not lose sight of what matters most – bringing people together to celebrate life and support Cuddles' mission. Your contribution – through cuddlesfoundation.org or via corporate grants - allowed us to keep our promises to patients and their families.

Our landlords, Mr Sunil Gavaskar, and Mr and Mrs Sanghvi gave us a rent holiday. Our CSR partners continued their support and did even more, whether buying masks or oxygen cylinders!

The outpouring of love and commitment from you was so humbling. Overnight, you transferred money wherever there was a need. You even got your children to bake cookies and donate their birthdays!

Our food suppliers and ration partners made sure they delivered food to our centres despite lockdowns and curfews. Our nutritionists moved into the hospital premises, so they didn't have to depend on e-passes to make it to the hospital on time. They now have a new name - frontline workers!

And for all of this, my dear friend of Cuddles, thank you. We're extremely grateful for every rupee, every share, every post and every message you send our way!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Purnota" in a stylized, cursive font.

With gratitude,
Purnota Dutta Bahl
Founder & CEO
Cuddles Foundation

Alone we can do only so much. Together, anything is possible.

Thank you for not letting COVID come in the way of your generosity!

Video calls that saved lives.

The lockdowns of April to August 2020 severely impacted patient access to the hospital. This meant that children in the middle of therapy had to delay their appointments, affecting their survival. So we swooped into action and set up a tele-counselling program to ensure our life-saving services continued even if children couldn't visit the hospital.

748

Tele-counselling
sessions conducted

11,517

Ration bundles distributed

Dry ration, above all else.

During the pandemic, many of our patient families lost their livelihoods. To address this situation and to provide maximum relief to our patients, we deepened our aid to cover more patient families affected by childhood cancer during the pandemic.

Introducing: Cuddles Institute for Clinical Nutrition (CICN)

When we couldn't train our nutritionists physically, we took to online teaching. And that brought about a fantastic idea - Cuddles Institute for Clinical Nutrition.

Traditional medical and nutrition education is rooted in classroom learning and does not necessarily prepare our healthcare practitioners for the front lines. Thanks to you, through CICN, we can freely share practical and clinical nutritional knowledge with healthcare practitioners - doctors, nurses, nutritionists and even students from those fields. So they may have all the information they need to save our children in hospitals.

[Visit Cuddles Institute](#)



Thank you for doing everything you did!

We are so grateful for everyone who came together for our families. Whether you pledged your birthday, started a fundraiser in honour of a loved one or auctioned something you loved, thank you. United as one Cuddles family, we continued the fight against childhood cancer.

1,909

People started fundraisers



Because of you...

80%

of children showed an increase in their nutritional status or maintained it.

94%

of children followed up on their first visit and continued with their treatment.



Get more insights



We love you for this...

266,361

In-meals for children
and caregivers

28,441

Nutritional Supplements
for undernourished children

40+

Nutritionists were on
the frontline, making
sure COVID-19 didn't
stop cancer care.

14,454

Hot Meals for children
and caregivers

11,517

Ration Bundles for children +
families who were struggling
with cancer and poverty

10+
States

30+
Hospitals



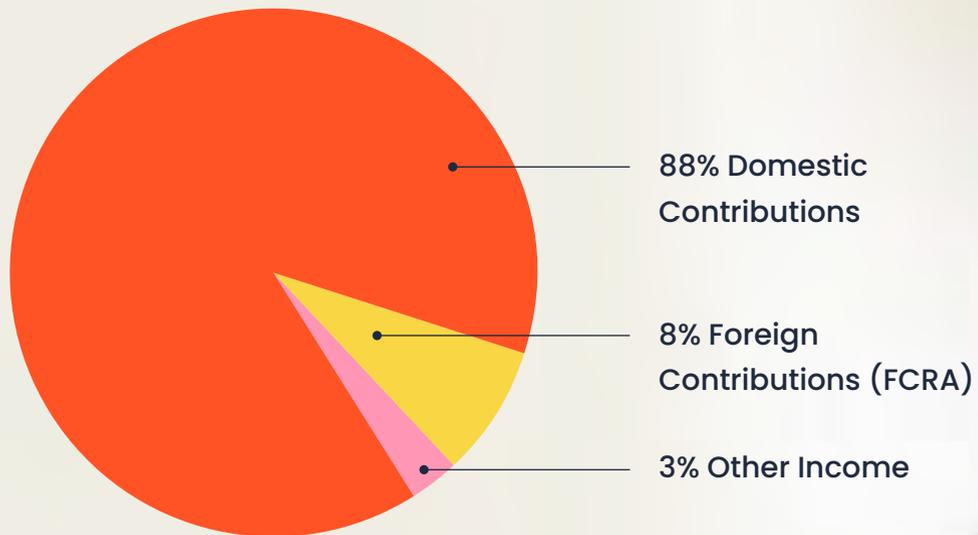
"As the treatment was about to start, the nutritionists advised us to include nutritious food items like almond, jaggery, peanuts and *ghee* into Jashwanth's diet, but we couldn't afford it. We honestly didn't know what to do. But they also told us that we were eligible for the Ration Program from Cuddles Foundation; it made all the difference. So I started making laddoos with almonds, jaggery and *ghee* for him, among other things. We could see the improvement in his health every day."

CUDDLES PATIENT, JASHWANTH'S MOTHER
MNJ HOSPITAL, HYDERABAD

Total Income

₹12,13,40,535

Where the money came from:



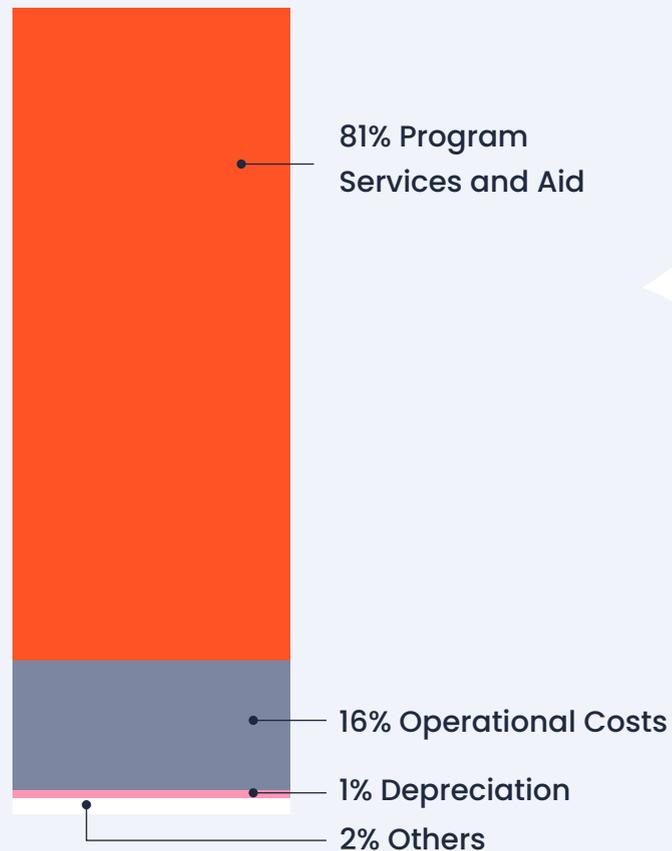
[Read full financial report](#)



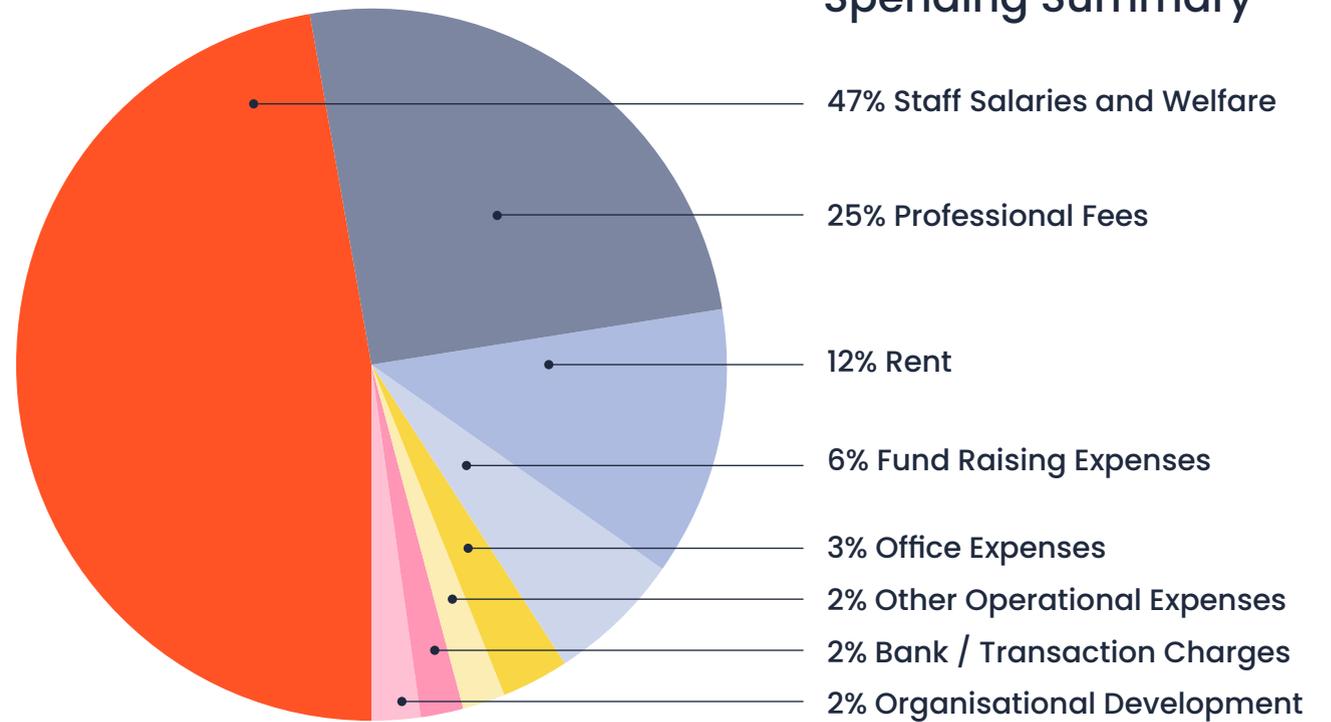
Total Expense

₹10,00,67,140

Allocation of Expenses



Operational Spending Summary



With your support

With your support, Tonoto, who started his battle with cancer in 2018, fought it through the pandemic, is now back home. He sends his love and gratitude via phone from Nagaland.

“I'm feeling much better now. I have started school again, and I'm back to my normal life; studying and playing with friends. I'm looking forward to becoming a Christian missionary in the future so I can share God's love and give hope to others.”





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Thank you for
feeding children
and starving
cancer!

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