



The Family Care Bag is a gift provided by Cancer Families United and sponsors of the organization, to extend comfort and care at this difficult time as you deal with your child's cancer diagnosis! The organization was created by a local mother, Mary Kay Pederson, whose 3-year-old daughter was diagnosed with leukemia in 2010. The entire experience at the hospital is overwhelming and often feelings of isolation set in as the days in the hospital seem to never end. This care bag is meant to provide items for comfort, nourishment, and necessity as you stay in the hospital with your child. The bag is also very useful for trips to the clinic for treatment or additional hospital stays, as it can house many items needed while away from home!

Cancer Families United is an organization that understands the journey you are about to begin, and we are here to offer support, networking, financial assistance, and friendship when you are ready! Throughout the year, family networking events are planned free of charge to families from the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Clinic. Current and past patients and their families attend these events to meet other families who understand what life is like dealing with childhood/pediatric cancer. Often, friendships are formed, and the journey is not as lonesome. Cancer Families United also devotes time and resources to awareness and advocacy, locally and in Washington D.C., to ensure kids diagnosed with cancer in Southwest Michigan are represented. Raising awareness and advocating for childhood cancer to become a national priority are critical to ensure that funding for research increases and cures continue to be discovered.

