

More than 100 liver diseases affect children. Despite the fact that over 15,000 children with liver disease are hospitalized in the United States each year at a cost of greater than \$350 million, the impact is just beginning to be understood. The wide spectrum of pediatric liver diseases (some hereditary, some unique to children, and still others common among adults) has been little researched to date. Efforts need to be directed toward defining the disease cause and pathogenesis, developing methods of early detection, and creating more effective therapeutic interventions. More formalized educational programs in the medical and lay communities are necessary to allow earlier recognition of these conditions.

THE CADE R. ALPARD FOUNDATION was created to help focus attention and resources on the medical challenges associated with pediatric liver diseases. We believe this is the beginning of a process that progresses toward prevention, treatment, and, ultimately, cures for children with liver diseases.

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for Pediatric Liver Disease**
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**THE CADE R. ALPARD FOUNDATION
FOR PEDIATRIC LIVER DISEASE**



*CADE'S FOUNDATION is dedicated to improving
the lives of children with liver disease*



MISSION

The mission of THE CADE R. ALPARD FOUNDATION is to find a cure for pediatric liver disease and its complications through the support of research and education.

ABOUT US

THE CADE R. ALPARD FOUNDATION FOR PEDIATRIC LIVER DISEASE, INC. (Cade's Foundation) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization established in 2003 by Scott and Jennifer Alpard for the purpose of supporting and funding the various programs that will make a difference in the lives of children with liver disease. Cade's Foundation focuses its activities in the following areas:

- 🎗 Funding and supporting research directed at identifying the cause of, a cure for, and means to prevent pediatric liver disease.
- 🎗 Being the vital link for patients and their families to information and education programs.
- 🎗 Heightening awareness to the nature of these diseases and the efforts of Cade's Foundation in order to stimulate volunteerism, scientific and health care community activism, and public support essential to the fight against pediatric liver disease.

HISTORY

When Cade was first diagnosed with biliary atresia we knew he would eventually require a liver transplant. We didn't think he would need one this soon but we are thankful he received a healthy liver and now can get back to being a normal, happy, active child. During the rollercoaster of a year one of the most difficult parts was how helpless and frustrated we felt. The most difficult thing a parent can do is put the life of their child in someone else's hands. Obviously, this is what was required for Cade to receive the wonderful and compassionate care that everyone at Texas Children's Hospital provided (in spite of his occasionally demanding and frustrated parents). During this ordeal we decided we had to do something that would allow us to feel like we were involved or at least making some kind of difference. In addition, we met numerous families and got to know other brave, courageous, and beautiful children that had received a liver transplant or who had some type of liver disease. We felt that we could and should do something to make a difference in the lives of not only these children, and their families, but in the lives of others in the years to come. As a result we created a Foundation, in Cade's name, focused on pediatric liver disease. We are extremely excited at the future impact Cade's Foundation will make on pediatric liver disease. It is with a great amount of pride and appreciation that we use Cade's name for this worthwhile endeavor.

Sincerely,

Scott & Jennifer Alpard

FACTS ON PEDIATRIC LIVER DISEASE

- 🎗 Liver disease affects 1 out of every 2,500 children and most forms of pediatric liver disease are of an unknown cause.
- 🎗 Most forms of chronic pediatric liver disease have no effective treatment other than transplantation.
- 🎗 A Pediatric Liver Research Center focused on the development and application of new treatments of pediatric liver disease does not currently exist in the United States.
- 🎗 As of December 2010, there are 534 children in the U.S. on the waiting list to receive a liver transplant. Approximately 44% of these children are younger than 5 years old. (In 2010 [thru October], only 473 pediatric liver transplants were performed in the U.S.)

