

Thanks to research, nearly 90 percent of children with acute leukemia are now cured. But there is still a long way to go.

Leukemia affects more children than any other cancer, so the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's School and Youth Programs provide a meaningful way for kids to help.

Each spring thousands of students across the country raised approximately \$19 million by collecting spare change to help fund cancer research and provide services to patients and their families.

"It's inspiring to see young people volunteer and really care about helping others," said Pattie Gorham, Nebraska Chapter Executive Director. "It's a program that is truly meaningful because kids learn that their efforts really make a difference."

### School and Youth Programs

- Pennies for Patients®: Value-building program for elementary and secondary schools.

Students collect funds, starting with their own spare change, used to support the research and patient care services programs of the Society. The program takes place during a three week period in February or March.

- Olive Garden's Pasta for Pennies: similar to the Pennies for Patients, this program is sponsored by Olive Garden Restaurant.

Students collect spare change, and the class raising the most money in each school receives a pasta party courtesy of Olive Garden.

Olive Garden also hosts kickoff luncheons for representatives of participating schools in each city and provides marketing support and materials for the program.

- The Trish Greene Back to School Program for Children with Cancer helps children return to school and other activities once their treatments are over.

For more information on the School and Youth Programs, or to learn how to register your school, visit [www.schoolandyouth.org/ne](http://www.schoolandyouth.org/ne) or contact the local chapter at 402-344-2242. Ask to speak to Rhonda Smallwood, School and Youth Program manager.