

About the Beads of Courage® Program

Every bead tells a story of strength, honor and hope.

The Program is a resilience-based intervention designed to support and strengthen children and families coping with serious illness. Through the program members tell their story using colorful beads as meaningful symbols of courage that they receive to honor and acknowledge each step of their treatment journey. Beads are given according to a program specific program bead guide. For milestones in their treatment journey, they receive handmade one-of-a-kind glass beads that are donated by members of the International Society of Glass Beadmakers (ISGB).

Program Areas

The Beads of Courage® Program is available for the following:

- Cancer and Blood Disorders
- Cardiac Conditions
- Burn injuries
- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- Chronic Illness

Program Development

All Program bead guides were developed in collaboration with experts in the field (nurses, doctors, child life specialists and social workers) so that each bead guide would reflect meaningful acknowledgment of a member's treatment journey.

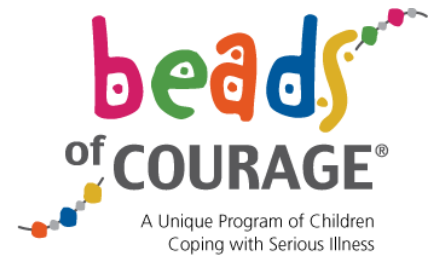
Outcomes

Ongoing evaluation of the Beads of Courage® program indicates that the program helps to decrease illness-related distress, increase the use of positive coping strategies, helps members find meaning in illness, and restore sense of self in those coping with serious illness. The program also provides something tangible the member can use to tell about their experience during treatment and after.

Current Programs

We currently provide the Beads of Courage program to 130+ sites in 6 countries. By the end of 2012, we will have 150+ member hospitals.

Fact Sheet 2012



- Beads of Courage, Inc. was founded in 2004 by Jean Baruch, RN, a pediatric oncology nurse who was inspired to care for children and their families with an arts-in-medicine program.
- Beads of Courage, Inc. headquarters are in Tucson, Arizona.
- In February 2004, Phoenix Children's Hospital became the first Beads of Courage Member Hospital providing the Beads of Courage program to families being care for in their cancer center. Today, Phoenix Children's provides the program to all families coping with serious illness.
- In 2010, Dr. Jean Baruch completed her doctoral study on the Beads of Courage Program and received her PhD from the University of Arizona, College of Nursing.
- Today, Beads of Courage, Inc. is providing innovative support programs to children in 130+ hospitals across the United States, Canada, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.
- The Signature Beads of Courage Program is available for children coping with cancer/blood disorders, cardiac conditions, burn patients and for families in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). Late in 2011, the Program expanded to support children with chronic illness.
- Beads of Courage has a multitude of programs available for our member hospitals encouraging family-centered care, these include: Beads of Courage Sibling Program; Creative Courage Journal; Workshop Series; Bereavement Support; and coming soon... Touch for Strength, a journal for Parents and Caregivers.
- In 2010, Beads of Courage launched a program to support clinicians caring for children with serious illness. The Bead Caring Program provides support and encouragement over time using a Round of Caring with beads to recognize professional milestones and provide the staff time to reflect on the work they do caring for children with serious illness.
- Beads of Courage, Inc. is proud of our partnership with the International Society of Glass Bead Makers (ISGB) who provide the handmade one-of-a-kind glass beads for the Beads of Courage Program. Over 50,000 beads are donated annually to honor the COURAGE of our members in the Beads of Courage Program.
- Beads of Courage, Inc. is proud to collaborate with local and national organizations and non-profits to support families at each member hospital. Each member hospital has a Program Sponsor providing the financial support for the Beads of Courage Program and is committed to supporting the maintenance of the program.
- Beads of Courage, Inc. is a Proud Member of the Society for the Arts in Healthcare and has partnerships with nursing and child life organizations.



Social Media Links

Facebook: www.facebook.com/beadsofcourage

Twitter: www.twitter.com/beadsofcourage

You Tube: www.youtube.com/beadsofcourage

Video Media Links

Beads of Courage Pittsburgh 9.23.11

<http://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/2011/09/23/beads-of-courage-give-sick-children-hope/>

Mayo Clinic 8.15.11

http://youtu.be/j1_8pC3Wevg

CBS Sunday Morning 12.12.10

<http://youtu.be/nqfboMNNMWQ>

Aflac/Wingman Beads of Courage 10.1.2010

<http://youtu.be/52bkBk7Gu4A>

Media Links

Sydney Newton's Coins for Courage 9.24.11

http://blog.al.com/breaking/2011/09/post_713.html

Beads in Space PR Newswire 8.30.11

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/beads-of-courage-beads-in-space-tour-travels-to-ten-us-cities-presented-by-maxit-healthcare-event-features-bead-design-challenge-128666908.html>

Ladies Home Journal

<http://www.lhj.com/volunteering/beads-of-hope/>

NASA & Beads of Courage Fly on Atlantis, STS-132

<http://www.nasa.gov/topics/nasalife/features/beads.html>

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