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## **\$600,000 RAISED AT PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION'S 25TH ANNUAL REACHING FOR THE CURE FOR PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH**

IRVINE, CA, March 28 -- Shattering previous records, more than 2,600 runners and walkers turned out in force this weekend for the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation's 25th Annual Reaching for the Cure run/walk presented by AutoNation Toyota Irvine, raising \$600,000 for pediatric cancer research. The funds will be invested in scientific research within the next year.

The commitment and zeal of the pediatric cancer fighting community was on full display this weekend. In the days leading up to the event, the number of participants swelled as did the generosity of donors and sponsors who are keen to save lives by accelerating the development of cures for pediatric cancers. Pediatric cancer is the leading cause of death by disease for children under 19 and more than two-thirds of survivors contend with debilitating side-effects caused by their treatments.

"What this event turnout says to us is 'make some day today.' Lack of funding for research has delayed scientific progress, but we can significantly accelerate momentum if we can continue to grow our financial resources," explained Jeri Wilson, Executive Director, Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation. The Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation invests in research that pushes the boundaries of science and advances breakthroughs in treatments and diagnostic tools.

"We are in this to cure childhood cancer – full stop," said Mark Mehta, General Manager, AutoNation Toyota Irvine, whose company's DRVPNK motto summarizes their commitment to a cancer-free future. "We appreciate everyone who supported the Race this year and encourage others to start thinking about how they can get involved next year!"

The Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation appreciates the support of these corporate partners:

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### About the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation (PCRF)

Determined to transform pediatric cancer care via accelerating research breakthroughs, the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation has one goal: to make it possible for all children facing childhood cancer to beat their disease and realize their full potential. Its rigorous and competitive process for awarding research grants has contributed to pivotal advancements in the areas of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Immunotherapy/CAR T cells, Osteosarcoma, Juvenile Myelomonocytic Leukemia, and Acute Myeloid Leukemia. The Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation is a GuideStar Platinum-rated charity. For more information, please visit [www.PCRF-kids.org](http://www.PCRF-kids.org). or follow us at [www.facebook.com/PCRFKIDS](https://www.facebook.com/PCRFKIDS), [www.instagram.com/pcrf\\_kids](https://www.instagram.com/pcrf_kids), and [www.twitter.com/pcrf\\_kids](https://www.twitter.com/pcrf_kids).

### About AutoNation, Inc.

AutoNation, a provider of personalized transportation services, is driven by innovation and transformation. As one of America's most admired companies, AutoNation delivers a peerless Customer experience recognized by data-driven consumer insight leaders, Reputation and J.D. Power. Through its bold leadership and brand affinity, the AutoNation Brand is synonymous with "DRVPNK" and "What Drives You, Drives Us." AutoNation has a singular focus on personalized transportation services that are easy, transparent and Customer-centric.

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### About Childhood Cancer

Cancer is the leading cause of death by disease for children under 19 years of age -- more than AIDS, asthma, cystic fibrosis, congenital anomalies and diabetes combined. Said another way, 1 in 285 children in the US will be diagnosed with cancer by the end of their teens. Due to research advances, overall survival rates have grown by 70 percent in the past 40 years. Still, about 20 percent of kids with pediatric cancer do not survive today. What's more, two-thirds of childhood cancer survivors will suffer long-lasting chronic health conditions from their treatment and one quarter of pediatric cancer survivors face a severe or life-threatening later life effect from their treatment. This is because most currently available pediatric treatments are derived from adult oncology and do not address the unique characteristics of pediatric cancers, do not provide the needed precision and/or are just too potent for developing bodies. Achieving more breakthroughs, so all children with cancer emerge healthy after treatment, requires increasing research momentum -- and that is contingent on investing more money in research.