

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2021**

# The Bonnell Foundation: Living with Cystic Fibrosis

CF is a genetic disease that causes chronic and fatal lung infections, interferes with digestion and impacts every organ. In 2021 the average life expectancy for someone born today is age 50. However, there is much hope for the future thanks to new medications and other treatment options that are currently in clinical trials.

The purpose of The Bonnell Foundation is to help families navigate the CF journey by providing important resources, support, and financial assistance.

In Michigan there are approximately 1,100 people living with cystic fibrosis (CF). Thirty thousand people in the United States have cystic fibrosis, and 70,000 people around the world. However, the numbers are probably higher because African Americans and people of color have been underdiagnosed. The same is true of people living in the middle east where until recently doctors didn't even believe people there could have cystic fibrosis. The life expectancy there is younger than 8 years old.



## **College Scholarships**

We've given out hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships to students with CF throughout the United States. In 2021 we were able to award \$26,000 in tuition support.









#### Financial Assistance

We have helped hundreds of families with medical bills and lung transplant grants over the past ten years. Over \$30,000 in financial assistance was given in 2021.

Thank you for what you are doing. It has made such a difference to so many families. - Marylynn

Thank you for the help with our medical bill. You can't imagine what a tremendous help that is for me. - Cathy



During the pandemic in 2021, The Bonnell Foundation acquired, coordinated and gave out masks, hand sanitizer and disinfectant to CF families across Michigan.

The Bonnell Foundation also coordinated efforts so people could get their first vaccines quicker in Oakland County.





### **Fundraisers**

In order to provide assistance, we have several fundraisers each year. Included are the Portraits of CF calendars, the Celebrity Softball game, galas, CF education dates, and other creative programs.



The award winning "Living with Cystic Fibrosis" podcast series will inspire you, make you laugh, get you choked up and leave you wanting to hear more! We hope these stories inspire others and spread awareness about cystic fibrosis (CF). Our weekly podcast highlights extraordinary people in the CF community (parents, celebrities and scientists). We also discuss insurance challenges, the rare disease fight for equality, and much more.

The Bonnell Foundation is committed to supporting the CF community. We could not do this vital work without the help of our sponsors. The Bonnell Foundation does not discriminate based on sex, religion, race, or sexual orientation. Anyone with CF is eligible.