



3/4 TO 4/4 FOR #44: CELEBRATING & REMEMBERING KURT'S MEMORY



Kurt Patrick Murnen **May 19, 1979 – March 4, 1999**

FC44 was formed in 2014 by the family and friends of Kurt Murnen to share and celebrate his story, to perpetuate his legacy and continue his fight against cancer. At the age of 19, Kurt lost his battle with Ewings Sarcoma, a pediatric bone cancer, on March 4, 1999. FC44 is kicking off our Annual Campaign to raise contributions to carry out our mission. The month-long campaign runs from March 4th through April 4th. The campaign starts on 3/4 the day we lost Kurt and continues to 4/4 for our #44.

Since FC44 was started, we have accomplished a tremendous amount together. Since 2014, FC44 has received over \$365,000 in donations. With these funds, FC44 has been able to work to carry out our mission. Together, we are having a significant impact on the lives of others and in the fight against cancer in Kurt's name and memory. To date, FC44 has provided \$215,000 to Kettering Health to support the physical therapy program run by Maple Tree Cancer Alliance. In 2023, FC44 made a \$100,000 pledge over three years to solidify our commitment to the inclusion of physical therapy in the cancer treatment plan. FC44 has been at the forefront of this progression and innovation in the fight against cancer. FC44 has also provided over \$88,000 in Kurt Murnen Memorial Scholarships at Archbishop Alter High School to 24 students.

For 2025, FC44 will satisfy the final \$30,000 of our three-year pledge to Kettering Health Foundation for Maple Tree Cancer Alliance. FC44 will also continue to provide the Kurt Murnen Memorial Scholarship at Archbishop Alter High School to a student for their senior year. These students have demonstrated some of the same positive characteristics of strength and courage in the face of adversity that Kurt did as a senior battling cancer positively impacting the people around them watching their journey.

FC44 Foundation's 2025 goal for the 3/4 – 4/4 for #44 campaign is \$44,000 to support our commitment to Maple Tree and the scholarship at Alter. Your gift not only helps continue Kurt's legacy, but you also are allowing us to have a significant impact on others' lives and in the fight against cancer.

All donations allow us to carry out our mission to celebrate and remember our #44, Kurt Murnen.

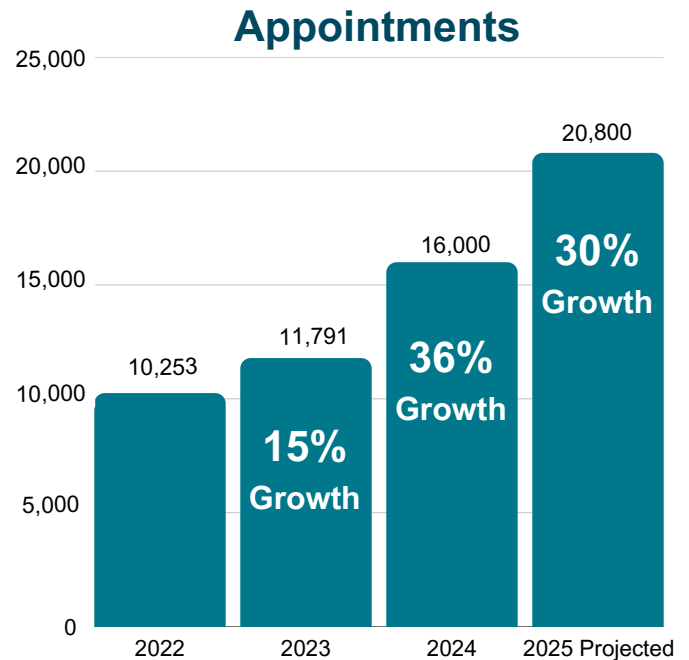
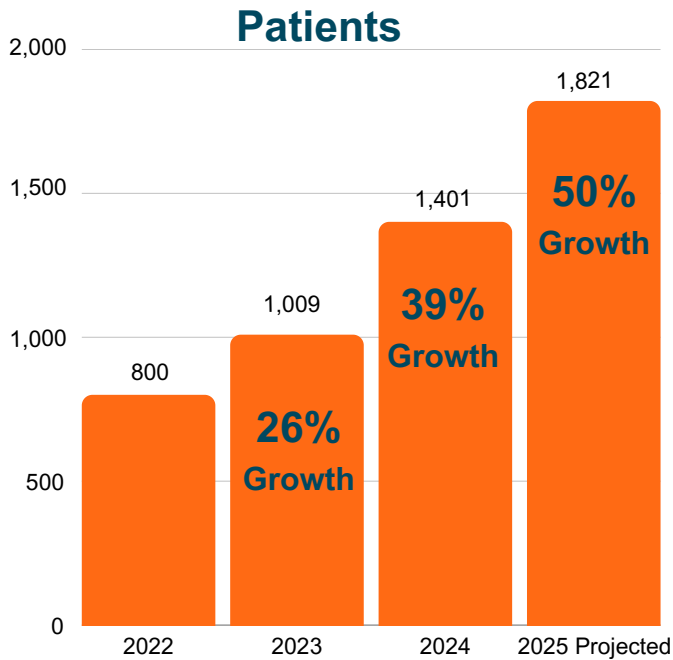
Checks made payable to FC44 Foundation should be mailed to
9321 Bennington Way, Centerville, OH 45458

Donate online [FC-44.org](https://www.fc-44.org)



Current State

In 2023, FC44 committed \$100,000 to expand the services of Maple Tree Cancer Alliance at Kettering Health. This investment enhances access to physical therapy for Kettering Health oncology patients by allowing Maple Tree Cancer Alliance to expand its staff and serve even more patients. Maple Tree added 14 new positions from 2023 to 2024, and plans to hire 8 additional full-time therapists in 2025.



Future State

Since the beginning of FC44’s partnership with Kettering Health, physical therapy has been the centerpiece. We have invested in programs that would identify patients who might benefit from physical therapy and expanded services. Thanks to our years of investment, the body of peer-reviewed research demonstrating the efficacy of physical therapy on cancer patients is growing.

The aim has been to build enough evidence to lobby for insurance coverage for these services. Participating in physical therapy reduces a patient’s out-of-pocket cost by 500%, their pain by 55%, and their readmissions to the hospital by 47%, among other outstanding impacts. Today, Maple Tree Cancer Alliance’s physical therapy is provided to patients free of charge.

At the expense of Kettering Health, with support from generous donors like us, these services are provided because they improve outcomes. But, without insurance coverage, there is a limit to the number of patients who can be served. Imagine a future where all cancer patients receive physical therapy as part of their treatment, rather than as an optional supportive therapy if it’s available or they can afford it.

Imagine how many more patients would thrive during and after active treatment. That future is within sight – Maple Tree Cancer Alliance is working in partnership with many other national organizations to apply for Medicare and Medicaid to cover these services. In March 2024, Maple Tree submitted a National Coverage Determination application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. In 2025, Maple Tree Cancer Alliance believes it will be invited to submit a formal request for coverage. With a successful application and approval, these services could be covered as early as 2026. That future isn’t certain, but it is possible, and thanks in part to the longstanding support that FC44 has provided, it is within reach.