

Hello BrainUp Friends!

Despite the difficulties of this year, a lot happened with BrainUp.

2020 - A Year to Remember

First, a Year to Remember. BrainUp had exciting 5 year plans for our 5th Annual Run/Walk, and then a global pandemic hit. We know how trying this has been for everyone, but for our brain cancer community, it was especially trying for those impacted with the diagnosis. There was so much to cope with: from receiving prescribed treatments, to families coping with how to keep their loved ones safe in a time of so many unknowns. This has been a lonely and difficult year for everyone because we could not see our friends and loved ones.

With all these concerns, BrainUp supported both RUSH Hospital and the Northwestern Medicine Lou and Jean Malnati Brain Tumor Institute each with a \$1,000 travel grant. These grants were allocated to assist patients in receiving their treatments without having to take public transit for their safety, socially-distant travel on public transportation was difficult.

Thank you for your contributions to help these patients out.

Virtual 5K Run/Walk

Who would have thought that we would be living in the virtual world for the entire year of 2020! In March and April, we were still hopeful to have our 5th Annual event at Maggie Daley

Park. As you all know, that did not happen. However, we had a successful Virtual Run/Walk! If you have not seen our virtual program, grab your tissue box and [view it here](#).

We had 42 teams and over 500 virtual runners/walkers and raised over **\$220,000** for the 5th Annual Virtual 5K Run/Walk! **Thank you** to all that joined our virtual event. We received such positive feedback on the virtual event that we plan to include the virtual aspect in our future events for those who cannot attend in person. Even though our virtual event was great, we really missed seeing everyone in person! Also, a big **thank you** to Jackie Bange from WGN-TV for being our host for the day.

[See how your team did](#)

Where Did Your Money Go

This year was a great success for BrainUp because we are pleased to be able to fund two Clinical Trials. **Each trial received \$160,000 for a total of \$320,000 being granted this year.** The grants will be for glioblastoma research going to the **University of Chicago** and the **Northwestern Medicine Lou and Jean Malnati Brain Tumor Institute and the Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine.** Our efforts are making huge contributions to our area hospitals as promised. They are truly grateful for this support. **Thank you** to all of you who have donated and supported BrainUp, you are the reason these grants are possible!

We are making plans for our 2021 Run/Walk! We will be back at Maggie Daley Park (fingers crossed)! We will need to move the event to Saturdays going forward so we don't have conflict with the Bear's home games on Sundays. Go Bears...right??? One year something good will happen for the Bears, just not sure when.

Stay well, wear your masks, wash your hands, and we will see you next year!! Make sure you check below for some **holiday gift ideas with our partners!**

With gratitude,

Dan and Meg Kresach
Co-Founders of BrainUp

[Donate](#)



Need some holiday or any day gift ideas?



Everyone needs coffee in their life, especially now! Shop from our partners at PapaNicholas for some holiday cheer! PapaNicholas has been sponsoring all our 5k events for the past four years with hot coffee for our attendees. Unfortunately they were not able to be at our event this year, due to it being virtual. 50% of all profits from purchases will go back to BrainUp; just select BrainUp at checkout!

Make sure you to support small, local businesses!

[Shop PapaNicholas](#)



Grab a new game to play with family and friends! Need some holiday or any day gift ideas? SoundTrak! is the new music trivia game, fun for everyone! For every game sold, \$1 will be donated to BrainUp and Cancer Research Institute.

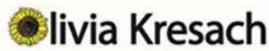
[Shop SoundTrak!](#)



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Thank you to our 2020 Sponsors!



The Roe Family





Find out more about BrainUp by visiting
[BrainUp.ngo](https://www.BrainUp.ngo)

For questions please reach out to Reese Toshach at
at 646-278-6739 or reese@poweredbyprofessionals.com

Follow us!



Our Mission

BrainUp is an organization dedicated to bringing awareness to brain cancer – a disease that doesn't get the attention it deserves. In this journey, we reassure patients and family members that they are not alone, and activate community involvement and engagement through fundraising events. From helping understand how to navigate treatment options to finding new treatments, BrainUp works tirelessly with patients, families, physicians, and research professionals to one day find a cure.

www.BrainUp.ngo

BrainUp is a not-for-profit public charity recognized by the IRS under 501(c)(3). BrainUp EIN # is 47-5516802

