



Transforming the lives of chronically ill children, and their families, shifting all from surviving to thriving - until cures are found.

Greetings!

I truly hope you and your loved ones continue to be healthy and safe. As whatever novelty there was to quarantining wears off, and we celebrate 4th of July, I can't help but think of how important independence is to all of us. Is it an American thing? Is it a human thing? Probably it's both. Regardless, we cherish our unfettered freedom and rail against whatever gets in the way.

Imagine growing up with countless, unrelenting obstacles to the basic daily freedoms other kids take for granted? Imagine growing up hindered by the hurdles a diagnosis places on your brother or sister? Imagine holding a crying child, distraught over barriers you are powerless to remove?

As you will read below, Bounce Families don't have to imagine - this is their enduring reality.

Thanks to you, they can now enjoy a growing number of moments of relief. I say, thank you for exercising your freedom to make a difference and "Let Freedom Ring"!!

Stay safe. Stay strong. Bounce!

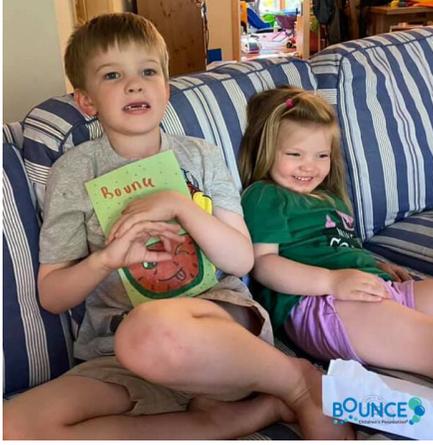
Joan M. Steltmann
Chief Executive Officer

"Thinking of You" Cards Delivered Smiles!

Thank you to our friends at **West Monroe Partners** and **PwC** for sharing words of encouragement with Bounce families. We were blown away by the thoughtfulness and creativity of the cards



This could not have come at a better time. I have one child crying about how



awful summer is and how tired he is of staying inside, and another with a mild concussion.

They needed a joke and to know how others care about them. Thank you!!

- Katie, Bounce Mom

Meet Bounce's New Program Manager, Skyler May-Belleville



Skyler has rich experience in the nonprofit environment advocating for refugee families and older adults and having earned graduate degrees in both Social Work and Public Administration.

Skyler and her husband recently relocated to the Chicagoland area from Washington, DC. As a native Nebraskan, you will find her cheering for the Cornhuskers football team this fall. She also enjoys baking and taking hikes with her husband and Golden Retriever, Alfie.

She is truly excited about serving Bounce Families and can't wait to meet them. Welcome to the team, Skyler!

In His Own Words

Bounce Dad, Michael, shares the positive impact that Bounce had on his family.

[TESTIMONIAL PAGE](#)



Bounce in the News!

Bounce was selected by Shedd Aquarium as its sole partner to pilot remote Sea Lion training. As part of our "*Bounce It Forward Goes Virtual*" initiative, Bounce jumped at the offer ... and it proved to be a huge success!

Cruz lost his sight due to human negligence, but he is thriving at Shedd and can now respond to verbal commands. He's super fun and a huge inspiration to kids battling chronic illness!

Today we had a private FaceTime with Cruz! Thank you for thinking outside the box and trying to make quarantine life a little easier on our kids.

What people don't understand is that we have lived the quarantine life for the past 9 yrs off/on due to my daughter's health issue.

We love you Bounce and are so happy you are part of our life.

– April, Bounce Mom

Shedd proclaimed the success of this program in a Press Release!
[Click Here to Read More](#)



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 - Program intern
 - General intern
 - Fundraising intern
- Development Manager

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