



St. Jude patient **Cindy**,
blood cancer

Cindy's Story

When Cindy was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia at 6 years old, her mom, Marisa, realized St. Jude Children's Research Hospital® was where she wanted her daughter to be. "Childhood cancer is a thief of childhood," said Marisa. "No child should have to go through this. St. Jude provided hope that there was something we could do."

At St. Jude, while undergoing months of chemotherapy, Cindy continued her classwork through the St. Jude School Program, became a doting big sister for the second time, and made friends with her fellow patients. "Their spirits are so high. They're running and playing and interacting with each other. It's so beautiful that we're all coming together, so many different people from across the world," said Marisa. "And it's so important to continue to fight until there is a cure for everybody."

Today, Cindy is home and in remission, "being a kid, as she should be," said Marisa. "Being intentional with our time is super important, especially after what we went through with cancer. Time is so precious, and we just want to soak up each and every moment." That's become their focus as a family: making the most of right now.

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