## The Story of the

## Me Cancerve Movement, Inc.

A Coloring Book



Bringing swift solutions to children in need because happiness shouldn't have to wait!



My name is Grace Callwood. This is the story of how I created the We Cancerve Movement, Inc.



Growing up in Maryland was great. My best memories included summer breaks, playdates with friends, vacations with my family, my birthday parties and starting school!

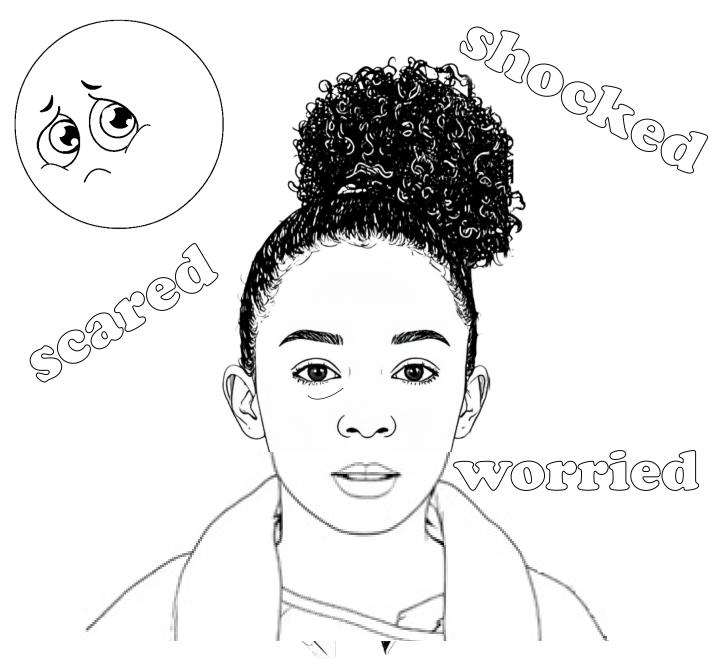
In December 2009, shortly after my 5th birthday, my family and friends celebrated my Baptism into the Christian faith.



The summer of 2011 was so fun. I had just finished kindergarten and was looking forward to first grade in the fall.



Picking apples at the local orchard is always fun with my grandma. Apple picking starts around my birthday, which is in mid September. I turned seven in 2011.



My life changed a lot right after my seventh birthday. I was diagnosed with cancer just a few days after school started. I was very scared and very confused.

My cancer is called T-cell lymphoblastic lymphoma. It's a rare form of Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma.

Suddenly, I had to go to the hospital every week for the first nine months of chemotherapy. Most of the time, I sat for hours while doctors and nurses gave me lots of medicine. I also received weekly spinal taps.



The medicine made me tired sometimes. It also made my stomach, back and legs hurt. Sometimes the pain was so bad, I couldn't walk or even sit up in a chair. That's why I had to start homeschool.



I started losing my energy and my hair! But I didn't lose my friends. As soon as I was able to go outside and play again, I played in leaves in my yard with my best friend Kaleigh and her brother Parker.



I especially liked getting visitors. My brother Kohl, sister Taylor and dad Winston visited and played games with me.



My Great Uncle Ed, my grandma's older brother, also visited me during my illness. Uncle Ed helped me expand We Cancerve to St. Aloysius Orphanage in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Grandma surprised me that day: she got a buzz cut so I wouldn't be the only one in the house without (much) hair.

Sometimes, the chemotherapy medicine I received was so strong, I had to be hospitalized and monitored.



When I stayed in the hospital, I made friends who were also fighting cancer. Sometimes, we played video games.

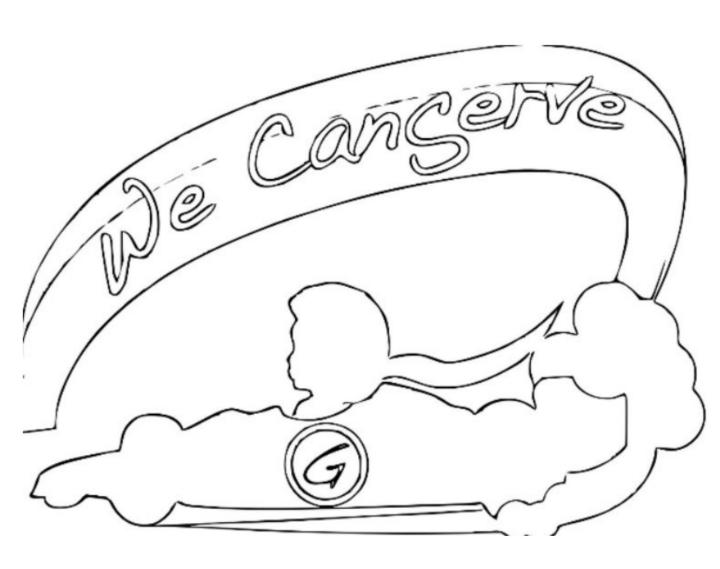
Sometimes, we rode our IV poles down the hallway!



I especially liked my amazing cancer doctors like Dr. Yoram Unguru. My family really likes him, too!



One day, I learned that two little girls lost everything in a home fire. Like me, we both had entered really sad situations that were not our fault. They didn't cause the fire and I didn't cause myself to have cancer. I donated my brand-new back to school clothes to them since I couldn't use them. They were happy.



I decided to create the We Cancerve Movement, Inc. in 2012 to bring happiness to children fighting catastrophic illnesses, experiencing homelessness, aging out of foster care group homes and orphanages, and facing food insecurity.

## Grace's Lemonade Stand

One of my first projects was hosting a lemonade sale in my driveway.



Addison Simpler is one of the friends who helped me organize it. We raised more than \$600 in four hours! We decided to donate the money to the clinic that helped me - Sinai Hospital's Pediatric Hematology and Oncology clinic in Baltimore - and to Casey Cares Foundation.



We Cancerve is managed by an all-youth board of advisors who help plan and execute all of our initiatives. I named the first board in 2013. In 2023, I handpicked Zachary Gwiazda to lead We Cancerve when I left for college in 2023.



Our Books & Buddies project was led by Mario Nandalal from 2016-2018. It provides a new book and a stuffed animal that matches the main character of the book to hospitalized children. We've donated more than 500 sets to date.

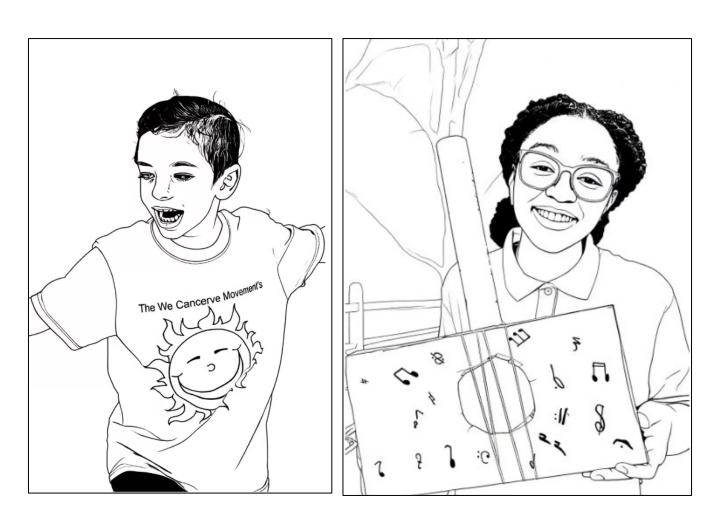


Our Eggstra Special Easter Project started in 2012. Today, Nael Shakur leads the project. To date, we have provided Easter gift bags/baskets to more than 5,500 children across Maryland and in Delaware.



Mason Darr, a board member, delivered Easter goodies to friends at various organizations including the Children's Home in Catonsville, Md. That location provides residential services to kids ages 13-20 in need of a home, care, and therapeutic services.

In 2015, I created "Camp Happy," a free summer enrichment day camp for children living at an area homeless shelter. Our "Happy Campers" enjoy field trips to local parks and farms, and crafts like D.I.Y. instruments led by our youth leaders.



By 2025, Camp Happy reached more than 360 children in two more shelters, two elementary school summer programs, a foster care group home and respite facilities. Our camp is also available virtually reaching kids from far as Texas to India!



Comic book-making craft kits we created helped hospitalized children become the superheroes of their own stories. Sydney Thompson, a member of our youth board, delivered them to Sinai Hospital in Baltimore.





We even have a number of international programs, including projects we're doing in Kenya at a children's rescue home.

Nael Lewis-Shakur has been a great supporter of the work I started there.



We Cancerve premiered a children's television show in 2023. Our 30-minute show spotlights kids doing great work for others. Scan the QR code on this page to see our show.



Scan me



Because of the great work we've done, I've had a chance to meet to some really famous people like Jennifer Hudson!



I'm in college now. Shortly after I started at Howard University, I connected with a mentoring program on campus for a major service project.



I also expanded We Cancerve's service to DC area nonprofits such as the Covenant House DC, to bring happiness to area youth experiencing homelessness – many who aged out of the foster care system.



I believe in the work of We Cancerve so much that I'm focusing on it as part of my research studies during the school year and during summer internships such as one at Johns Hopkins in Summer 2025.

