



GRAYSON'S LADDER

CLIMBING TO A CURE



GRAYSON'S LADDER is climbing with hope - hope for a treatment and ultimately a cure that will make all the difference for children like Grayson who are living with the terminal diagnosis of Alexander Disease. This disease is insidious, ugly, terrible, with children losing their ability to talk, walk, eat and eventually their lives. We can't stand for that, so we climb. Thank you for joining us on our climb to a cure for Alexander Disease.

Faith • Hope • Love • Joy • Cure

Learn more about our climb at graysonsladder.org





**Grayson, with his climb support team:
big brother, Cooper, mom Laura, and dad,
Josh Ledbetter along with grandparents Mike &
Debby Cooper and Tim & Robin Ledbetter
(November 2017)**

When Grayson's parents, Josh and Laura Ledbetter, saw their little G man have an hour-long seizure in January 2017, they thought it couldn't get much worse. In just a few weeks' time, it did. They received word of his diagnosis on a fateful morning in late February and were left feeling utterly devastated, helpless and alone.

Hearing the news that their then 4-year-old son had Alexander Disease (AxD), a terminal neurologic disorder, was just too much for them to bear. The Ledbetters were told AxD would eventually strip Grayson of everything that makes him the sweet, joyful, outgoing child he is today, and would ultimately take his life. They refused to simply sit back and accept this fate.

Grayson's parents were determined to do something, anything to help their son and other precious children affected by AxD.

And, that's just what they did!

With love and support from family and friends, the Ledbetters launched Grayson's Ladder, a component fund of the Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga. The mission of Grayson's Ladder is to be a catalyst for research and development of a treatment and eventual cure of AxD, as well as to help children diagnosed with AxD get the care they need.

Alexander Disease, a rare, regressive disorder that destroys white brain matter, affects fewer than 100 people worldwide. But the rarity doesn't negate the urgency. Because AxD is so rare, there is currently no research funded by governments or large nonprofits. Families of children diagnosed with AxD are typically told there is no hope for life, for treatment, for a cure. Over time, kids with AxD lose the ability to walk, talk, eat, and eventually their very lives are stripped away by this terminal disease—all due to a lack of funding.

Grayson's Ladder is committed to doing everything possible to make sure a treatment for AxD happens in Grayson's lifetime. The hope is that with treatment he will have the opportunity to live a full life with the ability to talk, walk, eat and remain his happy self.

Doctors at leading hospitals in the U.S. are currently in the process of developing a drug that may serve as treatment for AxD. With private funding for continued research, this drug could make all the difference for children like Grayson who are living with the terminal diagnosis of Alexander Disease.

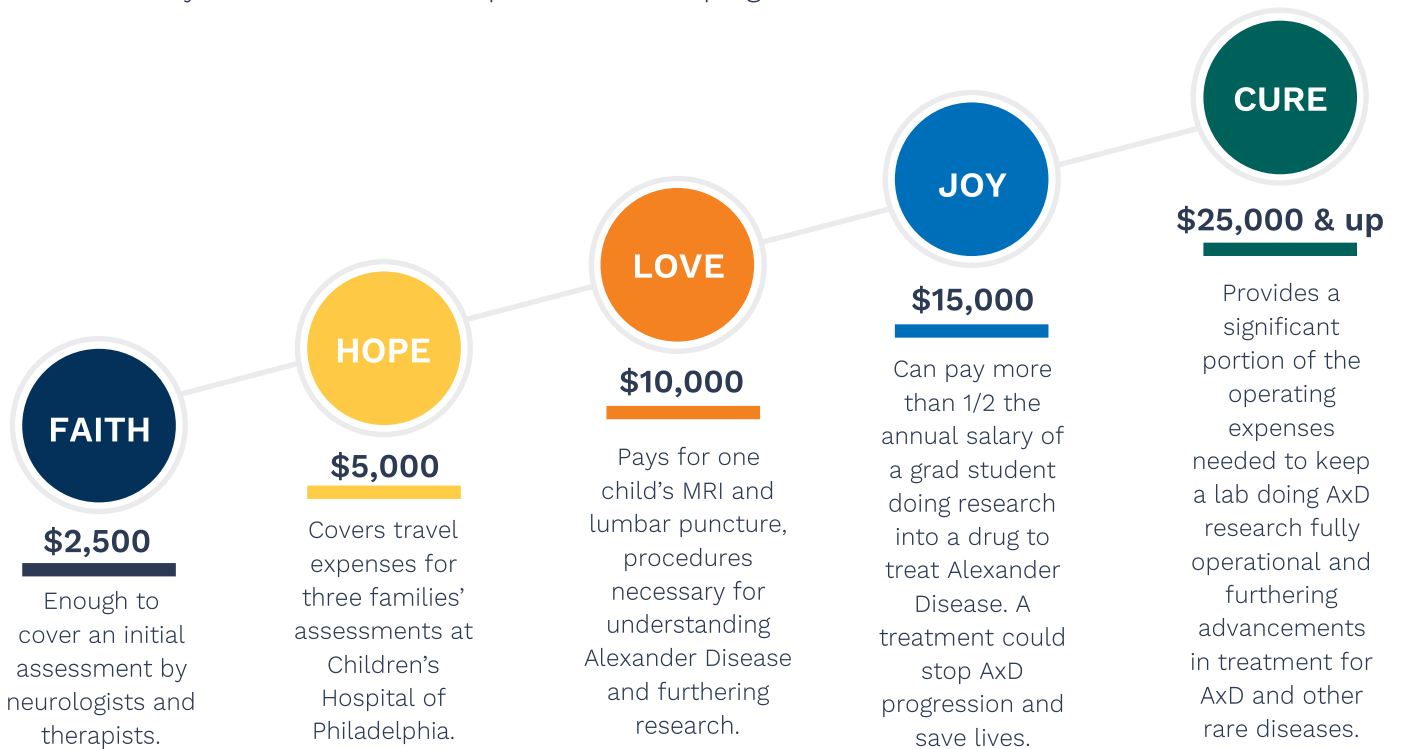
Thankfully, Grayson doesn't know what AxD is, but we do. We know it's urgent. We know lives hang in the balance. We remain hopeful. Our hope is that people like you and companies like yours will partner with Grayson's Ladder on our lifesaving climbing mission. We hope you'll join us as we climb to a cure . . . a climb that would not be possible without **YOU**, Grayson's buddies and supporters.



We can't let lack of funding be the reason Grayson and others like him don't get the treatment they so desperately need. Our need is big, and the research we're supporting is unprecedented – **it takes \$1 million each year just to keep the research ongoing.** It will take even more to advance research at an accelerated pace to impact the lives of children who currently have Alexander Disease. In addition to research for a treatment and cure to AxD, Grayson's Ladder is also committed to assisting families who need financial support caring for their loved ones with AxD. That's why we're asking you to partner with us financially. **We can't do it without you. Lives depend on it.**

In U.S. laboratories, brilliant medical minds are testing ways to **stop this vicious disease right now.** They need funding to continue and further their lifesaving research and need resources to bring in the expertise and technology necessary to develop a treatment and possible cure for AxD. The research is far-reaching, not stopping with Alexander Disease. AxD researchers think their work may have wide implications for numerous forms of Leukodystrophy and many other rare diseases.

We invite you to partner with us on our climb to a cure. Please consider the partnership levels below and learn how your donation will be put to work helping kids with AxD.



When you or your organization partner with Grayson's Ladder, you'll become a catalyst for developing a treatment and eventual cure for AxD.

From our faith partners to our cure partners, all who team up with us at one of these levels will have the option to be featured on graysonsladder.org with an accompanying logo or attribution, will be included in promotional materials and will be recognized at Grayson's Ladder events in 2018. Donations are tax-deductible.



Thank you for your support on our climb to a cure for AxD.

Alexander Disease is a monster. It attacks unsuspecting families, then steals joy and lives from beautiful children like Grayson. But, we are hopeful; we are fighters. We invite you to join us as we take big steps and climb to a cure.



Donation:

Donation amount: _____

Donation Frequency: _____ One Time _____ Monthly _____ Quarterly _____ Annually

Print your information as you'd like it to appear in publications/online:

Name/Organization

Contact Name

Street Address

City/State/Zip Code

Phone Number

Email Address

Preferred method of payment:

_____ Check made payable to Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga
with "Grayson's Ladder" in the memo line

_____ American Express

_____ MasterCard

_____ Visa

Name as it appears on card

Signature

Card Number

Exp. Mo/Yr

Security Code

Billing Street Address

City/State/Zip Code