



# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Elbowbumpkid Inc

January 2023-  
December 2023

<https://www.elbowbumpkidinc.org>

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**HAPPY DIAVERSARY**

**COLLABORATING  
SINCE  
2019**

## **ABOUT ELBOWBUMPKID INC**

Our mission is to provide families impacted with Type 1 Diabetes with the opportunity to connect, learn and grow despite the diagnosis. Elbowbumpkid Inc is a completely volunteer board, every penny we raise goes towards programs for families impacted by Type 1 Diabetes.

### **OUR SERVICES**

**Elbowbumpkid Inc raises critical funds that subsidize education events, local community events, a scholarship grant for high school senior with Type 1 as well as partnerships for local initiatives that support the T1D community.**

**Local programs for T1D families**

**Scholarships**

**National Diaversary Card Program**

**Focus on college students & celiac disease**

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# 2023 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

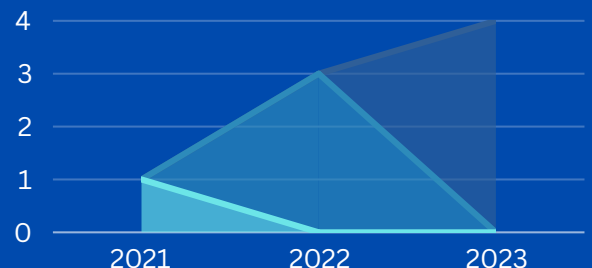
We facilitated 20 programs this year for the community which includes in person connection events for children, Caregiver Nights, & virtual zooms for parents. We launched a national diaversary card program to mail cards to people with T1D on the anniversary of their diagnosis. This fall we ran a pilot for a college kit program, mailing care packages to college students with T1D living away from home. We supported Camp Pathfinder with snacks and goody bags, continuing to work with CCMC, JDRF, Lions Club & Meriden YMCA on this program. We also distributed bags of gluten free groceries for celiac awareness month and a large clothing donation to families in need. We continue to support JDRF & CCMC programs that help our T1D community.



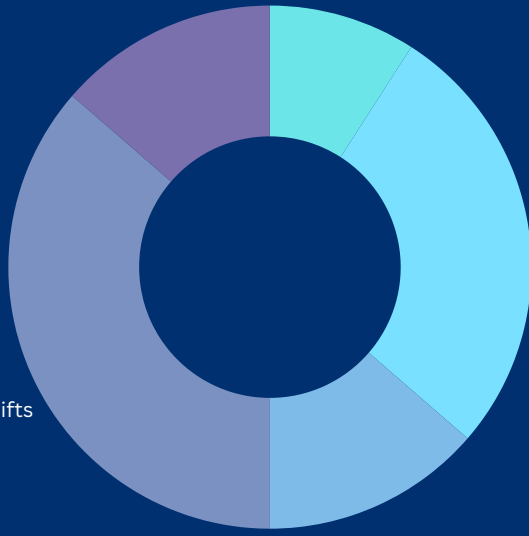
***Program Highlight: 75 members of our T1D community were granted a wish day at Legoland NY thanks to a partnership between Merlin's Magic Wand Foundation & Elbowbumpkid Inc. Merlin's Magic Wand provided the families with tickets and parking. Elbowbumpkid Inc sponsored two snack breaks for the T1D children. Legoland New York also ensured each T1D child had Reserve Ride access so no child was sidelined by treating their diabetes.***

## SCHOLARSHIPS

We continued to provide a partial scholarship for the Friends for Life education event, supporting 3 families in 2023. We established a scholarship committee to redesign the application & outline new parameters for 2024 subsidies.



Individual donors 13.6%    Kendra Scott Fundraisers 9.1%



Designer Bag fundraiser 27.3%

Grants/Matching Gifts 36.4%

Hartford Marathon fundraiser 13.6%

# FUNDRAISING

We continue to efficiently fundraise to subsidize current programs, revamp our scholarship program & launch new focused initiatives. We are grateful for the grants received which enabled us to focus on programs and grow our impact.



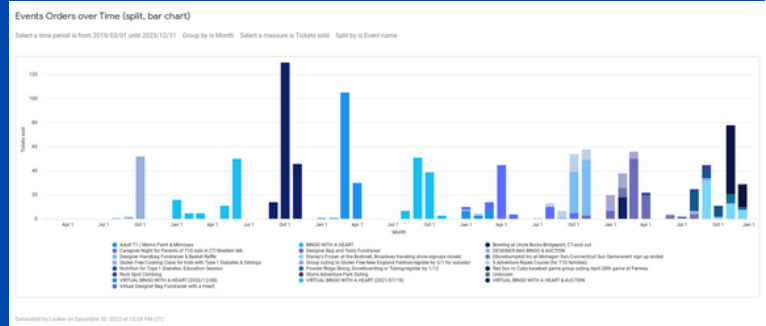
## BOARD & OVERHEAD

We welcomed 3 new board members in late 2023 while 2 board members terms ended. We modified the board structure so each 2024 board member has a specific focus project—diaversary cards, teen/tween specific events, website initiatives, adapting Quickbooks & more.

Our board remains 100% volunteer so our overhead is low, it includes website charges, postal & PO box charges, state filing fees, software & program support.

## PATIENT IMPACT

As our programs increase, the amount of families we impact continues to grow.



# SUMMARY

We are proud of our growth and impact in 2023, it was our largest volume of programs to date which increased our base of families we serve.

Our President Samantha Merwin received a prestigious award from Cigna for her efforts:

<http://tinyurl.com/9xnrmkx>

Our newest board member Saige received a volunteer award from the New England Patriots for ongoing volunteer work with Elbowbumpkid Inc

We look forward to our ongoing programs for families and the exciting launch of our new programs ahead.



## WHAT'S NEXT?

Spring 2024: launching a college scholarship program for students with Type 1 Diabetes.

Summer 2024: Parents night out collaboration

Fall 2024: Celiac kits for newly diagnosed T1D families

## KEEP IN TOUCH

■ [samantha@elbowbumpkidinc.org](mailto:samantha@elbowbumpkidinc.org)

■ <https://www.elbowbumpkidinc.org>

## Testimonials from families we serve:

Samantha Merwin is someone to be admired. She has been a huge support to my family and many others. She provided opportunities for children and caregivers of type 1 diabetes to get together and form bonds. She is a true treasure!

Samantha Merwin and her family have helped us navigate the early days of my son's diagnosis. We will be forever grateful for all they have done and continue to do while on this life changing journey.

Samantha Merwin welcomed us into the local chapter with open arms shortly after moving to CT. We got a wonderful donation of clothing, through elbow bump kid and lots of educational directives. My child whom I felt very lonely found and made friends at the social events we went to and looks forward to more. Samantha also helps people get supplies and help they need however she can.

Jacob was diagnosed with Type 1 one year ago today. I am so proud of him and the person he is becoming. He has truly showed us his strength and courage. This disease is awful and it came with quite a few emotional lows. Our family was sponsored by a local nonprofit Elbowbumpkid to attend Friends for Life education event. This was truly a turning point for Jacob. Jacob came back with a new outlook, more confident and happy. The other kids learned and watched as other families coped with the same struggle Jacob has too. It was an amazing time for us to learn and better ourselves with and for Jacob

My daughter received her care package today. She was so surprised and happy with absolutely everything in the box. She said could not stop talking about how it made her day. She actually said, "this is the best thing I've received all year!" Thank you from the bottom of my heart! Hearing the joy in her voice made my day as well.

When our son was first diagnosed with type 1 diabetes, we felt completely overwhelmed and lost. I joined all the FB groups in an effort to learn all we could, to try and find like-minded people who are going through what we were, to find a community, but the groups were too large and people were scattered. It wasn't until we started attending events that EBK put together here in CT that we felt like we started to form a real community for our son, find friends, and through that, learn and grow as caretakers and become better advocates for our son.

Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for families and for kids like our son!!!

Thank you so much for an amazing event! My kid had such a wonderful experience which he won't ever forget!

Deep gratitude to The Elbow Bump Kid-Type 1 Diabetes Awareness and Merlin's Magic Wand Foundation for organizing such a fun filled event! My son had an wonderful time and he already asked me if we could do it again next year!

Thanks for a great night out and for everything you do! Truly appreciate it.

Samantha Merwin thank you for organizing, it was such a great evening

***Thank you to our donors and grantors in 2023 including Petit Family Foundation, Cigna and Whole Foods!***