

Meet Our Members

Edin and Shiamara's Journey

In Spring 2023, Edin was referred to us as he was facing metastatic gastrointestinal cancer, and his wife Miriam, and their two children Shiamara, age 2 and Fredy, age 14 were grappling with the fear that comes with knowing they will eventually lose a husband, and a father.

25% of people living with a history of cancer are raising children under the age of 19. These families face a unique set of challenges, as fear, stress, and uncertainty can impact the emotional well-being of young children throughout their lifetime. Providing these children with necessary communication and coping skills early on is proven to be critical for their growth and development in later years.



At Crossroads4Hope, A Network of Cancer Support, we care for the diagnosed and their entire family. Our Bilingual Social Work and Child Life Teams are working hard to ensure no child is alone during this crisis,. Through age-appropriate activities, emotional support, and educational resources, we help children and teens who are impacted by a parent or sibling's cancer diagnosis to:

Process their emotions in a safe and supportive environment; navigate the complexities of their family situation; and develop coping mechanisms for dealing with stress and anxiety. Our team will often go above and beyond to reduce the burden families are facing, but sometimes it's the smallest things that make the biggest impact.

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Shortly after Edin came to us we discovered his daughter, Shiamara's 2nd birthday was approaching. We quickly realized there was an immediate need to provide a ray of light amidst the darkness the family was experiencing. We assembled a box filled with birthday party essentials to expedite a legacy building opportunity for Edin. Included were party decorations, a scrap book and a polaroid camera to capture the important memories from this celebration with their father.

Unfortunately, Edin died suddenly before they could celebrate Shiamara's birthday. Shortly after Edin's passing, Miriam persevered and threw Shiamara her party, which then became a time and place for the family to find joy amidst the deepest sadness and grief any family would endure.



Edin is just one of the many families we serve. Donations to Crossroads4Hopes directly support our vital child life program, ensuring that no child, or parent is left to face this difficult journey alone.