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Whether you're a parent navigating the challenges of raising a child with complex medical needs, or a supporter helping to make a difference in these families' lives, we are grateful you're part of our community! Here are a few resources and updates to encourage you in your parenting journey and keep you in-the-know.

### 3-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY

Our 3-year strategic plan is designed to build a sustainable and resilient Charlotte's Hope Foundation by focusing on solidifying our brand, expanding our audience, strengthening our board, and diversifying our revenue streams.

[Click here to view our 2024-2027 Plan](#)

### SAVE THE DATE

Join us for the Celebration of Hope: A Derby Affair  
May 3, 2025  
[Chatham Hills](#), Westfield, IN



Mark your calendars for a memorable evening of elegance, excitement, and impact. Stay tuned for more details!

### ADVOCACY ACADEMY

As parents of children with medical complexities, we can greatly benefit from learning about trauma-informed care because it equips us with knowledge and tools to navigate the unique emotional and psychological challenges our families face. Here are just a few ways that being trauma informed can help our families:

1. **Recognize the Impact of Trauma:** understand how these experiences can affect our own mental health and that of our child, as well as their emotional responses and coping mechanisms. Awareness of this impact allows us to address emotional needs with greater compassion and patience.
2. **Support Child's Emotional Well-Being:** recognize signs of trauma in our child (such as anxiety, withdrawal, or fear) and better advocate for care that minimizes retraumatization.
3. **Building Stronger Relationships with Medical Team:** better communicate our concerns, build trust, and create a partnership with healthcare providers that is based on transparency and shared decision-making.



### MISSION MOMENT

On September 10th, our very own Emily & Ashlyn had the incredible opportunity to represent Charlotte's Hope Foundation in a special webinar hosted by Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital.

The webinar introduced the global surgical team that is bringing the life-changing Kelly continence procedure— the same surgery Ashlyn's daughter Emery had in the UK— to America! This is a huge step forward for the bladder exstrophy community, offering families in the U.S. hope and access to this vital treatment.

Ashlyn & Emily's journey began when Ashlyn's family traveled to London last year, where Emery became the first American patient to undergo this transformative surgery. Now, the procedure is finally coming to the U.S., marking an exciting milestone in care for these incredible children!

[WATCH WEBINAR](#)

### PODCAST OF THE MONTH

[61. Bringing Hope Home: A Mother's Journey to Secure Life-Changing Surgery for Her Child & Bring It to America for More Families](#)

In this episode of Empowered by Hope, Ashlyn and Emily recount the journey of Ashlyn's daughter, Emery, who became the first American to undergo a groundbreaking bladder exstrophy surgery at Great Ormond Street Hospital in the UK. They highlight the global efforts to bring the Kelly Continence procedure to the U.S., with collaboration from world-leading surgeons. The episode offers practical advice for parents navigating advocacy, emphasizing the importance of trust, persistence, and community support in finding the best care for their children.

[LISTEN TO PODCAST](#)

### WAYS TO SUPPORT THE CAUSE

"I want to help other parents going through similar experiences." This is a very common sentiment among the parents we serve. **Rally Hope Family Fundraiser** is an opportunity for parents, friends and supporters to create their own fundraising page in support of Charlotte's Hope Foundation, making it easy to tap into their community of friends and family to support this incredible cause.

[START YOUR FUNDRAISER](#)



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