Summer 2025 Newsletter

Dear [First Name],

When this message came, our hearts leapt at the impact this mission is having on real families:

"I was introduced to your podcast … and I just had to send a message to you both. Thank you SO much for doing what you're doing. The healing I have felt just listening to five episodes is more than I have felt from the hours of therapy. … You are both doing such wonderful things for our community, and I can't thank you enough!!" —Gemma F., Super Mom from Canada

Gemma's story is just one of many. Every week, we hear from families who feel seen, supported, and empowered through the Parent Empowerment Network. Because of your support, we are able to empower parents to advocate for their children's medical needs.

Since our launch as a nonprofit in 2022, you've helped us:

- Air **75+ episodes** and reach **more than 5,000 downloads.** The *Empowered by Hope Podcast* brings strength and solidarity to parents everywhere.
- **Create a global community** by using the rare #Hardikar diagnosis tag. Now, nearly 20 families around the world have connected who previously did not know others with the same diagnosis.
- **Triple our social media** presence in 2024 and we've grown our **Community of Hope** where parents of children with complex medical needs come together for support.
- And, Parent Empowerment Network facilitated bringing a **life-changing surgery** to the U.S. through international collaboration.
- We refreshed our identity from **Charlotte's Hope Foundation** to **Parent Empowerment Network** — a name that speaks to the critical resilience and community we help families build. Our new website offers quick access to trusted resources when time and clarity are in short supply. And our new logo embodies the rising hope that is central to empowering the parents we serve.

What Parents Are Saying...

"I am a parent educator in a NICU … I am also a momma to a child with medical complexity. I have found your podcast very therapeutic and have shared it with a few moms that were taking babies home from our unit with complex diagnoses… it has been so helpful to me." —Rachel S., Alabama

“I’ve needed this for 7 years… I’m so excited to connect with other moms who really, really get it.” —Sammie B., Iowa

“What an amazing community and platform you both have built. I am just filled with so much emotion right now, I have no words. I am honestly so excited I could book a flight right now just to give big hugs and cry together.” —Ashley B., Utah

“I found your podcast and listened to the episode announcing that the procedure is coming to Cleveland (episode #61). I am totally overcome with emotion hearing your experience; thank you for sharing it and for bringing this information to so many families who feel like they do not have any choice in the decision-making for their children’s care.” —Kieve L., Canada

What’s Next? We have identified 3 major initiatives to better serve families.

- Launch a **Comprehensive Online Support Journey**, guiding families through 12 months of expert resources, emotional support, and advocacy coaching.
- Grow our **Marriage Support Program**, providing tools and strategies to help couples strengthen their relationships while navigating the stress of caring for a medically complex child.
- Build out our **Medical Dads Community**, a first-of-its-kind space for fathers to connect, grow in confidence, father-led.

We are $20,000 Away from Our Fundraising Goal!

If you gave at the 2025 Gala or are a monthly donor — thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

If you haven’t had a chance to support the mission this year, now is the perfect time to join us. When a family receives the life-altering news of a complex medical diagnosis for their child, your gift allows Parent Empowerment Network to be there for them.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for being part of this mission.

Ashlyn Thompson, Emily Whiting, and the Board of Directors