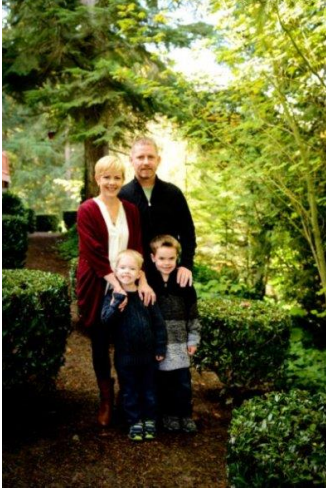


Shannon Malloy
Cure JM (Juvenile Myositis)
Director of Development and Operations



By bringing Encore Fellows on board, we found exactly the talents and skill-set we needed. We would not have invested in capacity in this way before the Encore program, but now we plan to bring on future Encore Fellows because of the experience and expertise they bring. **Shannon Malloy, Development and Operations Director for Cure JM**

Encore Fellows Start 15 Chapters and Partnered On Five Walks To Raise \$500,000

I've been with Cure JM since 2013 as Director of Development and Operations. Juvenile Myositis (JM) is a group of rare and life-threatening autoimmune diseases, in which the body's immune system attacks its own cells and tissues. Approximately 2 to 4 children in a million in the United States are diagnosed with JM each year. Cure JM Foundation® is the leading global nonprofit organization funding Juvenile Myositis research. Cure JM has invested \$12 million and supported over 140 research studies to accelerate the pace of research to find a cure and better treatments for Juvenile Myositis and improve the lives of families affected by JM.

Cure JM is a small organization, started by parents and grandparents in 2003 in Encinitas, CA. At that time, the group consisted of a small number of parents and grandparents. Through the Internet and educational efforts, we now have about 3,000 families involved in Cure JM.

Because of the rapidly growing number of families, one of the most strategic projects facing Cure JM was to create a chapter structure within which Cure JM's growing numbers of very passionate volunteers would find support, connection, education, and ultimately work together as a chapter to raise funds for research. Cure JM did not have the capacity to accomplish this project with existing resources.

Enter Lauren Alvord, our Encore Fellow familiar with the organization, due to a co-worker who had a child affected by Juvenile Myositis. Lauren had over 30 years of experience in human resources, strong leadership and program management experience. She was joined by Encore Fellow Beth Barrer. Together, we asked them to set up and launch our first regional chapters and fundraising walks.

Lauren's impact cannot be overstated. Through her leadership, professional expertise and "can-do" attitude, she has made a significant and lasting contribution to our organization. We targeted starting five chapters. She and Beth have launched the first 10 –and soon to be 15– regional chapters of Cure JM. The chapters program brings Cure JM into the local communities of hundreds of children and families. Each Cure JM Chapter provides support, education, and community to the families in their region. For these families, having the resources of Cure JM local to them can be life-changing. Lauren and Beth's contribution to Cure JM will be felt by these families for many years to come.

In addition, each Cure JM Chapter has an annual Walk Strong to Cure JM™, Cure JM's signature fundraiser, to raise funds for Juvenile Myositis research. Lauren is also the Walk Strong to Cure JM™ National Program Manager. Lauren created a turn-key toolkit and provides the support necessary for families in each of Cure JM's chapters to organize a fundraising walk. In the first year of the walk program, the Cure JM families and Lauren partnered together to organize five walks and raise well over \$500,000. Cure JM is now entering its second year of its walk program and expects to raise nearly \$1M through 10-15 walks across the country.

"Working with the Cure JM families has been one of the highlights of my career," says Lauren. "Their commitment to find a cure for their children and grandchildren is an inspiration and it's an honor to be a part of this exciting time at Cure JM."



Lauren and her family in their Walk Strong t-shirts

The impact of this fellowship is immeasurable. As a small non-profit, we don't have the resources to hire outside help. The skills and leadership that our Encore Fellows have brought to Cure JM has been transformational in so many ways. We couldn't do what we are doing, and help so many kids and families, without Lauren and Beth.