Cancer-related financial toxicity (CRFT) is a national crisis hiding in plain sight. Families fighting cancer are overwhelmed by lost income and increased out-of-pocket costs associated with treatment. As a result, they face higher mortality rates, the inability to adhere to their treatment plans and bankruptcy.

**Higher Mortality and Relapse Rates**

- Patients who file for bankruptcy have a 79% greater risk of early mortality.
- Children from high-poverty areas relapse sooner than children in low-poverty areas.

**Interrupted Access To Care**

- 29% of patients skip doctors appointments.
- 38% postpone or do not fill drug prescriptions.
- 31% cut oral medications in half.
- 34% skip doses entirely.

**Inability To Afford Daily Living Expenses & Bankruptcy**

- Only one-third of cancer patients continue working full time after diagnosis.
- Adult cancer patients are 2.65x more likely to file for bankruptcy.
- 42% of insured cancer patients reported a significant or catastrophic financial burden.

The most commonly reported material hardships among families of a child with cancer are:

- Food
- Housing
- Utilities

A comprehensive summary of the current research on CRFT is available in the Family Reach white paper "CRFT and its Pervasive Effects on Patients and Families: Solving a National Health and Economic Crisis Hiding in Plain Sight."