accenture

IN SEARCH OF A CURE

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

Melissa, our beautiful daughter. She loved to dance and sing and play
just like any other three year old. One of her annual checkups,
the doctor noticed that her platelets were low.

We went to get some further testing done and realized that she had acute
myeloid leukemia, which is a rare form of childhood cancer.

When we got the diagnosis, we were shocked. I really struggled with the idea that I couldn't help her.

And so I was relying on doctors and the best doctors in the world to try to help my child. But after that, there was not much else I could do besides try to be there for her.

Melissa didn't make it.

She she passed away from leukemia, and one of the things that I promised her was that I would never stop fighting for her and all the other children that would be diagnosed with any types of cancers.

Some of the treatments that Melissa had to endure were very, very intense.

Even if the treatment is successful,
there is actually various side effects that could happen.

There was sort of a one size fits all approach to the treatment.

What I was trying to figure out was why there wasn't a more precise way to treat Melissa's type of cancer that was different than another child's type of cancer. And so one of the things that I've been trying to help with is actually helping these hospitals use their data more effectively.

In my work, I do this for clients.I help take data and analytics and provide insights back to our clients.

What I was working on was something called Target Pediatric AML. We were working with several different hospitals to help look at how we get all of their data in a format and determine if there's different types of treatment options available for those patients.

Some of my colleagues found out about it and said, hey, we want to help you, too. And so we had some colleagues that started to help putting together some data harmonization around these different hospitals and looking at ways
that the treatments were different based on the patients.

And all of a sudden, there was more and more help that started to come.
We were able to actually take a team of data scientists use actual data from Fred Hutch Children's Hospital and create what we called data ingestion pipelines. So now there's about two thousand patients that their genes have been mapped. And while it's not a cure, it's certainly one step closer to understanding how to treat cancer more effectively in the pediatric cancer population. The more that I've been able to help

others and to give back, and the more my wife has been able to help others and give back, the better that we feel about Melissa's life, the better we feel about our lives and our journey. And we hope that by talking about it, like talking about it now we're able to give others hope, too.
And I hope that everybody **finds hope in this message as well.**