

'Look! This is my brother'

BY NICK SOON

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TWO families are working hard to keep alive the memory of Bailey Franz, 3, who died of cancer last year.

Bailey's parents David and Cathy Franz and David's mother Marilyn are working hard with Bailey's grandparents on Cathy's side Allan and Desney McConnell for what they're calling Bailey's Dinner and Auction at Fox Hills Golf Club on Saturday, October 31.

The aim is to raise funds for the charity group Cure Our Kids.

Mr Franz said it would be a fun night dedicated to remembering Bailey and his friends who had either died of cancer or who were suffering from it now.

Cure Our Kids was set up to improve the lives not only of children who have cancer but also the lives of their families.

Mr Franz said there was still no cure for the disease, so all he and those helping him could do was try to offer support and make the lives of sufferers as comfortable as possible.

He said all the money raised at Cure Our Kids events went to the oncology unit at The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

"The event was inspired by our son Bailey, who was diagnosed with a very aggressive form of cancer called neuroblastoma when he was 22 months old," Mr Franz said.

"He endured a harrowing 18 months of treatments including chemotherapy, radiation, stem-cell transplants and countless operations. The treatment appeared to be working and he was cancer-free for about four months. But in May 2008, his cancer reappeared in an aggressive manner and it spread right throughout his body in a matter of weeks."

Bailey died on July 12 last year. Jake, his brother, who often looks at Bailey's photo, was born 13 days later on July 25.

So far \$56,519 has been raised. Tickets to the October 31 night cost \$50 (including dinner, entertainment).

Details, tickets: Katrina Ortolan, 99383499 or David Franz, 99209055.



All for Bailey: David and Cathy Franz show Jake a photo of his brother Bailey, who died 13 days after Jake was born. **Picture: Gene Ramirez**