Steps to Starting a New Beads of Courage Partnership or Program

1. **Determine your hospital’s Beads of Courage® Program interest** and discuss with your interdisciplinary staff. The success of any program requires that it is vetted with staff ideally across various disciplines of clinical care. Please take time to meet with staff and leadership about BoC programming to improve the quality of patient care, and the experience of caring for and by patients and their families.

2. **Identify a program sponsor or donor** who can help support the program financially. This can include local organizations, businesses, hospital foundations, individual donors or grants.

   **Custom logo beads** ($750/500 beads). These beads have BoC logo on one side, and a custom logo on the other and include an intention card with customized mission statement or encouragement note from the sponsor. Logo beads are used to honor the chosen sponsor/donor and will accompany each child’s strand upon enrollment. This is a great way to highlight to Beads of Courage members, and anyone who views their beads, the caring people who sponsor their program.

3. **Identify Program Ambassadors.** Beads of Courage, Inc. requires that the hospital identifies at minimum one BOC Program Ambassador for each area that will use the program. This is an important clinical leadership role. The Ambassador serves as the main point of contact with Beads of Courage, Inc. and is responsible for maintaining program integrity, including new orientation, staff continued education, ordering supplies, and regular communications. This information is collected in the program site information form below.

4. **Provide the Site Information.** This form must be complete in order to proceed with establishing Beads of Courage® Programs at any participating organization and information obtained will be used to draft the Program Participation Agreement. This form provides us with information on your organization, the area(s) where the BOC program(s) will be licensed for use and who is funding the program(s).

5. **Complete/Renew a Program Participation Agreement.** A Program Participation Agreement drafted by Beads of Courage, Inc. outlines the shared responsibility of Beads of Courage, Inc. and the organization for program success. The agreement outlines specific guidelines regarding patient safety, use of the Beads of Courage® registered trademark, approved content for communications, program terms and conditions and payment terms. The Agreement must be signed by the organization legal representative and by Beads of Courage, Inc. before the program can proceed. Those who implement the program, the organization's marketing and communications, and the organization's foundation should review the agreement for program success.

6. **Complete Beads of Courage® Ambassador Training.** Beads of Courage, Inc. believes strongly in program integrity and effective implementation of the Beads of Courage® Program. We encourage a interdisciplinary team to attend the 2 hour Ambassador Training, designed to educate the clinical team about the design and implementation of the Beads of Courage® Program and the theory used in the development of the program. Beads of Courage, Inc. can submit to your clinical educator the application for participants to receive CEU credits upon completion of this training, if interested and approved. Staff will also have the opportunity to participate in the Beads of Courage Ambassador Workshop for reflection and renewal.
Beads of Courage, Inc. is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to improving the quality of life for children and teens coping with serious illness, their families, and the clinicians who care for them through our Arts-in-Medicine Programs. We believe in creating a context for caring transactions to transpire through our community and encouragement programs. Since 2005, Beads of Courage, Inc. has established collaborative partnerships in caring with over 300 hospitals nationally and internationally, and worked with several community organizations to make healing happen through the use of beads as a historical art form.

Through our programs you can provide the opportunity for COURAGE to be honored, HOPE to be given, and JOY to be experienced.

Our Mission: To provide innovative Arts-in-Medicine programs for children coping with serious illness, their families and the clinicians who care for them.

Our Vision: To advance the science of caring. Beads of Courage, Inc. is proud of to be affiliated with the Watson Science Caring Institute and in 2013, we established the Center for Arts-in-Nursing to boldly pursue our vision.

Our Goals: 1. To transform the bedside experience of caring for children and teens with serious illness through innovative Arts-in-Medicine Programs; 2. To model collaborative strategies to strengthen human connectedness through the gift of beads that bestow honor and express human caring; 3. To contribute to the science, practice and implementation of evidence-based interventions.

Our Programs: Every Beads of Courage® program integrates the use of beads, the earliest art form known to humans, as visible, tangible symbols of human experiences that need and deserve to be expressed. Every time a bead is given courage is honored, suffering is alleviated, resilience is strengthened, and the experience of human caring is affirmed.

Our Flagship Program---BEad Courageous: For Children and Teens in Active Treatment

Beads of Courage® is our flagship program and an evidence-based intervention that supports the psychosocial and emotional care of children and teens coping with serious illness and their families. It is the standard of care in more than 300 children’s hospitals worldwide and is intended to be implemented in a clinical setting. Beads are given based on the Beads of Courage® bead prescription that serves as a clinical protocol. The beads are transformed into a form of narrative medicine that allows children and teens to RECORD, OWN, and TELL their story of courage.

Cost to establish a new program: min of $5500 with an average cost of $3000-$5000 to maintain the program annually.
Beads of Courage® Program Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why is there a cost for the Beads of Courage® Program?

A: Beads of Courage, Inc. is a non-profit organization that depends on donations from the public to pursue our mission. We work with every hospital to find donors in their community to help cover related program costs. This is the essence of community-based program partnerships and we are very proud of the many program partners in caring we have established worldwide that make our programs a success.

Q: What is included in the $5000 program start-up cost?

A: The program start-up cost includes the initial program materials and set up, program beads, staff training, and reflection and renewal bead stringing workshop for training attendees. Please note that the training can be an opportunity for staff professional development by contributing toward CEU credits, but more importantly, the value of the Beads of Courage® Program lies in its success as a program that directly supports the quality of life, sense of well-being for children and families and a strong therapeutic alliance among clinicians, patients, and families.

Q: What happens if I need more supplies and who pays for these?

A: Program supplies can be ordered on the Beads of Courage, Inc. website and are paid for as stated in the Services and Payment Terms, a part of the Program Participation Agreement. The bead refill costs vary depending on the size of the patient population, the number of Beads of Courage Programs used and how they are used, but average $3000-5000 annually. BoC provides options for refill order payment and requires payment before materials are shipped.

Q: What is the Annual Dues/Licensing fee for?

A: The Annual Licensing fee is collected annually and is paid for as stated in the Program Agreement. This licensing fee allows the program to be licensed for use to the organization as per the terms in the Agreement. It is an investment in the Beads of Courage, Inc. organization that is used to cover related program costs that are above and beyond the actual costs of beads required for program outreach and availability (i.e. program management and support, bead order and inventory processing). Additionally, a portion of the annual membership dues are used to maintain clinical advisory committees dedicated to ongoing program research and evaluation and direct outreach to Beads of Courage® members, all of which are necessary to advance the science and practice of caring for people across the lifespan through innovative Arts-in-Medicine Programs. There is no separate annual licensing fee for use of the BoC Programs complementary to the flagship program (store.beadsofcourage.org/programs) and implementation of these programs is strongly encouraged to further strengthen and build a full Arts-in-Medicine Program at your organization.

Q: Why does my hospital need to complete a Program Participation Agreement before starting the program?

A: The Program Participation Agreement is a legal document that licenses organizations the use of the flagship program. Embedded in the agreement is information about patient safety, use of the trademark, terms and conditions, approved content for communications, and payment terms. Protection of the Beads of Courage trademark is important for long-term stability of the program and the honor it bestows upon those children who are members.
Together Making Healing Happen Worldwide

Beads of Courage, Inc. strives to be a global organization that values the: collaboration of caring clinicians advancing the science of caring, feeling of membership and human connectedness, and restoration of self-worth by inclusion into a worldwide psychosocial and emotional support program. We truly believe that just like a strand of beads, we are all connected!

Over 300 Member Hospital Partners in Caring Worldwide

Over 400 BOC Programs Worldwide

- USA
- England
- Wales
- Scotland
- Northern Ireland
- Republic of Ireland
- Canada
- Japan
- New Zealand
- Australia

Over 170 Member Hospitals & 300 Beads of Courage® Programs in the USA

“He needs the beads. We need the beads. Not because they are magic, but because they identify us with a community of fellow travelers. Without them, we would not be able to endure. Yes, we will take your beads, and thank you very much for them.”
Patient Family Centered Care

Emotional Support-Resilience Based Coping

- Feeling validation
- Emotional processing facilitation
- Positive refocusing
- Something to look forward to
- Sense of control
- “Enjoy” the beads—Begin to “own” the program
- Allows patients and families to see “How far they have come”

Improved Communication

- Increased staff/patient/family communication and interactions
- Provides opportunity for consistent follow up between medical staff and families which lead to important medical/care discussions

Storytelling-Legacy Creation-Narration

- Helps the staff and family re-cap and emphasize the accomplishments of the first week. Patients and family can have difficulty remembering events during new diagnosis/hospitalization.
- Something tangible and visual to represent journey—patients “love to show off their beads”, hung on unit for all to see

Bonding-Relationship Building

- Staff connection/bonding with patient and family (especially “difficult to reach” patients and/or families)
- Allows families to be more involved, especially if they cannot participate in hands on care
- Family Bonding