

Little Star Foundation “Your Example”

Issue 27 Sept/Oct 2021

2021 marks 36th Year Helping Children with Cancer, Families & Communities

What's in Your Email Box?

Many of us have busy days which include checking emails. Since the beginning days of emails, these are the types of emails Little Star Foundation receives daily:

These words are from a Mom in Florida: "My son was born in June 2005. He was diagnosed with bone cancer My son, Talen, was active in sports playing basketball, football and baseball. Then came cancer. My son was diagnosed May 2019 and started chemotherapy 4 days later. In August 2019, Talen had surgery with the femur, knee, and partial hip and tibia removal. Nov 2020 osteosarcoma cancer metastasis to his lungs and received a second round of chemotherapy for 6 months. We were told on 7/8/2021, Talen has 3 months to live. We are requesting assistance with the funeral and plot. Thanks in advance from his loving family."

On a page to follow, I ask "As a kid do you remember having fun in a park, wearing your favorite shirt, sports team jersey or just smiling because life let you?"

I know I did. Since I was a teenager I have been helping children with cancer and children in need, their families too. For the past 36 years I have devoted my life to helping them. As you read their stories, take in their journey and decide whether you can help, please know we are doing everything we can to help ease the suffering and improve the quality of life for children with cancer and children in need and their heartbroken families.

[Donate Today!](#)

Your donation matters!
Donate today to improve the lives of children.

From a Mom, "My son, JP, was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. We have fallen on financial hardship & would appreciate help to obtain a little bit of financial stability as we continue our battle with cancer. We are actively in & out of the hospital for chemotherapy with antibodies treatment."

In our contacting the hospital: "I am the social worker following JP... He was diagnosed with neuroblastoma cancer in June of 2020. JP underwent multiple different types of chemotherapy, radiation and most recently received an autologous stem cell transplant. He is currently undergoing antibody therapy. JP's Mom is a single Mom taking care of JP and his younger sibling. They are in financial need... Please let me know if you can help."



JP is from the Midwest and even after being diagnosed with cancer he is doing his best to keep his spirits up. We are with you JP! Help for you and your Mom and other families is on the way!

Donate to Little Star at www.littlestar.org

Written by Adriana Solarova



“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.” ~Aristotle
Every family and hospital I work with is different. There is no way I can share fully what families I work with go through in their childhood cancer journey on a daily basis. During this continued Covid time life can be challenging and impacting families with children with cancer even harder.

I often get asked: “What is it that you do exactly?” I sometimes struggle with how to form an answer as Program Director is such a broad title. For me, it entitles many different responsibilities. I could use one of the examples. How is it to talk to and find the best way to provide support to a Mom, a Dad, a child, anyone in a family that is suffering from a child in stage 4 cancer, hospice care and cancer treatments in general? Or with children abandoned, orphaned or poverty stricken families. It all entitles its own challenges. But making a difference in their lives, helping them in their difficult time of need, bringing care, joy and love, moments of grace and knowing how supporters of Little Star Foundation feel the same heartfelt interest to help, feels like a blessing.

During one recent conversation with a Mom, her small child with cancer in distress, I was grateful I could be part of helping ease the suffering. Each effort to help a child, family, hospital, orphanage or school requires giving of my heart fully. I would rather be doing something to make an important difference than not. And smiles of children when they find their way, they light up a room and enrich my existence. Same for when a child has learned something that will inspire them for days, months, even years.

The world continues to send challenges, whether a family has cancer or not. Remember the smiles of the children you are helping, the thank you's from the parents and the lives you are making a difference in because your incredible presence and support are being felt globally. The pictures below were taken from previous Little Star Foundation Programs. The picture of me with my mask on is how every program since Covid I am prepared for to continue doing my all.



Follow

Andrea Jaeger and Little Star Foundation on [Facebook](#) and [@littlestarfoundation](#) on [Instagram](#).

Posts include news inspirational devotions, special tributes & pictures.

Your donation will help bring important Long-Term Care, Better Quality of Life Programs & Emergency Care support to children with cancer.

Donate today.

Thank You!



Adriana who is part of Little Star's Team graduated with BA in Business Management & Masters in Physical Therapy, was a college & professional tennis player & helps Landon and other children w/cancer in Little Star Foundation's year round programs in 38 states & worldwide.



As a kid do you remember having fun in a park, wearing your favorite shirt, sports team jersey or just smiling because life let you?

Xander's picture, above left, is before he was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer. Above right is Xander during cancer treatment. Xander's type of cancer, like JP's is also neuroblastoma. Common medical journal comments about Neuroblastoma include: "symptoms can often be vague, may include irritability, being very tired, loss of appetite, and fever. But because these early signs can develop slowly and be similar to symptoms of other common childhood illnesses, neuroblastoma can be difficult to diagnose. In young children, neuroblastoma often is discovered when a parent or doctor feels an unusual lump or mass somewhere in the child's body — most often in the abdomen, though tumors also can appear in the neck, chest, and elsewhere."

Little Star Foundation helps children with all types of cancer. Help Little Star Foundation knock out cancer.

**You can help!
Donate what you can.**

Ways to Donate:

- You can donate any amount securely online at www.littlestar.org
- Want to send a check? Little Star's address:

Andrea Jaeger
Little Star Foundation
174 Watercolor Way
Suite 103 B343
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459
800-543-6565

- Ask Your Family, Friends, Company to match your Donation.
* contact Andrea Jaeger/Little Star directly at info@littlestar.org or at 800-543-6565
- Share this Issue of Little Star's Your Example.
- Donate any amount in celebration of or in memory of someone dear to you.



www.littlestar.org

Below, Nakiyah, from the hard hit hurricane state of Louisiana is a big sports fan. She is battling a type of cancer called ALL, also known as acute lymphocytic leukemia. ALL affects the blood and bone marrow. Like many of the families Little Star Foundation helps, Nakiyah travels from home out of state for cancer treatment. In talking with her medical support team at St. Jude Hospital, they were excited Little Star Foundation provides a variety of specialized programs, including financial assistance.

During one of the calls with Nakiyah's Mom, she shared the ups and downs of their cancer journey. Because Little Star Foundation success is because of your, (donors), generosity these and every thank you we receive is for you too. From Nakiyah's Mom, "Thank you all so much. I want to say again thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Yes this journey is full of emotions sleepless night like now because Nakiyah's hurting. She still keeps the best spirit. She's my Warrior for sure."



Why I am including Playa and me in this issue? Nakiyah and every family we help, we get to know and they get to know us. They love Playa and often Playa gives them cheer, love and fun too. On behalf of all of us at Little Star Foundation, we send virtual hugs, love, prayers and gratitude.

Together we celebrate 36 years of Little Star Foundation's mission to provide long term care and a better quality of life to children with cancer, their families and communities and children in need. It is exciting to continue Award Winning Programs making an important difference together!

Go to www.littlestar.org and Donate today to improve and save lives.

A Happy, Safe and Blessed 2021 to you!

With great appreciation, Andrea Jaeger – President Little Star Foundation

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