

The Community Counts

A monthly newsletter for Duke Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant patients, families and supporters



The volunteer-based Family Support Program is dedicated to caring for, serving, and lightening the burden of the Duke Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Community through a comprehensive array of services and resources.

Inside this issue:

New Kids on the Block	2
Hendrick Pit Crews	2
Inpatient Celebration	3
New Super Steppers	3
Egg Hunt	4
Winner's Circle	4

Rainbow of Heroes Walk

The seventh annual Rainbow of Heroes Walk took place Saturday, May 5th at Duke's Center for Living. Staff, current patients, past patients, families, friends, and volunteers all joined together for a day of celebration and remembrance, as they honored all who make Duke's Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant program special. Although the weather was cloudy and wet, it was not enough to dampen the spirit of the Duke PBMT community. Around 700 people gathered to celebrate, share memories and enjoy the friendship of those who have traveled the transplant road. This event, which is the major fundraiser for the Family Support Program, raised over \$181,000 this year!

The 5th Annual Sibling Awards were presented to "Sibling Extraordinaires" MacKenzie Gwin and Rachel, Adam, Alex and Ethan Walton by Dr. Joanne Kurtzberg. This award honors the sacrifice, love and support that siblings of transplant patients give to the patients and their families. The top three fundraising teams included Team Caterina, Team Tri-Angels and Team Alexia V. We are indebted to all of our supporters for their hard work, dedication, and support!

Please see inside for coverage on the inpatient celebration on 5200!



The Walk is starting with the Blue Devil leading the way!



The Wall of Honor is a way to remember all of the Heroes



Two beautiful quilts were auctioned off at the Walk



The Rainbow of Heroes Cake



The inflatable slide



The balloon release



Nice putt!



Team Caterina



Team Tri-Angels



Team Alexia V

New Kids on the Block

“New Kids on the Block” features the patients on the 5200 unit who were admitted in the past two months. It is our way to honor them and help the other families get to know them.



David, age 12
Elizabeth City, NC



Noelle, age 3
Kenosha, WI



Alexia, age 3
Buenos Aires, Argentina



Kennedy, age 2
Greensboro, NC



Jessie Leigh, age 17
Fort Meyers, FL



Justin, age 13
Mobile, AL



Rachel, age 5
Burke, VA



Jalen, age 13
Hickory, NC



Ashton, age 1
Blythewood, SC



Jasper, age 2
Chicago, IL



Jared, age 3
Milville, NJ



Mary, age 10
New Bern, NC



Hibben, age 5 months
Charleston, SC



Hunter, age 1
Newport News, VA



Eli, age 5
Bridgeport, WV

Hendrick Pit Crews visit 5200



The guys from Hendrick pose with Katie (above) and Malachi (below)



Members of the Hendrick Motorsports Pit Crews made a visit from their headquarters in Charlotte to 5200 last month, bringing presents, NASCAR and Hendrick memorabilia and lots of good cheer.

Hendrick Pit Crews for Kids is part of the Hendrick Marrow program, which works with the National Marrow Donor Program to make people aware of the need for bone marrow donors. They also have a patient assistance program, which provides some financial assistance for families who are away from home for a blood or marrow transplant.

A big thank you to our friends at Hendrick Marrow Program for their continued support of Duke PBMT patients and families!



Katie's bear, Whinnie rode with Jeff Gordon in a race!



Hannan shows off his new hat!

Rainbow of Heroes Inpatient Celebration

On Thursday, April 26th, the patients and families on 5200 participated in their own celebration of the Rainbow of Heroes Walk. All family members and patients received commemorative Rainbow of Heroes Walk t-shirts, which bear the names of kids who were transplanted between April 2006 and April 2007. Parents and caregivers were invited to write messages on a balloon, which were later sent to the skies during the balloon release. Afterward, everyone joined in a carnival of games, face painting, and an ice cream party. Many thanks to Ben and Jerry's for donating the ice cream, the Hospital Auxiliary for preparing the balloons, and the many staff and volunteers who helped to make this day a success. It was truly a celebratory day! A few photos from the day:



The Family Support Program is grateful to all who participated in the 7th Annual Rainbow of Heroes Walk. A special thanks to the top 10 fundraising teams this year for their hard work and commitment to families who come to Duke's PBMT program.

TOP 10 FUNDRAISERS—2007 RAINBOW OF HEROES WALK

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Team Caterina | 6. Olivia's Wish |
| 2. Team Tri-Angels | 7. Team Beth Clayton |
| 3. Team Alexia V | 8. Team Evansky |
| 4. TOP SCAMPS | 9. Team Andrew Lee |
| 5. Team Katherine Sutter | 10. Kaleb's Krew |

New members of the Super Steppers Club!

This month we are excited to share that the hallways of 5200 have been a busy place! Many determined patients have been earning footprints for their shoelaces in the Steps to Recovery Program. This month, we would like to feature those patients who have walked their way into our Super Stepper Club by earning more than 50 footprints. Our six newest members of the Club are Elmer, Hannan, Alexia, Levi, David, and Mary. Elmer had a little help earning all his feet. He and his Mom walked the halls on 5200 and earned 297 feet! Hannan earned 144 footprints (720 laps), while Alexia earned 68 footprints (340 laps). Levi has earned 64 footprints (320 laps). David earned 55 footprints (275 laps). Mary has earned 66 feet (330 laps) Great job to all of our courageous and determined walkers! Keep up the great work!



David



Elmer



Hannan



Alexia



Levi



Mary

Egg Hunt



Hannan shows Dr. Prasad his new toy

An Egg Hunt was facilitated by Science Teacher, Katie Vogel and Chile Life Specialist, Caroline Sweezy on 5200 for inpatients and at Duke Gardens for outpatients during the first week of April. Many families participated in the Egg Hunts and fun was had by all.



Josh puts another egg in his basket



Malachi and Jacob found a lot of eggs



There was a great turn out for the Egg Hunt at Duke Gardens



Say Cheese!

Winners Circle

We are very grateful to all of the people who help support PBMT families through contributing their time, energy, and resources. We would like to thank:

- * Dr. Ellis List for his donation of travel size toothpaste for the "In Case you Forgot Basket"
- * The Evergreens at Mount Moriah and Carrabbas Italian Grill for providing lunch for 5200 families
- * The Red Sword Guild for underwriting the cost of discharge bag trays
- * Peiju Gupt for her donation of a Target gift card
- * Anne Harris for her donation of goodies for patients on 5200
- * Geeta Naik for her donation in memory of Nirali Naik
- * Molly Birmingham and family for their donation of toys and gift cards
- * Chris Sundberg for her donation
- * Kayla Conroy and Lindsey Fields with the Phi Mu Philanthropy committee at Elon University for volunteering their time to help with the Rainbow of Heroes inpatient celebration
- * Paula Haste and BB&T for their donation of discharge bags
- * Mr. Pavan Chithapanti for his donation
- * Linda Moss and the Pink Smock for their donation of birthday balloons
- * Dawn Johnson for her donation in memory of two friends
- * Steve Kearney for his donation
- * Bill Marcella for providing weekly massage for caregivers

The following groups who contributed to our Community Meals program for the month of May:

West Raleigh Exchange Club
Haw River Christian Church
East Chapel Hill High School
The Little Red Foundation

Trinity Avenue Presbyterian Church
Apex United Methodist Church
Macedonia Baptist Church
St Luke's Episcopal Church

If we have inadvertently left you off our Winner's Circle, please let us know!

The Community Counts is a monthly newsletter produced by the Duke Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Family Support Program, distributed free to patients, their families, volunteers, and staff.

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