

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.

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Rainbow of Heroes Walk a huge success!

The 8th annual Rainbow of Heroes Walk was held on Saturday, May 3rd at Duke's Center for Living. Staff, current patients, past patients, families, friends and volunteers joined together for a day of celebration and remembrance, as they honored all who make the Duke Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Program special. Over 900 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 \$154,000 this year! We had spectacular weather which provided the perfect backdrop for the day.



A big thank you goes to all of the supporters and volunteers who work so hard to make this event possible! More pictures inside!



Patients and their families packed the Center for Living track for 12 laps and then filled the sky with balloons honoring the patients, families, volunteers, staff and supporters of the PBMT Family Support Program



Rainbow of Heroes Inpatient Celebration

On Friday, April 25th, the patients and families on 5200 participated in their own celebration of the Rainbow of Heroes Walk. All family members and patients received commemorative Walk t-shirts, which bear the names of kids who were transplanted between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008. 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 many staff and volunteers who helped make this day a success. It was truly a celebratory day!



Janet and Darian's sister enjoyed getting their faces painted



Our balloon release crew, including several inpatients



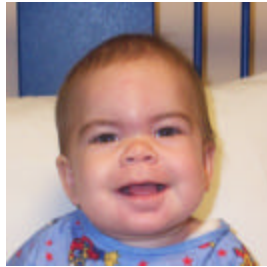
Patients and families enjoying Ben and Jerry's ice cream

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.



*Colby, age 2
Burlington, NC*



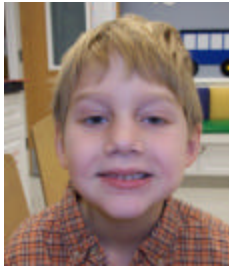
*Kaylee, age 11 mos.
Perryville, MO*



*Wendy, age 2
Perryville, MO*



*Chayton, age 5
Dawsonville, GA*



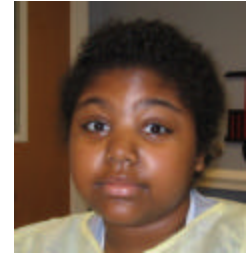
*Sam, age 7
Ponce Inlet, FL*



*Tyler, age 10
Winabow, NC*



*Autumn, age 6
Troutman, NC*



*Stephanie, age 13
Oxford, NC*

Family Support Program Welcomes New Staff

We are pleased to announce the arrival of Scott Mofield, the new Assistant Director of the Family Support Program. Scott has worked at Duke for several years after graduating from Divinity School in 2003. Most recently, he served as the Internship Coordinator at the Duke Career Center. As Assistant Director, he is responsible for coordinating all volunteer programs (including Best Buddies, Rainbow Volunteers, and our Community Meals program), assisting with the administration of the Rainbow of Heroes Walk, and publishing the monthly newsletter and other publicity materials. He enjoys baseball and hanging out with his 4 boys! We are grateful to have Scott join our staff!



Kelsey and Scott at our new office on Morreene Road

Also, Family Support has welcomed Kelsey Merison, who will serve as an Intern for the summer. Kelsey is a Duke senior who has been involved with our program over the past year, serving as both a Rainbow Volunteer and a Best Buddy. Kelsey will spend her time working with patients in one on one and group settings as well as observing the medical team. Welcome, Kelsey!

Rainbow of Heroes Pictures



Hope in the Gardens

For the past year, Katie Vogel, Caroline Sweezy, and Susan Trout have been providing outpatient programming for our PBMT families almost every month. They call the overall program "Hope in The Gardens" and provide therapeutic nature-based activities in a natural setting (Duke Gardens). When they aren't able to provide the activities at the gardens, they find creative ways to bring nature inside.

Outpatients and families have been provided with the opportunity to attend two special outpatient events in recent months. On April 27, families gathered at Duke Gardens to enjoy an afternoon of music and fun with our music therapist, Tray Batson. Participants were able to paint bird houses that will bring nature's music into their own backyard, sing, dance, move a parachute to different beats, and parade through a nature trail with musical instruments.

On May 6, families returned to Duke Gardens to see the Paperhand Puppet Intervention. This group is dedicated to bringing many styles of puppetry and artistic expression to the Triangle area and the world to inspire things such as love, justice, equality, and peace. We were fortunate to have them spend an afternoon with us performing a puppet show & creating an interactive parade for our patients and families to enjoy. Participants were able to make their own unique puppets so they could extend what they experienced into playtime at home!

A big thank you goes out to the Chapel Hill Optimist Club for funding many of our events through a grant that was submitted by Katie Vogel. We thank everyone that has made "Hope in The Gardens" possible and we look forward to providing more outpatient programming in the future.



Patients & their families paint birdhouses at Duke Gardens



Tray (or Baron Von Rumblebuss) rocks out with Cal



Patients and families enjoy a puppet show



Puppet parade with the PBMT outpatients

Super Steppers join the club!

Two new patients have walked their way into the prestigious "Super Steppers" Club by earning over 50 footprints in the Steps to Recovery Program. A footprint is earned by walking or riding 5 laps in the hallways of 5200. Darian and Jami are our newest members of the club. Darian and Jami both earned 65 feet (325 laps). Great job to both of these patients and to all of our dedicated walkers - keep up the hard work!



Darian



Jami

Winner's Circle

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

- * Susan Lipe for donating "mask cups".
- * Girl Scout Troop #480 from Tarboro, NC for donating fleece blankets for patient welcome bags.
- * Alex Thompson and family for donating various goodies for patient use.
- * Chris Howell & the employees of RBC Centura for donating a camera and Cricut machine.
- * Friends of Courtney Hurd & PCFK for donating a new TV for the Connection.
- * Steve Kearney for his donation of discharge bags.
- * Sarah Negri for her donation of items from our Target.com wish list.
- * Melissa Drew for her donation of items from our Target.com wish list.
- * The Evanosky Foundation for their donation of two laptops, DVDs, CDs, books and art kits for patients and families.
- * Bill and Terri Tomoff for their donation of Target gift cards.
- * Henrique Hannud for his laptop donation.
- * The family of Zoe Bachman for providing a meal and their donation of toiletry items and goodies for patients.
- * Jaxsen and Zach Hunkapiller for their donations of DVDs.

Those who contributed to our Community Meals program the last two months:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| * All Saints United Methodist Church | * St. Luke's Episcopal Church |
| * Apex United Methodist Church | * Trinity Ave Presbyterian Church |
| * Little Red Foundation | * West Raleigh Exchange Club |
| * Macedonia Baptist Church | * Sonshiners |

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

Wish List

We are in need of the following items:

- * Gift Cards: Target, Food Lion, and BP Gas Cards.
- * We have specific toys, DVD's, and games listed on our Target.com Wish List. Enter "Duke PBMT" (first name) "Family Support" (last name)" in the "Find a Wish List" search engine and go from there.

Many thanks for your support!!

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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