

PIPER'S PROMISE FOUNDATION



I hope this letter finds you well. On behalf of Piper's Promise Foundation, I am reaching out to you, requesting your support as we honor the memory of an inspiring nine-year-old girl by keeping the promise we made to her to help families whose children are fighting life threatening illnesses. To watch a child endure the obstacles and daily battles that come with terminal illnesses is a parent's worst fear, and I can attest to that fact firsthand. Our daughter, Piper Renee Schmiedl, was born with an immune deficiency that causes Lymphoma, and the only cure was a bone marrow transplant, of which she had two. During our time inpatient, totaling 8 months, we spent every day watching her fight the chemo war. Piper embraced every day with courage, grace and an unmatched strength that was admired by everyone who knew her, and never once complained of the unfair hand her health dealt her. With every ounce of hope we had, and her hand always in ours, we stayed with her, at her bedside until Piper passed away on July 24, 2022.

While inpatient, I lost my job once I surpassed the 12-week limit and my husband remained on an extended leave, but without compensation, as 95% of major companies provide zero pay when an employee needs time to care for a dependent. It's a frustrating system for a parent to navigate, especially when their priority is the health and recovery of their child. The thought of not being with your child through their healthcare journey is unimaginable, so you do everything you can to "make it work". Throughout our stay, we met parents who lost their jobs, others who had to sell their homes and almost all of them struggled daily to pay for their monthly expenses. So many parents were unable to be in the hospital due to these hardships which meant their child was alone a great deal of the time. When Piper saw her fellow transplant warriors without a constant companion, she wanted to do something to help them all. That is when she helped to create Piper's Promise. She was excited and determined as her mission was simple; help families stay together, provide hope, and impact in their lives in a positive way. That was Piper, always putting others before herself, even while she was in the middle of her own health war.

Those moments with Piper, every second we were with her was invaluable, as will be your support of our Foundation as we work together alongside partners such as yourself, to raise funds that will be provided to families like ours, helping lift some of the financial burdens they are facing, brought on by long inpatient stays.

Piper's Promise Foundation is a 501c3 non-profit organization that was created in honor of the most selfless, loving and inspirational person, whose fighting spirit, immeasurable strength and kind heart wanted to ensure that every child had their parent's hand to hold as they weathered their storms. We would greatly appreciate your generosity and support as we keep our promise to Piper. Our Foundation has partnered with Children's Hospitals across the country and found the number of families who need financial assistance is increasing every day. Your generosity will be instrumental in providing vital support so these families can stay together though it all.

Sincerely,

Lauren Schmiedl

Pipers Promise Foundation Founder & CEO