



HAWAII CHILDREN'S CANCER FOUNDATION

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Aloha Friends of Hawaii Children's Cancer Foundation,

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As parents, we do everything we can for our children and hold great hopes and dreams for their future.

When our 17-year old daughter, Lauren, started college, it was an exciting time for her – a time filled with so much promise and so many new things to experience. But within a few weeks, everything changed. The knee and pelvic pain that had plagued her since high school had gotten worse. This time, an MRI revealed tumors in her pelvis, knee, ribs, shoulder and brain. Lauren was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma. Just like that, she was out of college and in the hospital starting an aggressive treatment protocol.

Life became a series of hospital stays and doctor trips, probes and test, spinal taps, needle pokes and transfusions. Mom had to quit work to care for her and keep her spirits high. It was a tough time for her and for all of us. Chemotherapy and its side effects take a toll -- hair loss, fever, nausea and many other side effects that never seem to end. But our gentle daughter remained positive and strong.

With the grace of God, the love and prayers of family and friends, and excellent medical care, she was successfully treated and is now cancer-free. Today, Lauren is happily married to a very loving and supportive husband, Brendan and they have a beautiful daughter, Gemma, whom we call a miracle baby.

Having a child in cancer treatment is not only emotionally devastating; it can be financially devastating as well. Large medical expenses combined with income disruptions and employment uncertainty creates immense financial stress on affected families. Hawaii Children's Cancer Foundation provides desperately needed financial assistance to these families in their time of need.



A child is diagnosed with cancer in Hawaii just about every week. Your continuing generosity in supporting HCCF is greatly appreciated by all affected families and our volunteer board.

Mahalo nui loa,

Ralph and Erlinda Mesick