

VOLUNTEER IMPACT

In 2016, more than 2,500 volunteers donated more than 7,000 hours of service across all chapters' HopeDay and fundraising events. The stories below represent a snapshot of the numerous dedicated individuals who help provide hope to families who have a child with a life-threatening medical condition. We thank each of you for your service.



Chris Roberts, Arizona volunteer

"I was helping at an event with Colten Cowell Foundation and heard HopeKids needed volunteers at Whispering Hope Ranch. That event was one of the most spiritually enlightening experiences I've ever had. I never thought a volunteer experience would turn into my second family. I'm always available as the 'back-up guy,' if needed. But my favorites are the one-on-one events. I got to see a kid I knew at a building event. He was having a fit and was moaning loud. He grabbed my hand and calmed right down. That's the best compliment you can get. Period."

Corrie Francis, Colorado volunteer

"I attended a HopeKids Arizona event in 2010, and I felt very passionate to get involved. I got involved [again] last year with the new Colorado chapter. My favorite activities are when I can bring my children with me. I like for them to see that we can't help with a diagnosis, but we can still help [in other ways]. Most everyone can relate to having someone close to them being diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. I competed for Mrs. Colorado America last week, and it gave me a chance to share my platform for providing advocacy, compassion and hope for the terminally ill—which ties into my father's terminal illness and the work I do for HopeKids."



Jeff Sibell, Minnesota HopeKid and volunteer

"I [became a HopeKid] when I was a year into cancer treatment for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia at age 12. [Several years later] my wife suggested we start volunteering. Even though she didn't know me when I had cancer, she felt strongly [to get involved] because she's seen the impact. Our favorite volunteer activities are the movies. The kids are always so excited. I remember always looking forward to the HopeKids movies myself with my family and siblings. It's joy and excitement, and it's not a hospital visit. I felt the HopeKids impact firsthand as a kid. Now being a volunteer, I experience the punch line of: 'Restoring Hope.' You can see right away that it's making an impact for a kid."

Steve Potter, North Texas volunteer

"I volunteered through the local radio station, WAY-FM 89.7, when they sponsored a HopeKids movie. I loved what HopeKids was about. Something special occurs at each event and I just love when I can interact with and serve the families. One time at an aquarium event, I made a girl smile just while I was serving her soup. I learned that she was going to start her treatment the next day. That's what keeps me going—to bring a smile to peoples' faces. The fact that you're there helping somebody take their mind off of what they're going through; seeing their excitement is so rewarding."



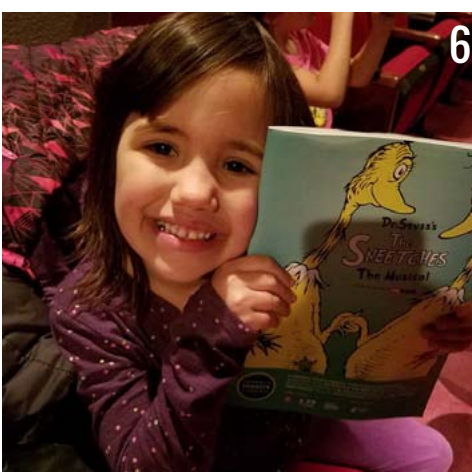
Minnesota Wild
Simply Outdoor Experiences
Tickets for Kids
Hennepin Theatre Trust
Minnesota Timberwolves
Northrop Theatre
Sky Zone
Tradition Capital Bank

Buck Hill
HealingStream
Children's Theatre Company
Stages Theatre
Mann Theatres
iHeartMedia
Merrill Community Arts Center
Vertical Endeavors

Fantasy Flight Games Center
University of Northwestern
St. Paul
St. Paul Osman Shrine Circus
Great Lakes Aquarium
Conquer Ninja Warrior

HOPEKIDS MINNESOTA PHOTO ALBUM

Snapshots captured at
February and March
HopeDay Events



1. HopeKid Brooklyn, age 8, and her mom at the Ariana Grande concert in our HopeSuite at the Xcel Energy Center on March 16.

2. HopeKid Gia, age 6, meeting Bert and Mary at the Mary Poppins play at the University of Northwestern St. Paul on March 22.

3. HopeKid Hannah, age 6, at the World's Toughest Rodeo on February 3 at Xcel Energy Center.

4. HopeKid Kate, age 13, and her dad and brother at the Wild game in our HopeSuite on March 25 at the Xcel Energy Center.

5. HopeKid Miley, age 9, snow tubing at Buck Hill in Burnsville on February 27.

6. HopeKids families enjoying *The Sneetches* at Children's Theatre Company on March 3.

7. Ryks Family poses at the Ice Fishing event on February 4 at Crystal Lake in Burnsville.