

## IMPACT MEASURED: COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT

Receiving a diagnosis of a life-threatening illness for your child can be debilitating. The subsequent search to find your new normal is confusing and difficult. The Dagelewicz family didn't join HopeKids right away. In fact, it took them months after their youngest son, Miles, was diagnosed with Langerhans cell histiocytosis.



"We thought we were cruising along on autopilot with the 'easy' treatment," said Stephanie, Miles's mom. "Then suddenly, Miles had his six-month check up scans which led to more scans and more conversations."

A nurse quietly handed Stephanie a HopeKids flyer at an appointment. Eventually, the family went to a couple of events which were provided by the kind-hearted generosity of donors.

"I'm so glad the nurse gave us the flyer," Stephanie said. "We realized we might need more support."

The Dagelewicz's first event was at a family farm, which gave Miles and older brother, Dylan, the opportunity to work with therapy horses. A few weeks later, Stephanie and Jason enjoyed a much-needed date night at a sporting event courtesy of a father and son who donated seats.

"Consider that Miles can't go to the movie theater [because of his] low immunity--but he can go to a special HopeKids-only showing," Stephanie said. "The range and offering [of HopeKids events] is broad for all abilities and interests."

To Stephanie and Jason, what may be most important is how sustainable the program is in people's lives. Her family recently met Sim, a brain tumor survivor who attends HopeKids activities frequently with his family.

"It is refreshing and inspiring," Stephanie said. "Most of all, it helps us have hope to know that others are out there, that there is a safe place for us to go, and that there is an ongoing calendar of events when we need support."



*The Dagelewicz Family  
(L to R): Stephanie, Miles,  
Dylan, Juliana, and Jason*

## YOU CAN HELP FAMILIES STAY FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE.

### GET INVOLVED

- Interested in sharing your time as a **volunteer**?  
Please complete a volunteer application at [www.HopeKids.org/volunteer](http://www.HopeKids.org/volunteer).

### GIVE

- Have a **company suite, tickets, food or other items** to support our HopeDay program?  
Contact Kerrie Bryant at [Kerrie@hopekids.org](mailto:Kerrie@hopekids.org) or 816.372.0311.
- For \$30/month you can help provide a HopeKids family with an unlimited calendar of free events for an entire year.  
Join our **Hope365** monthly giving program at [www.HopeKids.org/Hope365](http://www.HopeKids.org/Hope365).
- Want to support HopeKids with a **one-time gift**?  
Donate online at [www.HopeKids.org/donate](http://www.HopeKids.org/donate).



1



2



3



4



5



6



7

# HOPEKIDS KANSAS CITY PHOTO ALBUM

Snapshots captured at June, July, and August HopeDay Events

1. Audrey tries her hand at pool with an assist from the one-and-only Chick-fil-A cow.
  2. HopeKid Rowan steals the hearts of volunteers Hope, Bridget, and Whitney at the recent Kansas City Royals baseball game.
  3. HopeKid Brody climbs through the foam pit at Emerald City Gym. Brody was so thankful for a day out to play, because the next day he went in for his scans. Aug. 8 marked ONE YEAR cancer-free for Brody.
  4. HopeKid Evan hangs out poolside with his new friend, Chase, at The Springs Aquatic Center.
  5. Azaria climbs to the top of the Monster Mountain rock wall at Emerald City Gym.
  6. The Cain family cheers on the Kansas City Royals.
  7. HopeKid Charlotte and her mom, Andi, enjoy *Beauty and the Beast* thanks to Theatre in the Park.
- Photos continued on page 3*
8. The Burns family attends their first HopeKids event at the Jesse James Outlaw Air Show.
  9. HopeKid Evan makes a special arts and crafts project at Hallmark Kaleidoscope.
  10. HopeKids Board Member John Jacobs learns Minecraft from HopeKid Khristian at the Microsoft Overland Park store.
  11. HopeKid Nathan works on his golf swing with his dad at TopGolf Overland Park.
  12. Gavin meets the Oklahoma City Thunder Cheerleaders at basketball camp in Kansas City.



Chick-fil-A (135th and 69 Hwy)

Emerald City Gym

GoApe Kansas City

Hallmark Kaleidoscope

Jesse James Outlaw Airshow

Kansas City Chiefs

Kansas City Royals

Kansas City T-Bones

Live Nation

Microsoft- Oak Park Mall

Noah's Event Venue- Overland Park

Oklahoma City Thunder

Pets for Life

Seats of Dreams

Sporting Kansas City

Sprint Center

The Springs Aquatic Center

Theatre in the Park- Johnson County

Parks & Recreation

TopGolf- Overland Park



"I have met so many families who are inundated with the medical world and have no time to just relax and do fun social things; to meet other families who have similar struggles and just "get it." I was always at a loss for how to help them with that aspect until you all came around and, thus I am THRILLED your incredible program now exists! I tell every family about you that may qualify whenever I meet them."

Amanda, Hospital Social Worker



## MEET JENNA

Jenna is 8 years old and just started third grade. She loves swimming, gymnastics, singing, dancing and creating YouTube videos with funny cameos of her little brother, Wes. Jenna was diagnosed with leukemia at 2.5 years old and relapsed in March 2017. The Cains had been through this before and they knew it wouldn't be easy, but this time they had a new-found support system, HopeKids Kansas City.

"In the midst of our journey, it's been hard to put us first sometimes. Having such unique experiences that are already planned and free to our family is truly priceless. HopeKids has allowed us to do things outside of the house and hospital, to meet other families who are in the midst of what we are experiencing and feeling, and in a setting where it's fun, leaving us inspired and full of hope. Battling Jenna's leukemia relapse with the support of HopeKids has been a completely different experience." - Julie, Jenna's mom

HopeKids Kansas City  
P.O. Box 901298  
Kansas City, MO 64190

Phone: 816.372.0311  
Fax: 888.418.3980  
kerrie@hopekids.org

[www.hopekids.org](http://www.hopekids.org)

