

KEATON'S
Child Cancer Alliance
Mission in MOTION



**SUPPORT THE KEATON'S BIG DAY OF GIVING AS...
 TOGETHER WE FIGHT. TOGETHER WE OVERCOME. TOGETHER WE HEAL.**

Life is normal until one day the unimaginable happens - YOU hear the words, "YOUR child has cancer". These four words evoke overwhelming stress, anger, anxiety, guilt, sadness, and depression while attempting to navigate a formerly unknown world of treatments, medications, and procedures. You embark on the journey with a strong will to never give up while fighting every single day to save your child's life. ***"I began grieving the day my daughter was diagnosed. From that moment, I knew that her life was forever changed. My hopes and dreams for her would also dramatically change,"*** Cherri, mother of Teen Cancer Warrior and Angel - Lauren. Cancer affects a family's life throughout treatment, into survivorship, and for some, is the cause of grieving hearts for those remembering their precious child.

Our Family Navigators offer **HOPE** and **STRENGTH** throughout this unimaginable experience. Importantly, they're committed to helping families build **RESILIENCE** towards emotional and mental **HEALING** through Trauma-Informed Care in knowing that each individual is uniquely impacted.



One specific student-led non-profit has taken a direct stand in the fight against pediatric cancer. Kids Helping Kids (KHK) Sacramento has partnered with Keaton's for over 5 years to directly support local kiddos. This partnership initiated with Del Campo High School to honor and remember cancer warrior Tristan, began as gift donations at the annual Keaton's Holly Jolly Celebration and adopting families during the holiday season. Over the past three years, KHK has selected childhood cancer as one of their primary focuses of their fundraising efforts. This year we are teaming up, while competing, with KHK in a challenge to see who can raise more funds through BIG DAY of Giving to help more kids with cancer. Help us in supporting the true heroes - young kiddos fighting BIG BATTLES!

Support a local child fighting for their life on Big Day of Giving, Thursday, May 6th. It takes a community coming together to support local families fighting cancer. **Give your gift at bigdayofgiving.org/keatonschildcanceralliance.**

Mission in Motion Moments

Together Again! Teen, Parent, and Sibling Peer Support Build Resilience



We kicked off our first event of the year in support of teen cancer warriors and their loved ones. A special thank you to our friends at Hearts Landing Ranch for a fun day filled with crafts, games, superheroes, and quality time with horses to be enjoyed by all. We appreciate the support from League of Heroes Inspired, Chick-fil-A Granite Bay, Made for More, Tonia Colleen Martin, and Dez Vision Photography in making this event a big success.

"Being referred to Keaton's helped us so much because there are others out there in similar situations. Although my older son who has cancer has not been able to come to organized events, my younger son has. He has been able to meet other siblings, other kids who have cancer, and actually even met one of his best friends who is now at the end of his treatment with Leukemia. He feels more normal. He feels like people understand." -Rachele, Mother of Connor, 18 years old with Hodgkin's Lymphoma

Family Fun Day at Gill Orchards

A beautiful sunny day with almond & pistachio trees all-surrounding was the setting for the first-ever Family Fun Day at Gill Orchards.

"This is the best day ever!" shared Jewel, a 10-year-old two-time cancer warrior. Families enjoyed hayrides, games, parachute play, picnic lunch, farm equipment, crafts, and even special visits with princesses & superheroes. *"It is so great to be outdoors in a safe, controlled environment where kids can play, parents can enjoy a break, and we get to connect with other families,"* Rosemary, Clove's Mom shares.

This memorable day was filled with smiles, laughter, joy, and kids at play!

Special thanks to Gill Orchards, League of Heroes Inspired, Glass Slipper Dream Parties, Be the G, Made for More, Boys Team Charity League and National Charity League of Granite Bay, Rolling Stone, Free Time Productions and Kona Ice of West Davis for their support.



Pipeline Program for Professional Social Workers into the Workforce



Since 2013, Keaton's has been honored to be a vital part of the Sac State Division of Social Work's effort to professionalize future social workers. The field practicum is the "heart" of social work education – the official "Signatory Pedagogy" as determined by the Council on Social Work Education. In total, 27 students have completed their final graduation requirement by serving as Family Navigators with Keaton's during full academic year and summer intensive internship programs. **Congratulations to our current interns, April and Janet, on their upcoming graduation!**

This year, we're so thrilled to welcome Professor Janice Montgomery as the Field Instructor for our Bachelor's level interns. Her support is a critical component to implementing case management processes, social work theories, and the connection between academics and professional application.

Meet 5-year -old Anahi



When Anahi was just 14 months old, beginning her walk of life, her mother noticed that something was not right. After taking a photo of Anahi around Easter, in April of 2017, her mother could see that Anahi's skin tone was pale and there was bruising on her skin. She decided to take Anahi to her pediatrician and after some tests, it was discovered that Anahi had cancer. She was sadly diagnosed with B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL), a common form of cancer in children that affects certain cells in the immune system.

Before her cancer diagnosis, Anahi was a happy baby, always smiling and dancing. However, once the signs and symptoms of her cancer started showing, her mother noticed some changes. Anahi was always crying. She became restless as well as stopped walking and crawling. She no longer wanted to engage with those around her. As you can imagine, this was a very challenging change and time for Anahi and her family. Because she was so young, it was hard for her family to know what was wrong or how to help her. They continued to love, hug and comfort her as she went through her treatment. When Anahi's family learned that she would, unfortunately, have to endure a few years of treatment, they questioned how they would get through it. Anahi's strength and resiliency to fight her battle against childhood cancer has now made her stronger than ever.

"She has gone through so much and we always like to help others that are going through the same thing. We want others to know that it gets better, believe it or not. LOVE, HOPE AND FAITH always kept us going. Faith gets you through anything." ~ Anahi's mom.

Anahi recently celebrated her 5th Birthday and is continuing to receive treatment at a local partnering hospital. After recently relocating to Sacramento, she is now a Keaton Kiddo and our Family Navigator Team is pleased to be a part of her unique journey!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Be a Hero, Thursday, May 6th!

Donations will be doubled thanks to \$25K in matching funds provided by our generous partners at Sonoma Fabricators, Maximus Foundation, and WGG Wealth Partners.

Give Your Gift at
biggdayofgiving.org/keatonschildcanceralliance

"Chipping Away at Childhood Cancer" Thursday, May 27th

Showcase your business on course at Keaton's 24th Annual "Chipping Away At Childhood Cancer" Golf Tournament!, May 27th. Opportunities starting at \$300. Be seen and support a great cause!

Contact Catrina at 916-276-5080 or email her at catrina.arcularius@childcancer.org, to become a sponsor today.



UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital Oakland 14th Annual Keaton's Child Cancer Alliance St. Baldrick's Brave-the-Shave,

Be part of the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital, Oakland, Head Shaving event by registering at getbald.com.

Join the virtual event/wrap party, **Saturday, June 26th at 10 am** on UCSF Benioff's YouTube Channel!

We ♥ Our Volunteers! Terri ~ Medical Field Experience



I have been volunteering with Keaton's Child Cancer Alliance since January of 2020, and have been a volunteer for most of my adult life, mostly working for hospice and especially with children. I was volunteering for Petal Connection, a nonprofit that makes flower bouquets for hospice patients when I met Jessica who came in to drop off flowers from Keaton's Gala. She told me about Keaton's and I was hooked. I signed up a month later and have been volunteering with the Keaton's Family Navigator Program ever since.

I help make "Hope Chests" for the families, support the Bereavement Program, send birthday cards to kiddos, and assist with weekly projects. My husband and I played Santa and Mrs. Claus for Holly Jolly. It was great seeing all the kids so excited.

It was my dream to work with kids with cancer and their families. Keaton's is such a wonderful nonprofit. I love all the people I work with and love meeting our families, especially our brave and awesome kiddos.

I am honored to volunteer for Keaton's and look forward to being involved for years to come.

Each volunteer brings a unique set of skills and shares a common goal to make a difference in the lives of children

Volunteers Spring 2 Action

Thank you Boys Team Charity and National Charity Leagues of Granite Bay for creating 42 Spring baskets filled with crafts, activities, and snacks for hospitalized kiddos and their siblings. These bright, colorful packages not only brought smiles but were uplifting and a fun distraction for treatment regimens.

The community's support makes such a difference when a child is fighting cancer. You can make a difference too!



Volunteers Needed!

We have a specific need for volunteers for these two opportunities:

- Keaton's **"Chipping Away at Childhood Cancer"** golf tournament, Thursday, May 27th.

- Keaton's Annual **"Glow for Gold Gala"**, Saturday, October 16th.

If you are interested in volunteering at either of these events, or any other volunteer opportunities, please contact Melinda, Director of Operations, at 916-757-6136 or melinda.sober@childcancer.org for more details.



Connect with Us

See Keaton's Mission in Motion as it happens on our social media channels.



2260 Douglas Blvd., Ste 140, Roseville, CA 95661
916.784.6786

childcancer.org