

LIGHTS OF COURAGE LUNCHEON: **MELISSA RADKE BRINGS LAUGHTER AND STORIES OF COURAGE TO GUESTS**



Henry & Angela Daniels



Melissa Radke, Beth Guinn, Audrey Chin, Ali Williams



Fox 26's Melissa Wilson

Each year the Lights of Courage Luncheon celebrates children with cancer and their families. The stories of the honorees are a highlight of the luncheon and their journeys represent the thousands of children facing or who have faced childhood cancer.

The Lights of Courage Luncheon was held at River Oaks Country Club on April 23rd. The sold-out luncheon was led by **Co-Chairs Audrey Chin, Beth Guinn, and Ali Williams** and **raised more than \$210,000** for families of children with cancer! These ladies worked tirelessly to make sure the event was not only beautiful, but also a successful fundraising effort for our families. We are so grateful for their commitment to our mission through our annual luncheon.

This year the raffle featured ten super raffle packages that included trips to San Miguel, Charleston, Los Cabos, and Belize, just to name a few. Thanks to the efforts of our hardworking event chairs and luncheon Host Committee, we had a record-breaking raffle, **raising over \$45,000!** Congratulations to our raffle winners and many thanks to the generous individuals and businesses who donated such amazing trips, items, and packages!

Always popular, the boutique market featured an array of specialty items including stationery, jewelry, art, clothing, and home décor. Featured stores included: **Andrea Montgomery, Aspire Accessories, Clara Rose Bags, Cutehead Kids, Gris Designs, Katie & Co., Kendra Scott, LC Designs Jewelry, MUSE, Nice Custom Goods, Paislee and Grey, Paris Texas Apparel Co., Pomp & Circumstance, Santalisa, Shannon Weir Modern Art, Shopaholic Sanctuary, and Smocked Frock.** All of these charitable shops donated **20%** of sales in support of the luncheon and Candlelighters.

Candlelighters mom and local **Fox 26 News Anchor Melissa Wilson** was on hand to be our Mistress of Ceremonies. As the mother of a childhood cancer survivor, Melissa shared how Candlelighters stepped in to provide invaluable support to her entire family while her son, Caleb, battled leukemia.

The highlight of the Lights of Courage Luncheon was our special guest speaker, **Melissa Radke!** No stranger to a crowd, Melissa is a hilarious and inspiring public speaker, writer, vlogger, podcaster, entertainer, Chick-Fil-A connoisseur, and self-proclaimed hair & skincare advice extraordinaire. She recently wrote down her personal journey to becoming more self-confident in her book "Eat Cake. Be Brave." and she can now add reality-TV star to her resume as well!

(cont. on pg 3)

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Fun Walk

Saturday, September 7, 2019

Register Online: <http://bit.ly/CLfunwalk>

Camp CLIFF Weekend

October 11–13, 2019

Family Fall Festival

October 27, 2019

Holiday Adopt-A-Family Program

October – December 2019

Support Group Meeting at MD Anderson:

Every Wednesday 11:30 am – 1:00 pm
 MD Anderson Children's Cancer Hospital
 Pediatric In-Patient Unit
 Ronald McDonald House Room
 For more information call (713) 792-4891

Support Group Meeting at**Texas Children's Hospital:**

Every Wednesday 1:00 – 2:00 pm
 Texas Children's Hospital - West Tower
 Ronald McDonald's Kitchen – 9th Floor
 For more information call (832) 822-1415

To stay up to date on Candlelighters events, please check our website at www.candle.org and follow us on Facebook at Candlelighters Houston

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LIGHTS OF COURAGE LUNCHEON

(cont. from cover)

The Radkes show debuted on USA and has been a family reality show sensation! Melissa brightened up our room with her energy and contagious smile as she spoke about her journey to be a courageous woman in a, sometimes, disappointing world. She encouraged our Luncheon guests and special honorees to stand firm in who



they are and to approach every situation with a positive attitude and sense of humor. That sense of humor even had special guest Father Bates from St. Francis Episcopal School rolling with laughter as she apologized for smooching with her husband maybe a little too much on one of their first dates. She left the room in happy tears and with a feeling that we can all go out into the world and conquer our fears. It was an absolute pleasure to have her with us. **Melissa, thank you for sharing your heart and donating your time to be with us.**



Another Candlelighters mom graciously shared her family's journey with childhood cancer, moving luncheon guests to make 'Shining Opportunities' donations to directly support our mission. **Amy Kvapil's** son **Roman** was diagnosed with neuroblastoma at age 2. Now almost 14-years-old and cancer-free, he is considered a long-term survivor and is living a happy and healthy life. Amy and the entire Kvapil family attended Candlelighters Camp CLIFF (our weekend getaway for families) for the first time in 2015, eight years after her son had been diagnosed. Her story was one of patience and reservation about opening up and letting others in to help; but once those walls were down, Amy spoke of the support that her family received from Candlelighters while Roman was on treatment, the connections they made with other families along the way thanks to attending Candlelighters Camp CLIFF, and the ways they are circling back around to partner with Candlelighters to continue supporting families who find themselves hearing the words, "Your child has cancer."



Dr. Frank Lin of Texas Children's Hospital and **Dr. Doug Harrison** of M.D. Anderson Cancer Center presented our 2019 Honorees with their awards. Their stories of courage and hope are highlighted in this newsletter, *continued on pages 8-11.*



Special thanks to **Jenna Jackson** and the talented videographers and editors at **P&R Productions** for once again producing our annual mission video, premiered at the Lights of Courage Luncheon. To see this year's mission video, please visit our Facebook page (facebook.com/candlelighters) and YouTube Channel!

Thank you to all of our wonderful supporters who volunteered in the planning and execution of this event, who sponsored tables, bought tickets, attended the luncheon, purchased raffle tickets, shopped with our vendors, and donated Shining Opportunities gifts - all of your efforts are what makes this event such a success year after year! We appreciate your dedication to Candlelighters and we are already looking forward to next year!

2019 LIGHTS OF COURAGE HONOREES:

Henry Daniels – On Treatment Honoree (Page 8)
JaKaye Mathis – Long-Term Survivor Honoree (Page 9)
The Demus Siblings – Sibling Honorees (Page 10)
Carlie Raye Edgington – In Memory Of Honoree (Page 11)

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LIGHTS OF COURAGE LUNCHEON



LIGHTS OF COURAGE LUNCHEON



2019 LIGHTS OF COURAGE LUNCHEON HONOREE



HENRY DANIELS

After a fun Easter egg hunt in April of last year, Henry Daniels decided to shoot some hoops. Mama, Dada, and baby brother Benjamin (aka Bubba) cheered on. After a few minutes of running around, his parents noticed Henry was red and sweaty on only one side of his face; there was a visible line down the middle of his face where the other half was pale and dry. Mom listened to her instincts and made an appointment with a specialist; soon after, an MRI was ordered.

When the results came back, the Daniels were not prepared for the news. Their child who was not yet three, had a mass adjacent to his spine. A biopsy was performed, and a word Henry's parents never ever wanted to hear or speak was being spoken to them: Cancer. Henry was diagnosed with neuroblastoma.

Henry's treatment consisted of multiple rounds of chemotherapy followed by surgery to remove his tumor. On his first day of treatment Henry woke up super excited to take his first step to "make the tumor go bye-bye," as Henry would say. On Henry's first day of treatment, they heard a bell ringing and people cheering. It was an end-of-treatment ceremony for another child at the hospital; it was also a sound of hope and inspiration that they needed to face Henry's cancer.

As Henry faced treatments, procedures, and side effects along the way, he always kept a brave face. He celebrated each step with a cupcake! Treatment day – cupcake. Test in the "robot machine" – cupcake! Being hooked up to the "walking robot" – cupcake!

It was at the Candlelighters Luncheon one year ago when mutual friends connected the Daniels Family with Candlelighters. Everyone says it takes a village, and now their village included Candlelighters. Candlelighters recognizes the importance of family – time together – and so do the Daniels. Henry's dad, Owen, played Tight End in the NFL for ten years, eight of those years here in Houston. While there is no time that is good for your child to be diagnosed with cancer, Henry's parents know how fortunate they are for his diagnosis to have come after Owen's retirement from the NFL. Every appointment, every hospital stay, every chemo, every scan, they were able to do as a family.

Over the years, Candlelighters has formed strong bonds with the Houston sports community. For the last several years the Astros have hosted Candlelighters night each September for Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Last year, Henry kicked-off Candlelighters night by saying, "Play ball!" and was able to meet players and Orbit while on the field. That night was a memorable one for the Daniels, most importantly it was a night free of treatment and free of procedures; a night to just be a family and not think about cancer.

Now that chemotherapy and surgery are over, Henry's future care involves scans every few months to monitor him for any potential new tumors. He is so glad to be back at school with his friends and teachers, he loves cars of any kind (but especially ones that have sirens), he enjoys being outdoors and playing basketball, golf, and throwing the football with Dad. But most importantly, Henry and his family love that he's back to being a normal four-year-old boy!

**It is Candlelighters' honor to present the
2019 Childhood Cancer On-Treatment Award to
HENRY DANIELS**

2019 LIGHTS OF COURAGE LUNCHEON HONOREE



JA'KAYEA MATHIS

When she was 13, Ja'Kayea Mathis noticed a small bump on her left side that began to hurt. She started having chills and fever non-stop. Her mother took her to the emergency room where she was given antibiotics, but when the fever and chills did not go away, Ja'Kayea was taken to a local hospital where she spent 30 days undergoing tests. She left the hospital but was quickly readmitted when nodules appeared all over her body.

A doctor performed a biopsy and ruled it as an infection, but Ja'Kayea's mom wasn't convinced. The family had faced cancer before. Ja'Kayea's sister had lost her battle with inflammatory breast cancer and her mom had faced breast cancer herself. For Ja'Kayea's mom, Renita, the emotions of surviving cancer were nothing compared to watching another daughter fight cancer. Having previously been a patient there herself, Ja'Kayea's mom decided to take her to MD Anderson. After further testing, Ja'Kayea was diagnosed with T-Cell Lymphoma, a rare and often aggressive form of cancer that is most often found in the blood, lymph nodes, and skin.

Faced with a 50% chance of survival, Ja'Kayea remained positive. Her treatment consisted of both oral and infusion chemotherapy. Her treatment was not without effects, including back-to-back seizures that resulted in ICU stays. Ja'Kayea beat the odds and was in remission for 2 years before suffering a relapse when she was 16 years-old. Shortly after her relapse she had a stem cell transplant and went back into remission.

Like so many parents, Ja'Kayea's mom, Renita, attended the support group meetings held weekly by Candlelighters in the hospitals. She became close to Candlelighters Parent Consultant, Jaynie, and knew that she and Ja'Kayea had someone to talk with, someone to help them on their darkest days, someone to lean on during the set-backs, and someone to celebrate their victories.

Candlelighters was there to help their family through the holidays by gifting Ja'Kayea, her siblings, and her parents with gifts through Candlelighters' Holiday Adopt-A-Family Program. At each step of her journey, Ja'Kayea and her family knew they could count on Candlelighters to be there for them.

This year, Ja'Kayea celebrates her fourth year in remission! Like so many of our childhood cancer survivors, Ja'Kayea was inspired by her care team to enter the health care profession. After graduating high school in 2016, she now attends Lone Star College and is majoring in nursing. As a nurse, we know that Ja'Kayea will be an inspiration to so many children and families!

**It is Candlelighters' honor to present the
2019 Childhood Cancer Survivor Honoree Award to
JA'KAYEA MATHIS**

2019 LIGHTS OF COURAGE LUNCHEON HONOREE



THE DEMUS SIBLINGS

In early 2015, Tatiana Demus found it painful to walk. At first, the family thought she was experiencing growing pains like her older sister Savannah. The pain and limping progressed, so a few weeks later, her parents took her to the pediatrician. Her pediatrician thought the same thing, growing pains, or that she may have injured her leg playing sports. As the pain progressed she went to see an orthopedic specialist who ordered an x-ray and an MRI and referred the family to the MD Anderson Children's Cancer Hospital, where her mother worked as a nurse on the Thoracic floor. Shortly after, Tatiana was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a cancer of the bone cells.

The Candlelighters philosophy is: when a child is diagnosed with cancer, the whole family is diagnosed. Every member of the family is affected – parents must divide time between hospital stays, clinic visits, treatments, and home. Siblings of childhood cancer patients can feel ignored, helpless, and alone, as their parents spend days, weeks, and sometimes months in the hospital.

When Tatiana was in the hospital and wanted a fun “makeover” (as all little girls do!), her sister Savannah was there. When Tatiana wanted to have family dinner, and the hospital was the only place they could all be together, her siblings gladly joined her. When Tatiana felt strong enough to get out of the hospital, get out they did! Always at Candlelighters events, the Demus family came to Candlelighters Camp CLIFF, baseball and basketball games, the Rodeo Houston Planet Texas BBQ Cook-off, you name it, they were there, together. And when they wanted to give back, Savannah, Isaiah, and Xavier all organized fundraisers at their schools in honor of Tatiana to support Candlelighters.

Tatiana's family, her parents, her sister Savannah, and both brothers Isaiah and Xavier, saw the importance of making sure they were together in supporting her through her treatment. To each of them, it was apparent that their focus needed to be on making Tatiana's days brighter and more comfortable. That became their family's mission.

Savannah was 10 years-old when her sister was diagnosed with cancer. She supported Tatiana with her encouragement and with laughter – the best medicine. She would sometimes sleep over at the hospital to keep her sister company and to distract her from the mundaneness of the hospital. Now in the 9th grade, Savannah plays piano and basketball, and loves math and science.

Isaiah was just a few months shy of his fifth birthday and fully understood that his sister was sick. He adjusted to the “new normal” of spending a lot of time in the hospital, time at home when his mom or dad couldn't be there, and he faced it all with a maturity beyond his age. Now in the third grade, he loves music, art, soccer, and playing video games with his brother.

At just two years-old, Xavier's life changed drastically when Tatiana was diagnosed. Family time was now hospital time. He adapted and was his cute and adorable self throughout her treatment. He may not have understood what was happening, but he knew that he wanted to be with his family. Xavier is now a first-grader who likes drawing, soccer, and playing video games.

Cancer can either tear a family apart or bring a family closer together. Tatiana's family truly faces childhood cancer together and continues to support Tatiana on her childhood cancer journey.

**It is Candlelighters' honor to present the
2019 Sibling Honoree Award to
SAVANNAH, ISAIAH and XAVIER DEMUS**

2019 LIGHTS OF COURAGE LUNCHEON HONOREE



CARLIE RAYE EDGINGTON

In April of 2005, just two weeks before Carlie Raye's fourth birthday, she started complaining of a tummy ache. Her parents took her to the pediatrician's office; he felt her tummy and sent them immediately to have a CT scan and blood work done. Carlie had a large mass wrapped around her kidney. Her parents took her to Texas Children's Hospital, and there they heard the words that no parent ever wants to hear – "your child has cancer." They still remember feeling like they were in a fog, not sure what to do and how they were going to endure.

Carlie had surgery to remove the tumor on her right kidney; the pathology report confirmed Stage IV High Risk Neuroblastoma. Neuroblastoma is a type of cancer that effects the small glands of the kidney. Treatment for Carlie included five rounds of high-dose chemotherapy, spot radiation, total body radiation, and two stem cell transplants. Despite having side effects that included fevers, infections, partial hearing loss, stunted growth, and kidney damage, Carlie Raye showed tremendous strength and courage through her journey. During those many days of treatment, Candlelighters was there.

Carlie was considered cancer free before she relapsed in December 2006. After an almost-three-year fight, Carlie Raye lost her battle with childhood cancer and passed away on February 2, 2008.

Carlie loved, and was loved, by her Mom, Dad, brother, sister, friends and numerous family members, including her cousin Ali Williams – one of our Lights of Courage Luncheon chairs this year.

Even though Carlie was the youngest member of her family, she ruled the roost! Carlie was confident, strong, outspoken, and full of sass. You always knew where you stood with Carlie Raye. She was a girly girl who loved everything pink and animal print, but she also loved sports – well, as long as the equipment was pink! Some of her favorite activities were dance, riding her bike, roller skating, horseback riding, boating, swimming, playing Barbies, dress up, video and board games. She also loved school and was a quick learner. If she got an answer wrong, she would make you ask her again so she could be right!

Carlie showed tremendous courage and strength throughout her journey. She never felt sorry for herself and did not want her life to be all about cancer. She went about her days as normal as possible, doing all the things she loved to do. Although Carlie lived a life cut short, it was full of fun, love, and lots of hugs and kisses! Carlie had beautiful sparkling blue eyes, dimples, and a smile that could light up a room. She is fiercely missed to this day and for her family and friends, Carlie Raye will forever be their "Raye of Sunshine!"

**It is Candlelighters' honor to present the
2019 Lights of Courage In Loving Memory Award to the family of
CARLIE RAYE EDGINGTON**

CANDLELIGHTERS YOUNG PROFESSIONALS GROUP'S 11TH ANNUAL MARGARITA TASTE-OFF HIGHLIGHTS HOUSTON'S BEST MARGARITAS FOR A GOOD CAUSE



Candlelighters Young Professionals Group's 11th Annual Margarita Taste Off took place Saturday, March 23rd, at Kirby Ice House.

Local restaurants competed for the best margarita, while attendees sipped, sampled and voted for their favorite concoction. Don Julio graciously sponsored the tequila to ensure consistency and quality among contestants. Silver Eagle Distributors sponsored the beer tent for the non-tequila lovers where they provided Modelo Especial for guests to enjoy, also donated for the event were offerings from 8th Wonder and Oasis Texas Brewing Company. Event also included a Don Julio tasting station, DJ Senega, raffle and Kendra Scott jewelry pull

(where 50 boxes sold out in mere minutes!). The highest bid of the day on silent auction was for four Texans tickets in head coach Bill O'Brien's suite, and the best part is the winner of the tickets is gifting this once-in-a-lifetime experience to a Candlelighters family! Overall, the event raised more than \$94,000 for Candlelighters – another record-breaking year!

Special thanks to our Celebrity Guest Judges who helped us celebrate the amazing event! Eric Sandler – CultureMap, Melissa Wilson – FOX 26; The Morning Mix Crew on 96.5 (Lauren Kelly and Geoff Sheen), former Houston Texan Kareem Jackson, Dr. Frank Lin – pediatric oncologist at Texas Children's Hospital and Morgan Weber – Agricole Hospitality.

Of course the event would not have happened without the generous support of our participating restaurants! Guests sampled margarita mixings from: Ambriza Social Mexican Kitchen, Bayou & Bottle, Bosscat Kitchen & Libations, Chuy's – River Oaks, Cilantro's Cocina, Eight Row Flint, Emmaline, Emma's Mex Grill, Field & Tides, La Fisheria, Grandma's Boys Lemonade, The Grove, Harold's in the Heights, Kicpops, Line & Lariat, Lupe Tortilla, On the Kirb, The Palm, Poitin Bar + Kitchen, Superica, El Tiempo Cantina, Los Tios Mexican Restaurant, Tony's Mexican Restaurant

Young Professionals Committee: Adam Will, Amanda Cuellar, Amaris Dawson, Alexis Caruselle, Allison & Will Evans, Anna & Blake Landry, Annabelle McKenzie, Amy Christman, Aron & Alex Will, Ashley Angelle, Ashley & Jonathan Sloan, Ashley Valdez, Brian McCulley, Blayne & Davis Bonham, Brandon Thacker, Carly Shorr, Clair & Ryan Primm, Clint Atwell, Courtney Steinfeld, Corinne Sullins, Craig Manuel, Desiree Swauger, Dr. Frank Lin, Delaney Lewis, Emily Deatherage, Elliott Gabriel, Greg Van Sickler, JD Garza, Jack Vaughan, Jeremy Keating, Jessica Unzueta, Jessica Lake, John Rhodes, John & Jessica Stribling, Jesse Soto, Kandyace Mayberry, Katlyn Head, Kelly Colclasure, Kelsey & Jeff Tarpinian, Kelsie Greenough, Kristy Jones, Lauren Renee Desrosiers, Leigh & Chris Joseph, Lewis Ehrle, Mary Lepa, Mary Elizabeth O'Leary, Mary Caroline Lee, Melanie Alcantar, Melissa Stuart, Michelle Newton, Michelle Manuel, Michael Tsang, Shannon Hutchings, Shelby Ubrich, Sterling & Rob Evans, Michael Tsang, Michelle Manuel, Michael Tsang, Shannon Hutchings, Shelby Ubrich, Sydney Sanislow, Tiffany McDonald, Yadira Torres, Zach Prudowsky

How to get involved: Visit www.candle.org. 100% of proceeds benefit Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Family Alliance – an organization providing emotional, educational and practical support for families with children with cancer. Since the event's inception, it has raised more than \$500,000.







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11th Annual Margarita Taste Off Award Winners!

Top Finishers:

FIRST PLACE - Ambriza Social Mexican Kitchen
 SECOND PLACE - The Palm
 THIRD PLACE - The Grove
 FOURTH PLACE - Grandma's Boys Lemonade
 FIFTH PLACE - Emma's Mex Grill
 TOP TEN - Eight Row Flint
 TOP TEN - Bayou & Bottle
 TOP TEN - Poitin Bar & Kitchen
 TOP TEN - Emmaline
 TOP TEN - Harold's Restaurant and Tap Room

Celebrities' Choice:

Don Julio Critic's Choice - Line & Lariat
 Don Julio Critic's Choice - Cilantro's Mexican Grill
 Celebrities' Choice - Emma's Mex Grill
 Kareem Jackson, Houston Texans - Kicpops
 Morning Mix 96.5 - Bosscat Kitchen & Libations
 Melissa Wilson, FOX 26 - Emma's Mex Grill
 Morgan Weber, Agricole Hospitality - The Palm
 Dr. Frank Lin, Texas Children's Hospital - Ambriza Social Mexican Kitchen
 Eric Sandler, CultureMap - Bayou & Bottle

Award Winners:

Best Margarita Presentation - EL TIEMPO
 Most Unique Margarita Garnish - EMMALINE
 Most Refreshing Margarita - LA FISHERIA
 Most Unforgettable Margarita - SUPERICA
 Best Use of Fresh Ingredients - LOS TIOS MEXICAN RESTAURANT
 Most Exotic Margarita Flavor - TONY'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT
 Most Original Margarita Recipe - THE GROVE
 Best Traditional Margarita Recipe - CHUY'S
 Most Creative Margarita Recipe - ON THE KIRB
 Best Booth Decor/Theme - AMBRIZA SOCIAL MEXICAN KITCHEN
 Most Festive Bartenders - BOSSCAT KITCHEN & LIBATIONS
 Congeniality Award - CILANTRO'S MEXICAN GRILL
 Best Cold Appetizer - FIELD & TIDES
 Best Hot Appetizer - LUPE TORTILLA



saddle up for camp cliff!

Families, join us for a Wild West Weekend!

Families:

be on the lookout for the camp application brochure in your mailbox!

Applications are first come first served. Special consideration given to newly diagnosed families.

Volunteers & Sponsors:

Please contact program director Carly Bradshaw for more info!

cbradshaw@candle.org

There are MANY sponsorship & volunteer opportunities! We also have an Amazon Wishlist!



friday, october 11th - sunday, the 13th

Camp For All in Burton, Texas



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Terry Hershey Park
15200 Memorial Drive

8 AM Check-In &
Registration
9 AM Walk Start

<http://give.candle.org/2019FunWalk>

Walking alongside
childhood cancer families
every step of the way.

2019 FUN WALK

Not sure WHO to walk with? Check these out!
go to <https://give.candle.org/2019FunWalk> and click "Start a Team"



FAMILY TEAMS

Are you a Candlelighters family? Walk in honor of your HERO! Whether you want to Walk in honor of your on-treatment, off-treatment, long-term survivor child or in-memory, Walk Day is a wonderful day to celebrate and rally together with loved ones AND pay it forward in support of all the families touched by childhood cancer.

CORPORATE TEAMS

A great team building opportunity for any size office, business, or company! Fundraise around the office in support of childhood cancer families (perhaps there's one you work with) and come out to celebrate together on Fun Walk Day! Last year our Corporate Teams collectively raised more than \$105,000!



COMMUNITY TEAMS

Whether you're a group from a school, sports team, gym, church - literally ANYTHING - the Fun Walk is for YOU! Walk with us to continue providing daily support to children with cancer and their families. Start your own Team or join one of ours:

Candlelighters Young Professionals Team
MD Anderson Cancer Center Team
Texas Children's Hospital Team

FUN WALK FUNDRAISING TIPS



Online Fundraising Tips

1. Register online at <https://give.candle.org/2019FunWalk>
2. Once registered, utilize the Participant Center to:
 - a. **Personalize your Page** - so your friends and family know WHY you're walking and WHAT their donation will go towards
 - b. **Email friends and family** - upload contacts and use the email templates to ask for donations AND thank your friends and family who donate
 - c. **Connect to Facebook** - at the bottom of your Participant Center Homepage look for the "Connect to Facebook" box - this enables the Fun Walk site and Facebook to link, making it easier to receive donations from Facebook friends! *Facebook fundraisers are 100% safe AND we get 100% of the donation!
3. Make specific asks: 13th day of the month ask for \$13 to pay for one day of hospital parking; 5 year cancer survivor ask for \$50, etc.
4. Studies Show it takes on average 3 "asks" for someone to donate - you're not being annoying, don't worry!

Unique Fundraising Ideas & Activities

1. **Sales:** bake sale, lemonade stand, t-shirt fundraisers, children's art, jewelry, meals (breakfast tacos, donuts, or pizza at the office!), etc.
2. **Chance to Win or Silent Auction:** every donor is entered into a drawing to win something, or sell chances to win around the office
3. **Post-it Palooza:** write out numbers 1-50 on post-its and take a picture - ask your friends and family to claim a number to donate and challenge them to claim them all!
4. **Fundraising Challenges:** have a friendly competition between the members of your walk team and award the top fundraiser - this can also work along the way (whoever raises the most in the next 24 hours etc.)
5. **Jeans/Gold Days:** ask for donations to wear jeans to the office or school and get a Gold Ribbon in honor of Childhood Cancer
6. **Pay to Play:** putting challenge, cornhole tournament etc. as small or as big as you want!

FUNDRAISING AWARDS

Rookie of the Year - Top Fundraising First Year Walk Team

Coast to Coast - Walk Team with donations from the most states/countries

Top Fundraising Teams

- Top Community Team
- Top 3 Corporate Teams
- Top 5 Family Teams

SPECIALTY AWARDS

In Your Corner - Largest Team

Best Team Name

Best Dressed Teams

- Corporate, Family & Community

Most Spirited Teams

- Corporate, Family & Community


Best Team T-Shirts

- Corporate, Family & Community

Awards are given out on walk day and based on fundraising totals from Friday, September 6.

With any questions please contact our office at (713) 270-4700

30 days of honoring CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



September

Be Aware & Know the Facts:

1. Ask us for gold ribbons to hold an awareness and donation campaign at your:
2. OFFICE
3. SCHOOL
4. CHURCH
5. Ask for \$8 donations; there are 8 children diagnosed with cancer each day in Houston

Support Candlelighters families by purchasing or collecting:

6. Kindles & Amazon Gift Cards
7. \$13 for one day of Hospital Parking
8. Toys for Birthdays and Holidays
9. Treasure Chest Toys & Games
10. Coloring Books, Crayons & Markers
11. Blankets, Cozy Socks & Hats
12. Gas Gift Cards
13. Grocery Gift Cards
14. Restaurant Gift Cards
15. Travel-sized Toiletries for Hospital stays

Connect with Us!

16. Follow us on Facebook & Instagram
17. Host a Facebook Fundraiser
18. Sponsor, Attend or Volunteer at an upcoming Candlelighters Event:
19. FUN WALK
20. A TOAST TO CANDLELIGHTERS (and join the Young Professionals Group)
21. CAMP CLIFF (search for our Amazon Wish List!)
22. FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL
23. ADOPT-A-FAMILY
24. SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS
25. CANDLELIGHTERS CARES
26. HOSPITAL ART DAY

Donate:

27. Make a Tax-Deductible Donation to Candlelighters
28. Double your gift through your employer's matching gift program
29. Your Talents: Photography, Graphic Design, Music, kids activities etc.
30. Extra Tickets to Sporting Events, Shows, Movies etc.

Thank You to This Year's Sponsors!

CANDLELIGHTERS CARES 2019

JANUARY  RICE VILLAGE EST. 1938	FEBRUARY  <i>Sweet Bella Delights</i>	MARCH  CHICAGO TITLE <i>Memorial Office</i>	APRIL COOKIES BY SARAH MICHELLE KOOKIES KAT THE COOKIE MOM THE SUGAR JAR WHIP IT GOOD COOKIES
MAY 	JUNE  Bernstein Realty	JULY   oleRRelo <i>Adam's Angels Ministry</i>	AUGUST  Tiff's Treats cookie delivery
SEPTEMBER IBERIABANK <i>Childhood Cancer Awareness Month</i>	OCTOBER  Origin Bank	NOVEMBER  JONES DAY	DECEMBER  LOOKING FOR A SPONSOR!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CANDLELIGHTERS CARES AND BECOMING A SPONSOR, PLEASE CONTACT PROGRAM DIRECTOR CARLY BRADSHAW AT CBRADSHAW@CANDLE.ORG.



CANDLELIGHTERS CARES WEST CAMPUS 2019

Get Involved: INDIVIDUALS & GROUPS

MAY



JUNE



JULY



AUGUST



TO SPONSOR A CANDLELIGHTERS CARES DATE AT TCH WEST IN KATY FOR SEPT., OCT., NOV. OR DEC., CONTACT CARLY AT CBRADSHAW@CANDLE.ORG.

CAMP CLIFF

We are currently seeking MANY volunteers to help us have the best camp weekend ever! We will need:

CAMP COUNSELORS
CAMP SUPPORT STAFF
CAMP PREP VOLUNTEERS
UNDERWRITERS & DONORS
FOR SPECIAL EVENTS
AND MUCH MORE!

CONTACT CARLY BRADSHAW AT CBRADSHAW@CANDLE.ORG

DONATING GIFT CARDS

Host a 'Gift Card Drive': Gather gift cards for groceries, Walmart, Target, and gas -- these are MUCH appreciated by families!

CONTACT 713.270.4700 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO GET INVOLVED WITH CANDLELIGHTERS PROGRAMS & EVENTS!

EVENT & OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Help behind the scenes for one of our events, at an event, or in our corporate office. Call 713.270.4700 for current opportunities.



2019 Dates to Save!

FUN WALK - SEPTEMBER 7th

Terry Hershey Park | Online Registration is Open!

CITY-WIDE KENDRA SCOTT GIVES BACK EVENTS - SEPTEMBER 17th

Shop at any Kendra Scott store in the city on this Tuesday and a portion of the proceeds go back to Candlelighters!

10th ANNIVERSARY DINNER WITH FLEMING'S STEAKHOUSE AT TOWN AND COUNTRY VILLAGE - SEPTEMBER 27th

5-Course Meal with Wine Pairings - Proceeds Benefitting Candlelighters

A TOAST TO CANDLELIGHTERS FUNDRAISER - OCTOBER 4th

Our inaugural cocktail fundraiser, hosted by the Candlelighters Young Professionals Group, at Aris Market Square

CAMP CLIFF - OCTOBER 11th - 13th

Registration Brochures have been sent! Camp acceptance and waitlist letters will be mailed ASAP in September,

FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL - OCTOBER 27th

Sunday Event at St. John's School

For more information contact cbradshaw@candle.org

HOLIDAY ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM OCTOBER - DECEMBER

To sponsor a family, contact cbradshaw@candle.org
Families, contact your Parent Consultants for more information

TO STAY CURRENT WITH CANDLELIGHTERS,
EVENTS & NEWS, FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK



Candlelighters Houston

RESOURCES FOR CANDLELIGHTERS FAMILIES

Candlelighters mission is to provide emotional, educational, and practical support to children with cancer and their families. If you are a family battling, recovering or bereaving from childhood cancer, or know a family on this journey, please share these resources both Candlelighters and other organizations in our community offer.

Candlelighters provides practical support in the following ways:

- Parking assistance at the Texas Medical Center
- Grocery store gift cards
- Meal passes to Texas Medical Center cafeterias
- Gas Cards
- Help with funeral expenses

Candlelighters provides emotional & educational support through our following programs and events:

- One-on-one peer support from Candlelighters Parent Consultants (two staff at MD Anderson Children's Cancer Hospital and three at Texas Children's Cancer Center)
- Support Group Meetings (weekly at MD Anderson Children's Cancer Hospital and Texas Children's Cancer Center)
- Newsletter
- Holiday Adopt-A-Family Program
- Camp CLIFF (Children Loved in Families Forever)
- Fall Family Festival
- Patient Journal
- Skeeter's Day at the Ball Park
- Summer Surprises
- Many others throughout the year! Stay up-to-date on programs and events by joining our email and newsletter mailing list, and by following us on Facebook: Candlelighters Houston.

Important Candlelighters Phone Numbers:

- Candlelighters Main Office: (713) 270-4700
- MD Anderson Parent Consultants: (713) 792-4891
- Texas Children's Parent Consultants: (832) 822-1415

Other resources available to families facing childhood cancer:

- On-Treatment Housing
 - Halo House Foundation
 - Ronald McDonald House
 - Chance for Hope
 - Project Joy and Hope
- Transportation Assistance for People with Disabilities
 - Houston Children's Charity
- Grief Support
 - Bo's Place
 - Project Joy and Hope
- Financial Assistance
 - Heroes for Children Rent and Mortgage
 - Houston Children's Charity Prosthetics
 - Project Joy and Hope
- College Scholarships
 - Addi's Faith Foundation
 - American Cancer Society
 - Cancer for College
 - Cancer Survivor Fund
 - Childhood Brain Tumor Foundation/Brittany Truitt Scholarship
 - Friends of Scott
 - Jack's Ride Scholarship Program
 - Kidsrstrong2
 - Kids 4 Kids with Cancer
 - National Children's Cancer Society
 - National Collegiate Cancer Foundation
 - Northwestern Mutual – Sibling Scholarship Program
 - The Simon Cancer Foundation Scholarship Program
 - Snowdrop Foundation
 - Super Sibs Scholarship Program for brothers and sisters of children with cancer
 - The Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation
 - The SAMFund for Young Adult Survivors of Cancer
 - The Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults



Childhood Cancer Family Alliance, Inc.
12919 Southwest Freeway, Suite 100
Stafford, Texas 77477

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Follow us on Facebook at Candlelighters Houston

**Candlelighters' mission is to provide emotional,
educational and practical support to children
with cancer and their families.**



A Special Thank You To
Southeast Print Media
For Producing Our Newsletter

Candlelighters began in 1989 with two parent support groups from the Texas Medical Center: one at Texas Children's Hospital and one at The University of Texas MD Anderson Children's Cancer Hospital. The Texas Children's Hospital group sought formal incorporation, and in 1992 Candlelighters was legally formed. In the fall of 1992 they invited the MD Anderson Parent Group to join them and the two organizations merged into one. The Parent Consultant Program was developed to directly meet the needs of families at the treatment centers and to inform them of potential resources. Our programs and services extend beyond the hospital walls with our Family Camp, Adopt-A-Family, Fall Festival, Candlelighters Newsletter and other special events. Over the years, we have learned how critically valuable it is for our Parent Consultants to be able to personally hand parents of children with cancer practical assistance such as a meal pass, parking assistance or gas cards. It is our greatest honor and privilege to bring this type of comfort and hope to childhood cancer families.