



MILAN'S MIRACLE FUND

BENEFITING PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH

A Message from Milan's Mom

I can't do this alone!

I am proud to announce that 2016 was another successful year for Milan's Miracle Fund. We presented a \$50,812 check to our pediatric cancer research team at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital on December 8, Milan's birthday.

It is incredibly hard to believe that February 12th marked eight years since Milan took her last breath. I thought that I would not survive this gigantic hole in my heart! Because of a pinky promise to Milan that I would **NEVER GIVE UP**, along with the love and strength from my son Delano, family and friends, I continue Milan's fight by bringing much needed awareness and funds to pediatric cancer research!

Unfortunately, this form of brain cancer is no longer rare and we still struggle to find a cure. Thanks to your support we now have a DIPG study, along with individual treatments that provide encouragement, strength and much-needed hope for positive outcomes for families affected by this vicious disease!

I am truly overwhelmed by and appreciative of all the time, love and support from so many people. Every one of you has helped me get through the most difficult time in my life and I look forward to seeing you in 2017!

Hugs!!

Sharyn Capobianco
President and Milan's Mom



Milan's Miracle Fund Impacts West Michigan!

Milan's Miracle Fund uses donations and money raised through events to directly support pediatric cancer research and clinical trials through Helen DeVos Children's Hospital and their pediatric cancer researchers. Read what local researchers and physicians in West Michigan are doing and saying about the role Milan's Miracle Fund is playing in the community.



Deanna Mitchell, MD
Pediatric Hematology-Oncology
Helen DeVos Children's Hospital

"Milan's Miracle Fund has a direct impact on the care and molecular profiling for children with extremely challenging tumors. Learning from these tumors and giving medications that are directed by gene expressions, mutations and pathways are a truly promising pathway for children who previously had no curative options. Words are inadequate to express my gratitude to the Capobianco's and their incredible, sustaining efforts to pay it forward, despite the heartache of losing Milan. I also believe they have created an opportunity for many of us to participate in giving in our own community to children with brain tumors and cancer at Helen DeVos Children's Hospital. I feel privileged to participate on their team!!"

"Those of us privileged to care for children with cancer in this current era are grateful for such incredible improvements in treatment, and for continuing increases in cure rates for nearly all forms of childhood cancer. Sadly, there are still many children, with especially difficult diagnoses like brain tumors, for whom treatments are limited and cures are uncertain. So much work remains to be done to bring strength and healing to these precious children and brave families. We are so blessed by community treasures like Milan's Miracle Fund, bringing together an amazing group of generous, dedicated volunteers to champion the research that will bring cures within the reach of every child! We are so deeply grateful for the work of all of the supporters of MMF, and know this is a special tribute to Milan, and a powerful legacy of hope!"

Jim Fahner
Division Chief, Pediatric
Oncology
Helen DeVos Children's
Hospital



Emma Benefits Directly from the Clinical Trials Milan's Miracle Fund Sponsors



Meet Emma! What a beautiful young lady! Her family, as too many others, were shocked with their child's diagnosis of Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG).

Helen DeVos Children's Hospital presented some clinical trial options for Emma that Milan's Miracle Fund helped fund.

Read her full story at our website milansmiracle-fund.org

Take Action

Give to Milan's Miracle Fund when shopping on Amazon — Join Amazon Smile at <https://smile.amazon.com/> and choose MMF as your charity of choice

Register for Milan's Miracle Run — June 4, 2017

Milan's Sunshine Shop — www.milansmiraclefund.org

Buy Sunshine Magnets — \$1



Shop Forest Hills Foods 2% Give back



Every December 8th, on Milan's birthday, the fund presents a check to the research team. In 2016, MMF presented a check for

\$50,812.00!



2017 Events for Milan's Miracle Fund



Strike Out Cancer

Baseball/Softball Tourney
May 13, 2017 — Hudsonville

Milan's Miracle Run

5K Run/3K Walk/Kids Fun Run
Superhero/Princess Themed Run
Mutt Strut, Silent Auction
Sno-Cones
Sunday, June 4
Millennium Park, Grand Rapids

Grand Rapids FC Game

GRFC vs Lansing United
Saturday, June 10
Houseman Field — Grand Rapids

Twisted Rooster Event

Dine to Donate — May 18, 2017
From 5pm to Close

"Mitchell & I have known each other since we were 16 years old and reconnected in 2011. We have been dating for almost 6 years and are getting married on Saturday April 22nd, 2017!

The Capobianco's have been near and dear to me & family for all of my life. They are the most wonderful, loving and exceptional individuals we have ever grown to love. Milan, especially, has always had a special place in our hearts, so when we were deciding on a thank you gift for our guests, we asked ourselves; what's more important than a donation to Milan's Miracle Fund in honour on our beautiful, most sweetest little girl?

In that, we have made a donation to Milan's Miracle Fund in lieu of a thank you gift, as we feel the finest gift is one that helps others live longer and healthier lives."

With love, always - xoxo

The future – Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell & Cristina

Lifetime Fund Stats

\$390,000

RAISED BY MILAN'S
MIRACLE FUND TO FIGHT
PEDIATRIC CANCER!

* Includes matching \$100,000 from
Boston donor

Milan's Sunshine has been
trademarked as a global
symbol for Pediatric Cancer
Research



Contact Information

milansmiraclefund.org • facebook.com/Milans-Miracle-Run-8K-and-5K-Walk

Milan's Mom • Sharyn Capobianco • sharyncapobianco@gmail.com

Milan's Miracle Fund • 1646 Thornapple River DR • Grand Rapids • MI • 49546

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