

# Little Star Foundation “Your Example”

Issue 29 Spring 2022

2022 marks 37th Year Helping Children with Cancer, Families & Communities

**Psychological Resilience: the ability to mentally or emotionally cope with a crisis or to return to pre-crisis status quickly.**

As a kid on the pro tennis tour, when I started helping children with cancer, I had my own examples of resilience. We all do. Resilience is further described as "the process of adapting well in the face of adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats, or significant sources of stress—such as family and relationship problems, serious health problems, or workplace, home and financial stressors." When you hear Paxton's brain cancer story and his Mom's "Words of Wisdom" in this "Your Example" issue you will add to your ability of living in the present and living full even with challenges. Maybe you will also feel called to help Paxton and his family or any of the cancer families Little Star Foundation helps across the country.

Welcome to Little Star Foundation's "Your Example" News and Happy Spring! Andrea Jaeger - President



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Your donation matters!  
Donate today to improve the lives of children.

## 7 year old Paxton with an aggressive brain cancer called Medulloblastoma

Paxton's Mom, Amanda's, advice to families:  
"Enjoy the now. Don't worry about the scans next week. What could happen. It's scary I get it. Worrying about the unknown is another cancer ... it's going to rob you of the time you know you have.. and that is right now. "



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Paxton's Mom continues, "We noticed Paxton’s left eye became lazy. He had a referral for an ophthalmologist. Then he complained of his head hurting. Paxton was sent from Urgent care to the children’s hospital ER. Within an hour and a half, we were given devastating news. He had a mass in the brain. This mass was blocking the flowing fluid into his brain and he had a bad case of hydrocephalus and the pressure in his brain was extremely high. He needed emergency surgery. I signed the consent form for the anesthesiologist in the hallway as they wheeled him back for a drain.

Four days later they had relieved the pressure to be able to go in and remove the mass. It ended up being Medulloblastoma, an aggressive brain cancer. We noticed that the back of his head had some squishiness to it. He wasn’t absorbing the CSF (cerebral spinal fluid) he now needed a VP shunt. Once again he was taken back to surgery. His 3rd surgery in under 2 weeks. Due to the aggressive nature of this cancer... it had spread to the cerebellum. Paxton had 6 additional smaller tumors. Only these were inoperable. He had 30 treatments of Proton radiation of the brain and spine. Every time he needed to be sedated as it took hours to complete. Paxton was able to return home for 4 weeks before going back to start 7 rounds of chemo. The chemo treatments have been extremely rough on him. He started passing out due to fear and anxiety of having his port accessed. Paxton started going septic and ultimately grew a rare bacteria. Round 6 was delayed. He has needed a total of 14 blood transfusions and 14 plasma transfusions since the start of chemotherapy.

We are requesting financial help. I have bills that get rotated when they get paid late, so I can pay the other bills. I have changed the date of my car payment thinking that would ease things up a little, so I can get away with paying my mortgage closer to the 15th. Please can you help get those caught up?"

Together we have been helping children like Paxton for decades. St. Jude, a wonderful hospital, often contacts Little Star Foundation hoping we can help provide financial assistance to their patient families. Little Star Foundation has been helping their little patients like Paxton for decades too. Your support helps make that important difference possible.



Adriana, pictured left in yellow hat, is part of Little Star’s Team. Adriana graduated with a BA in Business Management & Masters in Physical Therapy, was a college & professional tennis player & helps children w/cancer in Little Star Foundation's year round programs in the US & worldwide.

“Having helped children in orphanages and hospitals I see resilience firsthand. Little Star and myself are grateful we can use our time, talents, resilience and abilities to ease the suffering in children with cancer and children suffering unimaginable tragedies. Growing up striving to reach goals I sacrificed a lot. My family in Eastern Europe and many others are seeing daily tragedies that can disrupt basic human life. It is special being part of Little Star Foundation and the community of support making a difference in the lives of children with cancer and children in need. Thank you to everyone who cares. We are all capable of resilience and together we are even better.” Adriana

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Posts include news  
inspirational devotions,  
special tributes &  
pictures.

Your donation will help  
bring important Long-  
Term Care, Better Quality  
of Life Programs &  
Emergency Care support  
to children with cancer.  
Donate today.  
Thank You!



Long Term Care is not easy to provide. It takes dedication, commitment, support and passion. Cory lost his leg to cancer. Every year we hear from Cory thanking us for the long term care programs we provided when he was a little boy with cancer and during his teen and adult years navigating through decades long medical challenges due to the amount of chemotherapy he received. Cory received Educational Assistance from Little Star Foundation to achieve his teaching degree. Cory and also just in Teara's messages are for you too - you are making these caring lifetime differences. Thank You!

"Andrea, I cannot thank you or Little Star Foundation enough for everything you have done for me in my life. You changed my life in many ways. You have helped me find my passion in life-teaching. It is because of you and your foundation that I am going into teaching. I feel like I am always sounding repetitive/redundant with my words, but I'll say it again... I think about you often and can't thank you enough for helping transform me into the person I am today. You are in my thoughts and prayers often."



"My name is Teara from Detroit. I visited your camp a few times as a kid in 1999-2001. I misplaced my tapes and was wondering if there is any way you had copies stored away from my time there? I really would love to show my husband and kids my amazing time spent at your camp for cancer patients. I've been in remission for 20 years now. Your camp has always been the best part of my childhood. You will always be a part of my family. I have attached a photo of me now." (Yes we have found copies of Teara's session tapes, have copied them and they are on the way to Teara.:)

Teara and Andrea December 2000  
Program Talent Show Congo Dance Line



Teara present day



**You can help!  
Donate what you can.**

**Ways to Donate:**

- You can donate any amount securely online at [www.littlestar.org](http://www.littlestar.org)
- Want to send a check? Little Star's address:

Andrea Jaeger  
Little Star Foundation  
174 Watercolor Way  
Suite 103 B343  
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459  
800-543-6565

- Ask Your Family, Friends, Company to match your Donation.  
\* contact Andrea Jaeger/Little Star directly at [info@littlestar.org](mailto:info@littlestar.org) or at 800-543-6565
- Share this Issue of Little Star's Your Example.
- Donate any amount in celebration of or in memory of someone dear to you.



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

Little Star Foundation operates year round. In one month alone, December 2021, Little Star provided over 6,000 meals, impacted thousands with Financial Assistance and tens of thousands with Educational and Therapeutic Programs all maintaining a 37 year average with over 92% of every dollar dedicated to Program support. These recent thank you's are for you too.

Andrea,  
Thanks for all that  
you do for the children  
God Bless.  
Will

Dear Andrea,  
Keep it  
going & Happy  
Holidays!  
Love

May you and everyone at Little Star be filled with the joy our Lord and Savior provides this Christmas and every other day of the year! 🙏🙏🙏  
You are amazing and your light shines bright 😊

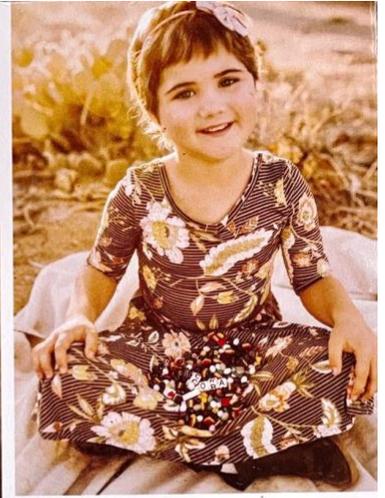
Thank you so much for the wall calendars. Each month's pics/illustrations/drawings are so colorful, heartwarming and unique. Will love looking through each page every day. An inspiration to everyone... just like you.

Dear Adriana and Andrea  
I am grateful and appreciate the beautiful service provided in service to the Divine Creator who loves without condition. Thank you both!  
Love without condition,  
Alan

After an unimaginable year, we are so grateful to be together, home, and (relatively) healthy! We wish you and your families all the best in 2022!



Cora has been fighting leukemia for the past year and is winning! Levi, Luke, and Gwen continue to surprise us with their compassion, support, and love for Cora and each other. We're all doing our things and praising the Lord for where we are in this journey.



Andrea!!!! Merry Christmas!!!! I just now opened my gift packages from you!!!! I am eternally grateful to you and your efforts and your unending spirit to serve others. Your ripple effect continues ❤️❤️❤️  
I miss you and everyone so deeply! I hope we can all see each other soon!!!!

You know if you ever need a testimony or video I'd do anything for you

You are THE reason I went into teaching. A profession, even during these tough times, is one I would do all over again. I got the package and you made me cry again!! I can't thank you enough for what you've done!! ❤️❤️ Merry Christmas

Together we celebrate 37 years of Little Star Foundation's mission to provide long term care and a better quality of life to children with cancer, their families and communities and children in need. It is exciting to continue Award Winning Programs making an important difference together!

Go to [www.littlestar.org](http://www.littlestar.org) and Donate today to improve and save lives. With great appreciation, Andrea Jaeger – President Little Star Foundation  
174 Watercolor Way Suite 103 B343, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459 [info@littlestar.org](mailto:info@littlestar.org)

