

Dear Dr. Allen,

Our 7-year-old daughter, Anna, who has asthma, was having trouble breathing so we took her to the hospital Emergency Department closest to our home. Within minutes of examining Anna, the doctor told us she needed to be at Nationwide Children's, and they had a squad on their way to get her.

An emergency and respiratory team was waiting for us when she arrived. Anna spent the next four days in the Pediatric ICU. One lung was fully collapsed, another partially. Doctors carefully monitored her and prescribed the right combination of drugs and treatment to heal her little body.

No one at Nationwide Children's performed any procedure on Anna without making sure she understood everything they were doing. They knew Anna was scared and they knew that she wanted to know if it was going to hurt. As parents, that put us at ease.

We are tremendously lucky to have a world-class children's hospital right here in Columbus. Our greatest impression of the hospital is not only the quality of the medical care she received, but also the quality of the personal attention and respect she received.

Sincerely,

*Peter & Susie Hahn,
Anna's grateful parents*



Share your story with us – Become a fan of Nationwide Children's Hospital at

www.Facebook.com/NationwideChildrensHospital.

Calendar of Events

The Memorial Tournament
Tuesday, June 1 – Sunday, June 6

Children's Miracle Network Telethon
Saturday, June 5 – Sunday, June 6

Woody Hayes Celebrity Classic Kick-Off Party and Woody Hayes Celebrity Classic
Sunday, June 13 & Monday, June 14

Circle of Friends Run for the Rainbow
Friday, June 18

Nationwide Children's Hospital Invitational
Monday, July 19 – Sunday, July 25

For more information, visit NationwideChildrens.org/Events.



Sidney's Birthday Wish

Eight-year-old Sidney Derzon, from New Albany, Ohio, and her parents planned a special birthday party last year at a local rock climbing gym. Sidney asked her friends to make a gift to Nationwide Children's Hospital instead of bringing her a present. She said, "I wanted to help other kids. The hospital seemed like a good idea because I could help kids who were sick. I want other kids to feel lucky like I feel."

Sidney's caring idea made an impact on her younger brother, Matthew, and he decided to do the same thing for his birthday. Together, they raised \$600 to benefit Nationwide Children's. Thank you Sidney and Matthew for giving the gift of hope to the patients and families we serve.

Whether you're turning 8 or 88, why don't you join Sidney and Matthew and help sick kids on your birthday? Visit www.NationwideChildrens.org/MyBirthdayWish to learn more or call Rachel Heine at 614-355-0888.

SoftSpot

:: A Newsletter for Friends of Nationwide Children's Hospital :: Spring 2010



Fighting Childhood Cancer – and Winning

Dany, 11 years old, is battling Ewings Sarcoma, a childhood cancer that occurs primarily in the bones and soft tissue. She shares a special moment with Jodi, fellow Ewings Sarcoma survivor. Diagnosed at 17, Jodi is now a nurse practitioner and a living example of someone who is thriving and encouraging others that there is a healthy future after cancer.

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◀ The day Jodi and Dany met for this photo, Jodi introduced Dany to her stuffed dog, Wrinkles. A classmate won Wrinkles for Jodi on her senior class trip, just months after her cancer diagnosis, and Wrinkles was a constant companion through chemotherapy and radiation treatments. Dany's parents were thrilled to meet Jodi, and they hope that one day Dany can pass on encouragement to a child who is going through the battles she is facing today just as Jodi did for her.

SURVIVING & THRIVING AFTER BATTLING CANCER

Nationwide Children's Hospital Expansion Will Generate More Jobs & Economic Growth

Cranes hover over the skyline at Nationwide Children's Hospital as the 12-story, 750,000 square foot new main hospital rises from the ground. The campus expansion will create 2,000 additional jobs and impact the central Ohio region to the tune of more than \$1.3 billion.

The ultimate impact of Nationwide Children's Hospital expansion goes far beyond dollars and cents. It will be measured by the increasing national recognition of Columbus as a pediatric healthcare destination and most importantly, by the growing number of children who come to us for care.

Watch our live construction web cam at www.NationwideChildrens.org/Campus-Expansion



▲ Construction on the replacement hospital continues on time and on budget on the main campus in downtown Columbus. When completed in late 2012, Nationwide Children's Hospital will be the second largest children's hospital in the country.

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At Nationwide Children's Hospital, more children are treated for cancer than any other children's hospital in Ohio. In 2009, nearly 200 families heard the devastating news, "your child has cancer." Last summer, Dany was diagnosed with Ewings Sarcoma, a cancer of the bones or soft tissue, after several weeks of tests and visits to doctors in her local community—about a 3-hour drive from Columbus.

Just days after doctors at Nationwide Children's Hospital started chemotherapy treatments, Dany showed marked improvement. Her first visit to the cancer floor lasted nearly two months as she received chemotherapy and built up her strength on the Rehab floor. She will continue treatment for several more months, and all signs point to a full recovery.

Dany has a personality that sparkles and a spirit that shines. She is full of charm and always wears a smile. Her goal is to make a surprise visit to see her fifth grade classmates on the last day of school in June. We're certain she will wow them!

Survivors like Jodi, and the doctors and nurses on the cancer floor, are an example and an inspiration to Dany.

“There are not enough words to explain how good the doctors and nurses are to Dany and our family,” said Dany's mom.



Jodi will never forget her senior year of high school, 12 years ago when she discovered she had Ewings Sarcoma. She faced the cancer head-on and fought, undergoing several surgeries and months of chemotherapy and radiation at Nationwide Children's Hospital. She recently married Josh, the man of her dreams, and works as a nurse practitioner. Jodi says "I am living proof that you can live a successful life after cancer."



▲ Dany and the nurses on "J5" (our cancer floor) reenact the "going home" dance they performed with Dany the day she left the hospital after her first seven-week stay. "Cancer is teaching me to keep on going, to keep on trying, and to never give up," said Dany.

Child Life Specialists Bring Comfort to Hospitalized Children

Child Life Specialists are an integral part of the medical care team at Nationwide Children's. With a background in human development, they help children in countless ways, from providing distraction for a sick child during a difficult medical procedure, to dealing with missing home and friends, to using medical play to help the child prepare for a medical procedure, to helping the child and the family deal with the diagnosis of a serious illness.

Sara Herber, of Dublin, Ohio, knows first hand the value of working with Child Life Specialists. Her son, Timmy, was diagnosed with Type I Diabetes last year.

"That's when we met Jacquie. We had never heard of Child Life before, but what a difference she made while we were at the hospital. She instantly became friends with Timmy, and she introduced him to every doctor, nurse and clinician who entered our hospital room. She made me feel like Timmy was her number one priority and I can't thank her enough.

We received great medical care at Nationwide Children's, and when combined with the Child Life skills, it made our experience simply amazing. It is a special place with special people."

▼ Jacquie Wludyga, Child Life Specialist, has her heart checked by Cayla, a 6-year-old Nationwide Children's Hospital patient. When we asked Cayla if she wanted to see her picture, she told us "No thanks. I'm busy playing." Child Life Specialists help children stay positive and focused while they are sick.

