



Dear Friend,

My name is Teresa Moon, and I am contacting you on behalf of Simon's Angels, a non-profit, 501c(3) foundation that raises money in my nephew's name for children with like illnesses. Simon Bradley was born August 25, 2004 with two rare congenital diseases, Hirschsprung's and Congenital Central Hypoventilation Syndrome (CCHS). The combination of the two went undiagnosed until November of 2004, at which time our family was presented with the reality that these two diseases together could prove fatal to our little angel.



It was a daily fight for life; two major surgeries, three different hospitals, and the prospect of a lifetime of more surgeries and hospital stays. If it weren't for the persistence and unconditional love of his family, Simon may not have made it for the year that he did. This extraordinary year taught our family many things about the importance of every life, and the value each life offers to the world. With this inspiring, yet short life, we were motivated to fervently raise money for other transplant children and their families.



Our family was privy to the struggle of dealing with the transplant process and recovery after a surgery of this magnitude. Simon lived eight months at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, FL. The University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Medical Center (UM/JMMC) is one of the few sites in the United States offering intestinal transplants – both alone and in combination with other organs. UM/JMMC serves as a referral center for patients from the United States, Latin America, the Caribbean, Canada and Europe. The medical center has performed the largest number of intestinal transplants in the world.

Simon was enrolled, so to speak, into a program headed by world-renowned doctors. We witnessed not only his struggle, but that of the many other children battling similar ailments. I am moved by the number of babies, adolescents and adults who are burdened with the reality of needing an organ transplant. But what happens to those who do not get organs in time? I'll tell you what happens, sadly, they die. It doesn't have to be this way! If our communities were more aware of how easy and important it is to become an organ donor I do not believe we would lose so many precious souls to an untimely death. We need activists who are willing to spread the word—DONATE LIFE!!!!!!

In the past 2 years our foundation has helped many transplant children and their families. Our recent contributions include:



Last year's Family Fun Event raised nearly \$15,000. Our goal this year is \$20,000. Last Christmas we brought toys to over one hundred children at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, most of which were donated by our community.

We donated money to the transplant department at the hospital to be dispersed as needed and gave twenty \$25 gift cards to help with food, lodging, transportation, medicine and other familial necessities.

Just this past November, a local toddler died and his parents donated his organs. They needed help with hospital bills and funeral expenses and we were able to help them with both.

We paid for the funeral expenses for a transplant child that passed away.

And we also helped two transplant families get on their feet after all the costly hospital expenses.

As you can see, we have been hard at work keeping Simon's memory alive by our many contributions to the transplant community. We ask for your support in this year's fundraiser that is being co-sponsored by the YMCA of Port Orange.



The event is Sunday, Aug. 26th from 12-4, at the YMCA in Port Orange. It will be fun for the entire family.....Raffles, silent auction, swimming, food and much more!!! Look to the website for updated info as we get closer. www.simonsangels.org.

If you would like to attend this event please RSVP to Superwash1@aol.com.

Donations to our cause can be sent to:

Simon's Angels:
3317 Oak Vista Drive
Port Orange, FL 32128

Checks can be made to the foundation or you can donate by credit card on the website.

We hope this letter will encourage you to join in our quest to save lives and make a difference!!!

Respectfully Yours,

Teresa Moon-Vileno
Media contact, Simon's Angels

