



The Edmarc Visitor

Spring 2015

EDMARC HELPS A HAPPY LITTLE GIRL COME BACK TO HER FAMILY

~ By Peyton's Mom

On August 8th of 2006 our first daughter, Peyton, was welcomed into the world. She was tiny at only five pounds, but she was beautiful and perfect otherwise. It didn't take her long to catch up; eating was her favorite experience. She could never get enough. She was a happy baby, usually smiling and cooing to anyone whose attention she could catch. She was everything we could have dreamed of and more.

Our experiences raising Peyton were amazing, she brought so much light into our lives. The joy that we felt as her parents was unexplainable, but underneath that joy were also some concerns. You see, as Peyton grew, there were some signs that she was not developing as typically as most of her peers. She was becoming ill more frequently, developing strings of infections and viruses and, at other times, spiking frequent fevers with no identified cause. Around the age of two her muscles began losing tone, and she began lagging in milestones. Despite the increased difficulties she was facing, she was still the happy baby we had loved from the moment we knew of her existence.

By the age of three, things started to change rather quickly for her. She began losing stamina, often opting out of playing, even during activities that she loved. When she was up to it, she tried her best to give it her all, but when she was down, she spiraled quickly. She had a much tougher time recuperating from illnesses and had even begun to lose some previously mastered skills. It was becoming clearer by the day that something was wrong, but no one knew what, not even her doctors.

At three and a half, Peyton had stopped consistent eating and drinking. At first it was hard to tell if it was just a stage, or something more concerning. But it didn't take long to realize there was more to it. She had started becoming dehydrated and it was clear that Peyton, who used to love food, was no longer feeling hungry. There



The trademark Peyton smile

were so many changes in our little girl that were coming so fast, but nothing would prepare us for what lay ahead.

Not long after Peyton began struggling with her ability to eat and drink, she began having seizures. She was diagnosed with complex partial epilepsy and placed on antiepileptic medications. It seemed as though we had just fallen into a landslide we couldn't get out of, and up until that point, no one could tell us why. It was then that a geneticist told us of her suspicions that our daughter could be suffering from a genetic disorder called Mitochondrial Disease.

Mitochondrial Disease is a metabolic disease that affects individuals at the cellular level. It is genetic, it is progressive, and often fatal. In individuals with Mitochondrial Disease, the mitochondria in the cells are defective and cannot provide enough cell energy for proper cellular function. Without properly functioning cells, the body's organ systems cannot function properly.

While Peyton went through the proper testing process to diagnose or rule out Mitochondrial Disease, her body continued

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SPRING Wish list

to struggle. She was in and out of the hospital for gastrointestinal (GI) issues, hypoglycemic events, and difficult-to-treat seizures. Her nutritional struggles were getting harder to manage, and she had begun to lose weight as a result. The decision was made to place a temporary feeding tube, a NG tube, while we waited on the results of her testing.

At four and a half, we found the answer why our sweet girl was struggling so much, and much to our sorrow, the geneticist was correct. She was suffering from the effects of Mitochondrial Disease. A disease which had very few treatment options, and no cure.

Even after learning the name of what Peyton was struggling with, she still had such immense battles to face. There were so few doctors who understood the disease and so few places for us to turn in order to understand what was going on in our daughter's small body. She had a G-tube placed for nutrition and hydration and, by that point, had completely lost all desire to eat and drink. Her G-tube feedings often failed, as her belly would fill with formula that could not be digested.

After meeting with one of the top Mitochondrial Disease specialists, and after several inpatient stays at CHKD, it became clearer that our daughter's digestive tract was quite affected by the disease. Mitochondrial Disease often affects the organs that require the most energy. Running a GI tract on mitochondria that are dysfunctional would be like trying to run a car on a battery that needs to be replaced. Though it is important to point out that the disease affects everyone differently, most of our daughter's affects were in her gastrointestinal tract and neuro-muscular system. She had developed gastro paresis, meaning her stomach did not empty in a timely manner. This made it difficult to feed directly into her stomach. She also had slow colon motility.

She eventually had a special feeding tube placed to bypass her stomach and feed directly into her small intestine. We thought things would begin looking up for her from there. Unfortunately, that would only shine more light on the problems our daughter was facing. She began to have chronic pseudo obstructions, places where the peristalsis or contractions in her small intestine would stop, causing portions of her small intestine to fill with air and fluid. This was not only a painful experience, but one that would often prevent her from being fed as it would cause her nutrition to actually reverse its flow into her stomach. Over time the episodes would come closer and closer together and it became more and more painful for her to be fed through her gut. She was becoming weaker, losing weight, having more frequent seizures, and not functioning well at all.

By the end of 2011, when she was five years old, Peyton ended

up in a series of lengthy hospitalizations in order to try any means to maximize her enteral feedings. By the beginning of 2012, it was clear that her GI tract was no longer able to function well enough to provide her the nutrition, electrolytes, or dextrose that she needed for survival. The difficult decision was made to place a permanent IV or central venous line so that she could receive IV nutrition, dextrose, hydration, and medications. It seemed that Peyton's body was becoming more frail by the moment. The little girl who once spent her days twirling herself dizzy now spent most of her days hooked up to IV's and needing supplementary oxygen in order to catch her breath. By February of that year, she had developed significant autonomic dysfunction, chronic bone marrow suppression, and a T/B cell deficiency, along with her already difficult-to-process disorders. There were days we feared how much more she could possibly take.

Unfortunately, in late February, that fear would be tested. Peyton developed a life threatening blood stream infection from bacteria seeping from her digestive tract. She was at a higher risk for this type of infection due to the fact that she could no longer be fed through her gut. Bacteria was more likely to build up and break through the delicate vessel walls as opposed to being washed through her digestive tract as it should be. The situation was unavoidable, but one that put her at a high risk for life threatening infections no matter how careful we were.

She ended up developing sepsis, which took a toll on her body. Sepsis is a full body inflammation that occurs as a result of a blood stream infection. It leads to poor circulation and low perfusion to organ systems. In short, it made her already fragile body even sicker, much sicker than we had ever seen her.

Her condition led her doctors to want to do everything they thought they could to try another large effort to rehabilitate Peyton's GI tract. This would not only prove to be one of the most painful experiences of her life, but one that ultimately showed just how fragile she had become. Not only did the tiny volume of feedings dilate her entire digestive tract with air, pushing her bowels into her chest cavity, but she also developed hepatitis from the work that her liver was being asked to do, functioning as her only working digestive organ. It was clear at that point there was very little anyone could do to force Peyton's body to function as it should. It was one of the scariest times of our lives, one in which we realized for the first time we weren't sure how long she would be able to put up a fight against Mitochondrial Disease.

It was then that our pediatrician called us, unexpectedly, to meet with him without the kids. We weren't sure what to think, but we did know one thing -- in all of our years as parents, we had never been asked to show up without the kids. It certainly made for an uneasy situation. When we arrived at his office he spoke with us each gently. He shared with us his concerns regarding Peyton's rapid decline and her uncertain prognosis. Then he said something that, as parents, we never expected to hear. It took the air clear out of my lungs. It was



Hanging out at Edmarc



Peyton and her Daddy



Nurse Kim and Peyton

a feeling I will never forget. He told us that he wanted to refer her to a pediatric hospice program called Edmarc. At that moment, all five years of her life flashed before my eyes. If it had ever been evident and tangible that we could lose her, it was then. Little did we know, that referral would not be indicative of an imminent end, but the mark of a new beginning for our daughter.

It wasn't long after hearing about Edmarc for the first time that we would begin using Edmarc's services. In a small room, my husband and I sat on one side of a table, and on another sat our pediatrician and a couple of members of Edmarc, who we would eventually come to know as our daughter's biggest allies. I came slightly guarded, unsure what to expect, not quite grasping yet that we had all come there for the same reason, to protect Peyton's best interests.

They started off by asking us how they could help and what we needed. I gave the same response I gave most health care professionals that asked at that time, which I believe was just a short list of things that would make her care more manageable at home. They were unsurprised by the needs and promised to do their best to see that they were met. For the first time in her life I was not being asked to do the advocating, but instead we had a liaison who would be helping us to make sure our daughter was receiving the proper care. I was finally able to relax a little.

It was only a short time after meeting with Edmarc for the first time that we realized they were not only going to be there to help with her increased nursing needs, but also to help provide Peyton with something that she had been lacking for quite some time -- a proper quality of life. Living in and out of the hospital for years had been difficult for all of us, and though we tried our best to maintain a childhood for her that every parent hopes for, the truth was it was far from anything we had wished for her, no matter what we tried. Though there was nothing to blame but the disease itself, it was way beyond time for her to have everything she deserved, and she deserved so much more than the life she was living.

With the loving guidance and approval of the social worker Edmarc appointed to our family, we found it possible to help Peyton figure out her own desires and hopes within her life. Things that were important to her to accomplish and things that she wanted for herself, as well as things that she did not. Edmarc helped her to find her voice, one that had been lost amongst the commotion of people trying to fix her body and forgetting about her person.

Edmarc is so much more than what meets the eye, so much more than what we thought was being introduced to our daughter's life those years ago. It is a full-on comprehensive approach to building



A hospital visit, and that Peyton smile



Summer fun



A home visit



That smile started early on!

quality in the face of tragedy. It is the flicker of light that was all but lost when hope seemed just outside of our grasp.

It has nearly been three years since we were referred to Edmarc. Peyton is now eight years old. There is no way we could have predicted the positive outcome it would have in Peyton's life. For a service that most people think of when they think of the end of life, pediatric hospice services has only brought more life to our daughter. When Peyton needs a pick-me-up, she knows that Edmarc will be there to support her. Be it through annual festivities, personal visits from Santa, or a special trip to a local venue, they know how to make her and her fellow Edmarc recipients feel like a child should, one with as few worries and pains to focus on as possible.

Though Peyton's disease still greatly affects her, and she requires more medical intervention now than she did when she began services with Edmarc, I can say with the upmost gratitude that she is stable. Her hospitalizations have been reduced from an average of twelve or more a year, to one or two. Edmarc and its team of nurses help to keep both our wishes and Peyton's to stay home as much as possible at heart. This has been one of the biggest blessings to her life.

Over the past three years, I have watched our daughter's confidence and self-esteem flourish as she realized through Edmarc's help that what she wanted was just as much, if not more important, than what everyone wanted for her. I truly believe this is one of the biggest reasons our daughter has renewed her fighting spirit. She is now the same happy little girl she was all those years before her disease tried to stifle that. She is the same happy girl we caught glimpses of for those years, but longed to hold onto before those moments slipped back into misery.

A few weeks ago, when she was not feeling her best, I was back and forth on the phone with one of her favorite Edmarc nurses. As we formulated a plan to get her back on her feet, she lay there staring at me, definitely not her

typical self. She was pale, her eyes were at half mast, and she was devoid of energy. When I got off the phone she looked at me and said "Mommy, I just want you to know that even when I am sick, I am still happy." At that moment my heart filled with an emotion I had not felt in quite some time. I felt complacent. Of all the difficult choices we had to make in her life, ones with such uncertain outcomes, we were tangibly seeing the positive result of a choice that was made for her, a place we could not have gotten to without Edmarc's help. Despite the fact that Peyton will continue to live out her days with a chronic and debilitating disease, she can live well. She can live a positive life, a memorable life, because of Edmarc.

PENINSULA FRIENDRAISING BREAKFAST SPREADS THE WORD!

One of the greatest obstacles Edmarc continues to overcome is the bringing about of wide ranging community awareness for Edmarc and its mission. Although we have had many physical locations throughout the years, Edmarc's services have been available to families all over Hampton Roads since 1978.

From Franklin, to the Southside and onto the Peninsula, our staff is available to our families 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and 365 days a year. We look to our community to help us raise the awareness of the services Edmarc provides to that community.

Eight years ago, our Peninsula Council decided to raise awareness about Edmarc on the Peninsula by holding a fundraiser, especially given the fact that, on average, between 30% and 40% of our total census live on the Peninsula. The plan was to invite individuals to a free breakfast, have an Edmarc family share their story, raise awareness about Edmarc's mission and the positive impact we have in Hampton Roads, and raise the funds needed to help us continue to serve our families in the best ways possible. The Peninsula Friendraising Breakfast was born.

Although the breakfast is free to those who attend, there is still considerable cost involved. So two of our volunteers, Amy Thorstad and Mary Cowling started brainstorming ideas as to the most effective ways to raise the monies to cover that cost. Amy wanted to put on a fundraiser in memory of her daughter, Taylor, who was under Edmarc's care during her battle with brain cancer. Taylor had an amazing sense of humor and lit up the room with her unforgettable laugh, so it was only fitting to celebrate her life by holding a fundraiser at a comedy club.

On November 12, 2014, Amy, her Kiwanis Club of Mercury 64, and her family and friends got together for an evening of laughter at Cozzy's Comedy Club. The evening featured motivational speaker and funny guy Brett Leake, was a huge success and raised \$10,500.27, enough to underwrite the cost of the Peninsula Breakfast for years to come.

On February 12, 2015 Edmarc held their 8th Annual Peninsula Breakfast at The Paradise Ocean Club on Fort Monroe. The breakfast was held in memory of Taylor Adkins and Baxter Simmons, Sr. Baxter was a long-time friend of Edmarc as well as a dear friend of Amy's and a part of the Kiwanis Club of Mercury 64. Seventy-five guests



Amy and her family



Baxter Simmons, Jr., and Ruth Simmons



Amy tells Taylor's story



Debbie, Cliff Bowen and the Sytsma family

attended the breakfast where they heard the story of Peyton; a courageous little girl fighting her own battle. Hearts melted as Peyton stood on stage and thanked everyone for taking care of her.

The morning was a great success and raised nearly \$7,000 to support Edmarc's mission. We want to give a HUGE thank you to Amy Thorstad and the Kiwanis Club of Mercury 64 for putting on such an amazing event in November, and for their continued love and support. We also want to thank Baxter Simmons, Jr. and the Paradise Ocean Club for hosting our event, Rob Cowling and Old Point National Bank for sponsoring the sound for the breakfast, and Bob Harper Photography for capturing the morning with his special photographic talents. The morning was a great success and we look forward to the many new friendships we obtained during the breakfast.

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

On November 9, 2014 families, friends, and staff of Edmarc gathered at Saint John's Episcopal Church to honor the lives of children who have died in our program. We are thankful for the many volunteers that assisted in preparing the space, capturing the moments, and creating a welcoming environment for our hearts.

Throughout the evening stories, pictures, tears, and even laughter were shared among friends and family. Somewhere Over the Rainbow was played gently in the background by our pianist, Roy George, as we reflected on the children's beautiful pictures and the great impact they made in our lives. There were 25 long stem candles lit representing the children that died within the last year and several other candles lit for those who died in the previous years. Each candle represented a beautiful life with gracious memories connected to

more people than those present in the room.

While we gathered together because of loss, the connection of love around us was an overwhelming sense that provided comfort and warmth. The Day of Remembrance is a day that we gather to speak the names of precious children so families know they are not forgotten. We tell their stories so their legacies live on in the next generation. We smile as we think about the joy they brought to our lives. We shed tears as we mourn the children we love. The Day of Remembrance is also a day of hope. Through the many expressions of love, we realize that we are still standing, still able to laugh, cry, breathe and share our love in their stories, which may bring us to a place of hope and healing. We will always be connected to them through our love and we will always be grateful for their lives.

"In this world for a moment and in our hearts for a lifetime."

-Author Unknown



The epitome of elegance – our Emcees!



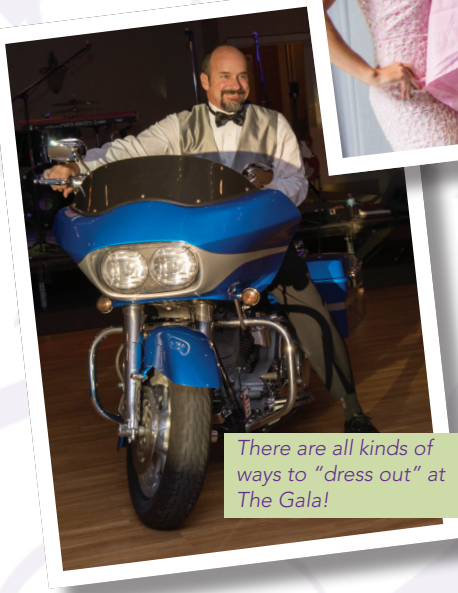
Our dear friends of Event Central



Debbie and the Glamour Squad!



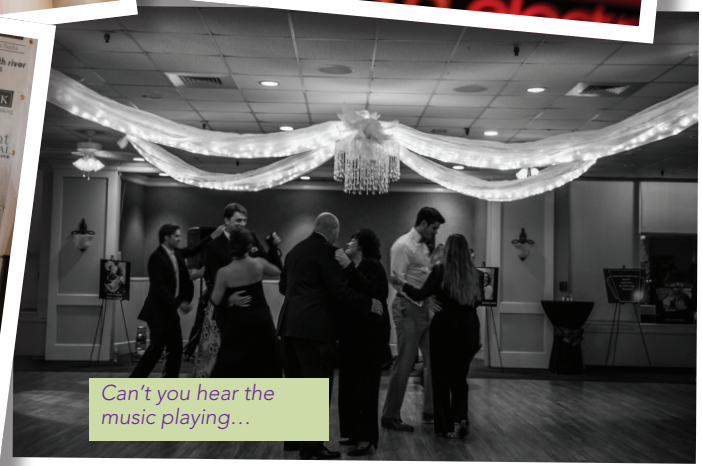
In the Mood for Music!



There are all kinds of ways to "dress out" at The Gala!



One of Edmarc's Founding Families!



Can't you hear the music playing...

THE NIGHT WAS FILLED WITH HOLLYWOOD'S SPECIAL GLAMOUR

The 2nd Annual Hope Gala was held on October 25th at the Paradise Ocean Club on Fort Monroe. Nearly 200 guests attended the ball whose theme was the glamour of Old Hollywood. The weather and view were both spectacular; it truly was a night to remember!

Even though there was a last minute change in Emcee's, Vanessa Coria and Shane Graham kept the evening flowing with their special brand of charisma, style, and grace. Who knew a WVEC Daybreak News Anchor and an MMA announcer would work so well together; Vanessa said it best when she told the audience they were looking for another anchor on The Morning Show. Derek Smith and Major and the Monbacks provided the entertainment giving our guests the opportunity to dance the night away.

The evening even included the unveiling of Edmarc's amazing new video, done by none other than Lovell Productions. But, the highlight of everyone's night was getting to hear the incredible story of strength and courage by Allen and Joan Hogge, one of our founding families. Overcoming one of the darkest times in their lives,

the loss of their son, and starting what we know today as Edmarc was nothing short of inspirational. It was especially fitting that Allen and Joan would present Edmarc's Medical Director, Dr. Ralph Northam with the first Hope Award.

The evening was full of live excursions, food, dancing, and even a silent auction. The "Excursions" were a fabulous collection of adventures up for bid during the evening and offered by a collection of equally fabulous and generous donors. Just a sampling of the evening's enticements: A weekend at Williamsburg's wonderful Williamsburg Winery; a Redskins Game Day Package with ALL the trimmings; Virginia Opera tickets...the list goes on. By the end of the night, we had raised \$40,000! Thank you to everyone that joined us the night of the event and a very deep and special thank you to our Premier Sponsors: Cintas, Elizabeth River Crossings, Event Central, and TowneBank. Without the help of these supporters and many, many more this event could not have been the success it was! We would also like to thank the Hope Gala Committee because without each and every one of you this event would not have been possible!

IT WAS A SUPER MORNING AT THE MOVIES!

On December 6th, The Real Estate Group held their annual toy drive for Edmarc. This year they mixed things up and held the holiday event at Regal Columbus Stadium 12 theaters in Virginia Beach. Over a dozen sponsors helped make Morning at the Movies not just possible but, a huge success.

Hundreds of agents, clients, and vendors filled the theater early on Saturday morning armed with toys for Edmarc. In exchange for their toy, everyone was invited to see two new releases, "The Penguins of Madagascar" and "Big Hero Six." If that was not exciting enough, Santa and Mrs. Claus made a special appearance giving children the opportunity to take pictures and talk with Santa before The Big Day!

When it was all said and done, a moving truck was filled with over 10 bags of toys and five bicycles to help fulfill our Edmarc families' wish lists for Christmas. Thank you to everyone who came out to support this great event. And, a very special thank you to our friends at The Real Estate Group for their continued support over the years!



Shantel and Debbie spread the word about Edmarc

The truck's full of good things on their way to Edmarc



Laura and Isaac, with beautiful blue eyes shining!

RECORD NUMBERS ATTEND THE SOUTHSIDE FRIENDRAISING BREAKFAST

On October 7, 2014, supporters came together to provide hope for children and their families throughout Hampton Roads at our Third Annual Southside Friendraising Breakfast hosted by The First Hall at First Presbyterian Church. Alpha Omega Catering prepared a delicious family style breakfast, giving guests an opportunity to converse before and after the presentation.

The room was filled with 170 guests including current and past families, board members, supporters, volunteers, and staff. Kelly DelEsperilla from Light of the World Photography captured the beauty of the morning through her photographs, and Hampton Roads' own Joe Flanagan hosted the morning with Flanagan flair.

Edmarc's Assistant Medical Director, Dr. Linda Pegram, a hematology and oncology physician, shared her experience of caring for children with life-threatening illnesses and their families. The Hershberger family, who came to know Edmarc before Isaac was born, told their story. The highlight of the event was that presentation by Laura Hershberger, Isaac's mom. Laura was able to articulate the importance of Edmarc's perinatal program, which provided Isaac's family with the education they needed to make some pretty hard decisions. Although doctors had told the Hershbergers that Isaac would not make it, the audience was graced with the presence of a beautiful, blue eyed, one-year-old little boy! Their story was truly inspiring and touched the hearts of everyone in the room.

When all was said and done, the event raised \$13,500 to support the mission of Edmarc. A very special thank you to Debbie Jones and Sharon Cole for co-chairing the event and to everyone who came out to support the mission of Edmarc!

VROOM! BEEP! BEEP! SPLASH!

Thinking of selling your old car, truck, boat or RV? Why not donate it to Edmarc Hospice for Children? We have a Car Donation Program available. Your donation is tax deductible and free towing is available. For more information, please call Edmarc at 967-9251. Why not choose this easy way to help yourself dispose of a vehicle you no longer need, and help our children and families in the process? Thanks for thinking of us!

Special thanks to these generous donors:

Susan Pender
Andrew Sytsma
Brenda Johnson



Aubree and her family: Beautiful smiles



Mia and her family: So pretty in pink

PICTURE MEMORIES IN THE MAKING

Help-Portrait is a global movement of photographers, hairstylists, and makeup artists that use their time, tools, and expertise to give back to those in need. This is the second year that Edmarc has participated. We are thrilled that one of our volunteer photographers, Kelly DelaEspriella, brought this opportunity to our attention and put on the entire event for us.

On November 15, 2014, volunteers and families came together for the event. The result? Absolutely STUNNING portraits. Some Edmarc families had never had a family portrait making this special time

even more meaningful. Not only were the portraits taken, but they were printed and framed that same day. Thank you to all the volunteers and to Help-Portrait for making this wonderful, memory-making event happen for our Edmarc families!



Family Portrait: Mom, Dad and Noah

...And They Swam From Here to Charlottesville!

For the past 14 years, the Portsmouth YMCA has held a community service event titled, "SWIM FOR THE ANGELS." This has turned into an awareness experience for the young swimmers and their families. It is a lesson in humanity, caring and kindness.

The Portsmouth Pythons Swim Club hosts this community service project, during swim practice. It is an incredible event that all of the swimmers work very hard for and each year they try to "up" the number of lengths swum from the year before. They turn the project into a true challenge for themselves and each year it is more successful than the one before.

The swim club members learn that the reward is in the giving, and helping other children who are not as fortunate as they, while learning about an organization that helps children right here at home.

Edmarc receives funds through the swimmers' tireless efforts. Can you believe this group of children raised nearly \$3,500? That means, when all the miles swum are added up, that the children covered the distance from Portsmouth to Charlottesville!!

Edmarc would like to thank everyone who made this event a huge success. A special thank you to Kym Pool and all the parents and friends who supported the event. We know the Portsmouth Pythons truly are "Angels Among Us."

In the Edmarc Volunteer Spotlight NAVAL NETWORK WARFARE COMMAND AND NAVAL AIRFORCE ATLANTIC

There are times when our families need a little extra love and attention. Barbara Walsh and the wonderful individuals at Naval Network Warfare Command and Naval Air Force Atlantic went above and beyond to help a family begin a new chapter in their lives by providing a bedroom makeover for one deserving sister. There are no words to describe the positive impact these folks made in this child's life. We truly cannot thank them enough.

In addition, these commands left no stone unturned. Over the holiday's they came up with the fantastic idea to create an angel tree to provide gifts for the children of Edmarc. Through coordination, communication, delivery, and hard work, their efforts were seamless. Because of these commands, Edmarc was able to provide gifts for 80 families, 20 of which came directly from these 'angels' themselves.

Last but hardly least, Barbara Walsh planned a pampering day for the staff, volunteers, and families at Edmarc! We all met at Rudy and Kelly in Virginia Beach and had our hair washed and cut. There were food and drinks, and a fabulous time for everyone who came.

To you all, our thanks so much for being so supportive and sensitive to the needs of our Edmarc family.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE: THE 2014 DAY OF CARING

On September 12th, 2014, Edmarc participated in the United Way Day of Caring. From power washing, painting, doing yard work, cleaning out garages, and even carpet cleaning, groups from Dominion Enterprises, Towne Bank, Sentara, Delta Career Education Corporation, Old Point National Bank, and Capital One scattered all over Hampton Roads to help our Edmarc families check off tasks from a much needed To-Do list. Thanks to each of you for your hard work but most especially the huge impact that you made in the lives of those to whom it means so much!

Dedication pictured here!



Dominion Enterprises MVP – putting the waterworks to work!



Team Dominion Enterprises – a force to be reckoned with!



FUN WAS HAD BY ALL AS THE SEASON TURNED TO FALL!

On the evening of October 27th, 2014, Edmarc was transformed into a celebration of and welcome to fall! The Norfolk Jaycees once again generously hosted the event. There were games of all sorts and kinds, pizza, candy, toys, and lots and lots of laughs.

One of the coolest parts of the evening revolved around Ryan the Balloon Guy. Ryan created personal, customized balloons made to just what each child wanted and boy was it fun to watch!

The Edmarc house was filled with kids dressed as their favorite characters and each one of those sweet characters had an amazing time. An Edmarc dad said it best, "Thank you so much, you have made our day, our week, our month! Thank you, thank you, thank you!"

We thank you and all who came. We can't wait to do it again next year, Jaycees!!

Big brothers do some strange things!



Princesses royal and defenders of the realm ready for the action at Edmarc



Edmarc volunteer shows perfect balance and wins the game!



It's been a big night for our families.





The essence of holiday happiness: Isaac and Santa sharing the joy



No words can quite match the message



A special visit from Santa

SANTA'S ELVES SING AND DELIVER

This year's Santa Run was held on Sunday, December 14th. Our "Santa Sleighs" were provided by Cintas, The Portsmouth Police Department, The Portsmouth Fire Department, Chesapeake Police Department, and the Pesich Family. Sleigh loads of volunteers, aka "Santa's Elves," came out to carol and to help Santa pass out the holiday presents to each Edmarc family. The community really came together to ensure that every child and parent received a gift, and that they were delivered safely.

Thanks so much to everyone who contributed to make the season bright for so many. And special thanks to our volunteer photographers, Bob Harper with Bob Harper Photography, Kelly DelaEspriella with Light of the World Photography, Amanda MacDiarmid with Stellar Exposures, and Ashley Major with Major Photography for donating your time and services, and for capturing BEAUTIFUL pictures that the families will cherish for years to come.



'Mr. and Mrs. Claus' and their three adorable elves

MAKING THE HOLIDAYS BRIGHTER FOR OUR FAMILIES

There are many factors that impact the lives of our families when a child is ill. Many of us take for granted the ability to go out and shop in the chaos and the crowds at holiday time. For our families, it is a relief not to have to deal with the holiday stress during the time of their child's illness. Bringing food baskets and gifts to them relieves that pressure and helps to make the holidays free to stay home and to provide the all-important care, love and support to their families.

During the holiday, wonderful individuals, churches, civic leagues, and corporations donated food baskets. We are so grateful to have been able to provide, through their generosity, full Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to all of our families! In addition, we had a group

of fabulous volunteers who delivered those meals to their homes and others who helped us celebrate with our annual Holiday Party at Edmarc.

It takes a huge community effort to provide Thanksgiving and Christmas for all of our families. Thanks to the contributions from volunteers and donors, meals and gifts were provided for each Edmarc family this past holiday. We could not do this without the generosity of the community.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed.

Edmarc Staff

Laurie Barbaro Director of Patient Care	Jeane' Liburd Bereavement Program Director
Teresa Black Patient Care Coordinator	Alicia Miller Patient Care Coordinator
Abigail Gellene-Beaudoin Medical Social Worker	Ralph Northam, MD Medical Director
Madalyn George-Theimann Patient Care Coordinator	Shantel Thomas Executive Assistant
Dawn Jennings Patient Care Coordinator	Kim Towles Patient Care Coordinator
Dorothy Jensen Assistant Director	Linda Pegram, MD Assistant Medical Director
Kristen Jones Community Resource Coord.	Debbie Stitzer-Brame Executive Director
Maggie Lewis Administrative Office Assistant	Brittney Twisdale Medical Social Worker

Edmarc Board of Directors

Mary Morgan President	Morton "Nemo" Larmore Immediate Past President
Nancy King Vice-President	Kelly McCann Director
Debbie Harbin Secretary	Ralph Northam, MD Medical Director
Steve Reader Treasurer	Kathy O'Connor Director
Mary Briley Director	Linda Pegram, MD Assistant Medical Director
Cyrus Heydarian, MD Assistant Medical Director	David A. Pritchett Director
David Kenerson Director	Diana Williams Director

Edmarc Foundation Board

Pam Brunner Chairman	Louis Hibbits Trustee
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Susan Blake Secretary	George Pelton Trustee
Cliff Bowen Director	Steve Reader Immediate Past Chairman
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Amy Folkes Trustee	Diana Williams Trustee
Herb Haneman Trustee	

With love, we remember

San'Le G. (9/30/13-10/03/13) – San'Le was a beautiful baby girl who touched so many hearts in her short time here on earth. Although baby San'Le's time here was far too short, she was deeply loved by her family. Left to cherish her sweet memory are her parents, Santee and Tiffany, brothers Santee, Jr, and Michael and big sister India, along with numerous other family members and friends.

Giovanna J. - (12/15/09-9/16/14) Giovanna was a sweet little girl who brightened the lives of her family and all who had the privilege to know her. Giovanna, courageous and strong, fought a difficult battle with her illness. She was truly a blessing and was adored by all those around her. Giovanna will be lovingly remembered by her parents, Yesenia and Toni, her sister, Alexis, and numerous other family and friends.

Tamia E. - (10/23/14 -10/24/14) Tamia was a beautiful little baby who blessed the lives of her family as well as the rest of us. Though her time here was so very short, she brought joy to the lives of all those around her. She is deeply loved and missed by her mother, Carolyn; brother, Curtis; sister, Brianna and many other family members and friends.

Jase D. - (11/14/12-2/6/15) Jase was an amazing little boy who inspired so many. Both brave and strong, Jase fought a long and difficult battle with his illness, though he never let it dampen his spirit or his sweet smile. Though he left this world far too early, Jase left behind so many wonderful memories and touched so many lives. Jase will be lovingly remembered by his parents, Jeremy and Amy, his big brother Landon, and a number of other family and friends.

Michael H. – (2/27/15 -2/28/15) Michael was a very special little boy whose time on earth was way too short. He had an opportunity to meet his wonderful family far and near who were at his side the entire time he was here on earth. Michael will be greatly missed and lovingly remembered by his wonderful parents, Justin and Corrine; his big sister, Ariana and numerous other family members and friends.

A WARM WELCOME TO ABIGAIL GELLEN-BEAUDOINE!

Greetings, all! My name is Abigail Gellene-Beaudoin and I could not be more excited to be joining the Edmarc team as the new Medical Social Worker. A little bit about me: I was raised in Yorktown by my Dad, a Naval officer; and my Mom, a tough-as-nails Navy wife. I have one sister who is my best friend in the world, and is arguably the best clarinet player ever to walk the planet. I married my high school sweetheart, David, after three years of an Army-induced long-distance relationship. Though it's great to be married and all, we are most excited about our three-month old Corgi puppy named Gilmore. She is adorable, terrifying, loving, and destructive; and we are in love with her.

I feel so blessed to have the opportunity to work at such an amazing agency, as a very dear friend of mine was cared for by Edmarc while she battled cancer at the age of 16. Though she eventually lost her battle, her grace, humor and compassion for others inspired me to pursue a career in social work. This inspiration led me to receive my Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from the University of Mary Washington, my Master of Social Work from the University of Southern California, and to eventually land here at Edmarc! I am so happy to be here, and I look forward to meeting each one of you!

Hey everyone,

We are excited to announce that we are now an official KidCents charity! KidCents is a program created by The Rite Aid Foundation that allows Rite Aid customers to round up their purchases to the nearest dollar and donate their change to help support kid-focused charities.

Edmarc will now be listed as an official KidCents charity on kidcents.com. Through KidCents, Rite Aid customers can visit www.kidcents.com, elect to round up their Rite Aid purchases, and donate their change to an official KidCents charity, which now includes Edmarc!

Here's what you can do to support Edmarc with your KidCents round-up donations when you shop at Rite Aid:

- Visit www.kidcents.com and follow the steps online to become a Rite Aid wellness+ member (join for free) and enroll in the KidCents program.

- After you join wellness+ (or if you are already a wellness+ member), login on www.kidcents.com and click "Select a Charity" on the website menu.

- Here you can search for Edmarc in the list of official KidCents charities (add in link).

- When you find Edmarc, click on the "Select this Charity" button so that your KidCents round-up change will be designated to Edmarc.

- Now the next time you shop at Rite Aid, your change will be rounded up to Edmarc.

This means more funding for Edmarc so we can be there for more families facing the greatest challenge of their lives.

It also means that YOU have the ability to help us reach our goals by simply shopping at Rite Aid and rounding up your purchases for our organization, as well as asking your friends and family to participate in the program. Imagine the change that your change can make!

We are looking forward to our partnership with The Rite Aid Foundation and excited by the opportunities that KidCents brings to our organization and those we help. Heartfelt thanks for all your love and support!

Sincerely,

All of us at Edmarc



Debbie Pence, Regional Director for RiteAid and her TEAM. They presented Edmarc and EquiKids checks for \$10,000! Thanks to our new friends at RiteAid and the KidsCents Program!!!

EDMARC ON VIEW: A NEW VIDEO!

Did you know? Edmarc has a brand new video! Check it out on our website at www.edmarc.org and click on our stories for a collection of powerful, inspiring stories of the courage and strength we are witness to every day. You will experience an insider's view of what families endure on a day to day basis and the positive impact Edmarc has on their lives.

Our heartfelt thanks to Sara Lovell of Lovell Productions for producing such a high quality video. And an extra special thanks to the families who shared such intimate moments.

Supporters Came Decked Out in the First Annual Live, Love, & Run Tacky 5K

On December 13th, hundreds of runners and Edmarc supporters sporting their tackiest attire, gathered at Ocean View Park for the First Annual Live, Love, & Run Tacky 5K. Ann Hupp, owner of Mettle Events, created this event to honor and remember her best friend of 30 years, Mary "Diddie" Ossi. The morning could not have been better, Edmarc's Medical Director, Lt. Governor, Ralph Northam was the Master of Ceremonies. There was live music and Mr. & Mrs. Clause made a special stop to take pictures and enjoy the festivities. When it was all said and done, we raised \$1,571; not to mention the boxes of wish list items and gift cards runners presented at registration! We are so thankful for Ann and everyone at Mettle Events for putting on such an amazing event! We cannot wait until December 12, 2015 to do it all again!



Edmarc staff and friends sporting their best tacky sweaters!



Ready to Start!



Showing her Camp M.A.G.I.C. support!

THE SUFFOLK PILOT CLUB HONORS ONE OF EDMARC'S BEST

The Pilot Club of Suffolk honored a number of individuals, businesses and organizations that serve the community at their 2014 annual Civic Night awards ceremony on November 17, 2014.

Our very own Brittney Twisdale was recognized for the loving care and support she gives to Edmarc kids and families as the year's Outstanding Community Professional.

We are so proud of Brittney and all she does to improve the lives of kids and families facing the greatest challenge of their lives.

Congratulations on an honor well deserved!

Messages from Families...

Wishing you the gifts of peace, joy, and happiness this Christmas.

Feliz Navidad & a Happy New Year 2015! With all our love, Ceci, Benji, Betty and Marquito

Merry Christmas from our family!

The Holweger Family,
Scott, Missy, Karli, Kelsey

May your holiday season be filled with family, friends, and happy memories. Wishing you a fantastic 2015!

Charity Volman

Christmas lights brightly twinkling, friends and family gathered together, love and happiness in the air; wishing you every joy of this wonderful time of year. We wish you a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year! It's amazing what you guys are doing! God bless you and take care!
Michael and Patrizia Kroener

May the God of Hope fill us with all the joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13 Merry Christmas and a peaceful New Year!

Love from Shannon, Lanna, Kaleb, Quinn, and Chumlee

Have your "selfies" a Merry Christmas from a family of #elfies!

The Mosley Family 2014: Tristin (26) Noah (14), Kinke (4), Keith and Cyn (old enough)

Dear everyone at EDMARC,

May you have a wonderful Christmas and the time to share in all its beauty and joys. Happy New Year! Always in our hearts! Merry Christmas from Heaven to my family and friends. Please be thankful today, I'm still close beside you in a new special way. I love you all dearly, now don't shed a tear. Cause I'm spending my Christmas with Jesus this year. Love always and forever, "Jenna"

Love, Debbie and Joe, and our angel Jenna

Happy & Merry Christmas,
Jeremiah, Vanessa, Maximus, Brock, Vivian, and Owen

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and much happiness in the new year! Thank you for all you do to help the children and their families.

God Bless,
Bert, Suzanne, and angel Abigail Ortiz

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Thank you for all that you do! Happy Holidays!
Daina Divine, Vincent, and Destiny Marsh

Christmas Greetings!

From John, Christine, Ama, Sophia, and Lil' Angel Faith

To the EDMARC staff and volunteers,
May the season come softly and gently, bringing you a feeling of wonder! Thank you for all you do! Wishing each and every one of you a very happy holiday season and a prosperous new year!

Sincerely,
The McCarthy Family

To the EDMARC crew,
Sending a warm holiday hug and smiles to last all year!
Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

From Joe and Sally Noha

Blessed is the Season

Sam Denise, Tess, Tootie-Lou, and Tank Harvey

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

With love,
Natasha, Ricky, Colton, Jocelyn, and Oliver Burns

Wishing you all the joys of a wonderful Christmas, and many happy memories to treasure throughout the year!

To you and the entire staff,
Richard and Nedra Meloni

Merry Christmas! Lots of love!

The Donnelly Family



Calendar Year 2015

Date	Title	Type of Event
January 2	SCA VB Dodgeball Tournament	(community/fundraiser)
February 12	Annual Peninsula Fundraising Breakfast	(community/fundraiser)
February 28	Ghent Winter Bar Tour	(community/fundraiser)
March	National Social Work Month	
March 17th-19th	The Christine Garvey Memorial Soccer Tournament	(community/fundraiser)
March 21	Edmarc Spring Fling	(family event)
March 28	Easter Basket Deliveries	(community/family event)
April 10	Blue Goose Masters Golf Tournament	(community/fundraiser)
April 12th-18th	National Volunteer Appreciation Week	
April 18	Sertoma Spring Fever	(community/fundraiser)
April 22	Administrative Professionals Day	
May 2	Newport News Children's Festival	(community/fundraiser)
May 6th-12th	National Nurses Week	
May 9th-10th	Gosport Art Festival	(community/fundraiser)
May 19	Bereaved Parents Spring Social	(family event)
May 19	Tidewater Chapter CPCU Golf Tournament	(community/fundraiser)
June	11th Annual LPI Golf Tournament	(community/fundraiser)
June	Brass Wheel Golf Tournament	(community/fundraiser)
June	Yorktown Rotary Weekend	(family event)
June	Edmarc Annual Picnic	(family event)
July	Harley Davidson Poker Run	(community/fundraiser)
July 14	Volunteer Appreciation Dinner	(volunteers & staff)
July 11	Edmarc Carnival	(family event)
August 13	19th Annual Edmarc Charity Golf Classic	(community/fundraiser)
August 14th-16th	Annual Camp M.A.G.I.C.	(family event)
September 11	United Way Day of Caring	(community event)
September	Inst. Real Estate Mgmt. Golf Tournament	(community/fundraiser)
October	Annual Deep Creek Ruritan Golf Tournament	(community/fundraiser)
October	Hope Gala	(community/fundraiser)
October 26	Fall Festival	(family event)
November 7	Help-Portrait	(family event)
November 8	Annual Day of Remembrance	(family event)
November 21	Thanksgiving Food Basket Delivery	(community/family event)
December	Morning at the Movies	(community/fundraiser)
December 11	Holiday Party	(family event)
December 12	5K Tacky Sweater Run	(community/fundraiser)
December 13	Santa Delivery	(community/family event)
December 15	Bereaved Parents Holiday Dinner	(family event)
December	Peace by Piece Holiday Dinner	(family event)
December 19	Christmas Food Delivery	(community/family event)

For more information on any of the events please email events@edmarc.org

Thank you ... or supplies,
toys, special events tickets and items
for Edmarc families SEPTEMBER 1,
2014 To JANUARY 1, 2015

- Abcede, Adelane for food items
- Aberdeen Barn for gift certificates
- Advanced Design Fabrication for banners and signs
- Affinity Limousine for shuttle services
- Aldersgate Church for food items
- Alewerks Brewing Company for food items
- Allison, Martha for paper goods and containers
- Alpha Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa for food items
- Anderson, Brad and Heidi for a beer tasting
- Andra, Jacqueline for food items
- Angels of Destiny for holiday decorations
- Anthony, Carmen and Wyatt for food items
- Archbell, Karen for holiday items
- Arnold, Evelyn for holiday items
- Artisans Bakery & Café for food items
- Associated Distributors for a beer tasting
- Asuncion, Rebekah for holiday items
- Back Bay Boxes for building assistance
- Bailey, Cathy and Bill for food items
- Baldwin, Kellie for food items
- Bales, Jim for a gift certificate
- Barker, Elena for a gift certificate
- Baxter's Sports Lounge for food items and a gift certificate
- Bay, Cindy for holiday supplies
- Bayside Harley Davidson for a gift certificate
- Bell, John for books
- Bell, John and Dorothy for a grill and game supplies
- Bell, Stephanie for food items
- Bell, Stephanie holiday supplies
- Bid-A-Wee Golf Course a gift certificate
- Big Top Entertainment for Gala supplies
- Boatwright, Brooks and Karen for food items

- Bob Harper Photography for professional photography services
- Boneshakers Social Club for 10 Bikes
- Bradley, D. for gift baskets
- Briley, Mary for supplies
- Brunner, Pam for food items
- Bunco Babes for food items
- Burch, Kristan for food items
- Burke, Jameah for food items
- Bush Gardens for gift certificates
- Butler, Alice for food items
- Cake Decorators of Tidewater for holiday items
- Capital Carpet & Upholstery Care for a gift certificate
- Captain Hogg's Charters for a gift certificate
- Chadwick, David for holiday supplies
- Chrysler Museum of Art for a gift certificate
- CHUBB & Son Group for food items
- Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints for food and beverage items
- Cigar Masters for a box of cigars
- Cintas for sports memorabilia
- Coburn, Mary Jane for food items
- Cole, Gretchen holiday gifts
- Coria, Vanessa for hosting the Gala
- Cornerstone Fellowship Congregation for knitted hats
- Cowling, Mary for food items
- Cowling, Robert for food items
- Cox, Sandra for food items
- Crowne Plaza Hampton Marina for a gift certificate
- Cub Scout Packs #41 & #256 for food items
- Dameron, Suzi for greeting cards
- Dancesport VA for gift certificates
- Daughtrey, Kent for holiday food supplies
- Deep Creek High School for gift cards and holiday supplies
- Deis, Kristen for holiday food items
- DelaEspriella, Kelly for professional photography services
- District #2 Norfolk Probation & Parole for toys
- Dumalo, Allie for auction item

- Dupree, Jessica for holiday gift items
- ECPI University for computers
- E-N-E Photography for gift certificates
- Erber, Wanye and Jenny for holiday food items
- Escobar, Jeannie for holiday food items
- Eure for golf rental signs
- Event Central for Gala decorations, supplies, linens, lighting and draping
- Fairfield Inn & Suites for vacation stay
- Fairlead Precision Manufacturing and Integration, LLC for gift certificates
- Falk, Robin for holiday gifts
- Farrett, Melissa and Jonathon for holiday gifts
- Feld Entertainment for event tickets
- Felton, Harry for toys
- First Presbyterian Church of Norfolk for space use
- Fit Petite for gift certificates
- Floyd & Varney, LLC for cards
- Flynn, Heather for food items and holiday gifts
- FM 99/106.9 the Fox/1230 AM for media coverage
- Food for Thought for a gift certificate
- Food Lion for candles, lunch box coolers, food items, umbrellas, and picnic supplies
- Fowler, Jamisson and Stephanie for a food item
- Frantz, Frazier and Stephanie R. for food items
- George, Roy for live music
- Goodwyn, Walter for food items
- Graham, Shane for hosting the Gala
- Grand Rental Station for staging
- Graydon, Tracy for holiday gifts
- Great Wolf Lodge for a gift certificate
- Hall Drivey, Jerome for food items
- Harbison, Katey for food items
- Harbor Tower Apartments for toys
- Harris, Jessica for holiday food items
- Harris, Richard for toys
- Haskins, Kristen for toys
- Hays, Gary for holiday food items
- Henson, Kevin and Mary Ellin for toys and art
- Henson, Lawrence for clothes, toys and infant supplies

- Hertz Equipment Rental Corp for generator usage
- Hilton Garden for a gift certificate
- Holmes, Robert for holiday food items
- Holy Communion Lutheran Church for caps
- Hord, Natalie for blankets, clothing, and miscellaneous supplies
- Howard, Stewart for holiday gifts
- Hughes Florist, LLC. for flowers
- Hundley, Pauline for holiday gifts
- International Culinary School At The Art Institute for dinners
- Jackson Memorial Baptist Church for paper goods
- Jackson, Krystal for food items
- Jake's Place, Men's Spa for food items
- Jazzercise for a gift certificate and basket
- Jones, Grace for holiday gift items
- Jones, Jay for holiday food items
- Jones, Shelia and Carl holiday food items
- Kane, Don for dove release
- Kay Jewelers for toys
- Kempsville Lions Club Inc. for toys
- Khanna, Leena for food items
- King, Nancy for holiday gifts
- King, Wesley and Nancy for food provided for gatherings
- Kiwanis Club of Churchland for paper products
- Knoop, Hunter for holiday food items and gifts
- Koch, Donna for blankets, scarves and hats
- Kroener, Patrizia and Michael for gift certificates
- Larmore, Morton and Stacey for gift baskets
- Lavallee, Ryan for Festival balloon art services
- Law, Ashley for holiday food items and gifts
- Lawrence, Jean for holiday food items
- LDS Relief Society for food items
- Lebron, Nelson for a gift certificate
- Legrand, Sharon for holiday food items and gifts
- LifeNet Health for paper products, food items, gift cards and batteries



- Lineberry, Susan and Neal for holiday gifts
- Little Joes Autos, LLC for holiday food items and gifts
- London, Lizzi for gown rental
- Lovell, Sarah for a video production
- Lowenthal Outerwear Boutique for a fur vest
- Lynam, Jessica for holiday tree
- MacDiarmid, Amanda for professional photography services
- Madonia, Gabriella for holiday food items
- Mallon, Pat for equipment use
- Mama Dee's Massage for a gift certificate
- Mambo Room for a gift certificate
- Mannino's for a gift certificate
- Marriott-Norfolk Waterside for gift certificates
- Marsh, Kat for toys
- Martin, Doris for office supplies, batteries and a toy
- Masciangelo, Jessica for holiday gifts
- Massage Envy for a gift certificate
- Mattson, Rachel for food items
- McCrofsky, Renee for baskets
- McKinney, Tonya for books and handouts
- McRary, Laura for holiday gifts
- Men's Warehouse for clothing rental
- Mezzenga, Wendy and James for holiday gifts
- Mid-Atlantic Recycling Solutions, Inc. for a TV
- Monumental United Methodist Church for party space
- Moonlight and Sound for services for the Gala
- Myrick, Anthony for medical supplies
- Myrick, Yolanda for holiday food items and holiday gifts
- Nagle, Edward and Charlene for sound services
- Nelson, Marie for holiday food items
- Nichols, Linda for toys and books
- Nichter, Nick for holiday gifts
- Noonan, John for holiday food items
- Norfolk Admirals for event tickets and memorabilia
- Norfolk Chapter Drifters, Inc. for gift boxes
- Norfolk Chapter the Drifters, Inc. for gift wrapping
- Norfolk Jaycees for event support
- Norfolk Tides Baseball Club for event tickets
- Office Max for printing services
- Old Dominion University for event tickets, tailgating supplies and parking
- Olde Towne Chiropractic for toys
- Olive, Heidi for holiday food items
- Olive, Heidi for gifts
- Oliver, Marjory for holiday food items
- Optima Health for holiday food items
- Outback Steakhouse for gift certificates
- Pachon, Paola for gifts
- Pancho, Cecilia for artwork
- Paradise Ocean Club for a membership
- Paradiso, Erika for food items
- Parker, Jessica for food items and toiletries
- Patton, Karen for holiday food items and gifts
- Pavlat, Jack for works of art
- Perfectly Pixeled Wellness Spa for gift certificates
- Perrine, Jane for holiday food items
- Peterson, Cathy for food items
- Peterson, Cathy for gifts
- Phoenix Salon for gifts
- Pilot Club of Portsmouth Inc. for toys and gift cards
- Point Harbor Community Church for food items
- Portsmouth Fire and Rescue for a station tour
- Portsmouth Omega Foundation for a bunk bed set
- Portsmouth Retired Teachers for food items
- Poulos, Kieran for holiday gift items
- Pryor, Lindsay for Mary Kay Mom gift bags
- Register Family for toys
- Reid, Helen for gifts
- Rhein, Jessica for holiday food items
- Rib City for a gift certificate
- Rice, Suzanne for holiday food items
- Rinehard, Britta for holiday food items
- Ripley, Stan for holiday food items and gifts
- Ritenour, Loretta for holiday food items and gifts
- Rock Steady Tattoo for a gift certificate
- Rocket Media Inc. for printing services
- Roger Browns Restaurant for gift certificates
- Rogers, Robin for Custom Glass award
- Salt for a 4-course dinner/wine paring Excursion for six and a gift certificate
- Sandler Center for event tickets
- Scullion, Marla for toys
- Shekitka, Merin for holiday food items and gifts
- Sierra, Michael for pocket books
- Simply Chic Salon for a gift certificate
- SKW Contractors for a TV, gift cards, dishwasher, food items and toys
- Smartmouth Brewing Company Tasting Room and Tour Excursion
- Somerton, USFW for paper products, gift cards ad Wish List items
- Sons of Solomon Masonic Lodge for holiday food items
- Spine Center Family and Friends, Ciara and Kendra for toys
- St. John's Episcopal Church for use of church for Day of Remembrance
- Standard Calibrations, Inc. for food items, cleaning supplies, a gift card and TV stand
- Sterling Point Garden Club for batteries, paper goods and gift cards
- Stewart, Ashlee for holiday food items
- Streeter, Kayla holiday for food items
- Sugar Plum Bakery for food items
- Tallon, Peggy for a food item
- The Church Ladies for beverages
- The Melting Pot for a gift certificate
- The Noblemen for holiday food items and gifts
- The Studio Hampton Roads, LLC for a photography session
- Third Presbyterian Church for cleaning supplies and toiletries
- Tidewater VA Chapter of The CPCU food items and toys
- Timm, Faye for holiday items
- Trinity Episcopal Church for angel holiday items
- Trinity Episcopal Church for infant clothing, toiletries and toys
- Tucker, Jennifer for a holiday food item
- Twist Salon for food items
- Osborne Books & More for toys
- Vintage Kitchen for a gift certificate
- Virginia Opera Association for gift certificates
- Voice Club of Nansmond River for goodie bags
- Walsh, Barbara for holiday gifts
- Waltz, Janet for a toy
- Ward, Anita for holiday food items
- Ward, Lakisha for holiday food items
- Warren, Rhonda for holiday food items and gift items
- Western Branch Middle School for holiday items
- Westmoreland, Mark for holiday food items
- Westmoreland, Mark for gift items
- Whiskey Kitchen for a gift certificate
- Williams, Vivian for party glitter for Peace by Piece holiday gathering
- Wilson, Leslie for toys
- Woman's Club of Portsmouth for paper products and food items
- Woodridge, Tracey for toys
- Wool, Jim for food items
- WVEC for media coverage
- YMCA Taylor Bend for a gift membership
- Young Audience for a craft basket
- Young Veterans Brewing for a goody basket
- Young, Beverly for holiday food items
- Young, Mike for holiday food items
- Zeta Lota Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity for a bunk bed set
- Zgoda, Sharon for bedding items

In Memory of Edmarc Hospice for Children gratefully acknowledges the outpouring of support in memory of family members and friends.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2014 to JANUARY 1, 2015

IN MEMORY OF

Five-Year-Old
Barbara Hanson
Sullivan Anderson
Ms. Taylor Adkins

Matthew Austin
Avani Marie

Lynell O. Baker
Mr. and Mrs. L.J. Barger
Bennie Barker
Ms. Cora Barker
Brucie Bartley

Sarah Benson

George and Estelle
Boynton
Mr. Michael Bright
Britney and Ollie

Ms. Janet S. Brock
Steve Bryant Jr.
Sarah Bueshi
Allison Burr
Rogers D. Cathey, Jr.
Paul Caviness
Frances J. Chalmers
Darrell Lydell Clark
Melinda Clary
Curtis and Trevor Coleman
Briana Crawford
Kelly Creecy Cullifer

Constance D. Darden
Odell Davis
Norma Defoor
Dr. Lawrence DiPietro
Joe'l DiPietro
Betty Doumar
William G. Drake
Debbie Ellifritz
Erica Joy Phillips' Son
Mary G. Farmer

Judge English Ford
Ken and Sarah Fulkerson
Elise Gabor
Greg Gillette

FROM

Gloria Putnam
Mr. and Mrs. Adam Anderson
Christopher and Tamela DeChaine
Mr. and Mrs. John Eagle
Heather W. Livingston
Peninsula Title Company, LLC
Mr. and Mrs. John Thorstad
Pamela Zdravecky-Usher
Allen and Erica Perrel
Ciara and Kendra Spine Center
Family and Friends
Mr. Robert N. Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Michael King
Dr. and Mrs. Allen Hogge
Dr. and Mrs. Allen Hogge
Kathleen W. Frampton
Marie Welch
Frances Benson
Mr. and Mrs. Terence McPhillips

Mr. Steve Boynton
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce E. Bright
R. Halden and Carolyn Grimm
Mrs. Carol Novak
Mrs. Doris Martin
Dr. and Mrs. Allen Hogge
Mr. and Mrs. Hussein Bueshi
Kip and Linda Masters
Mr. and Mrs. Karl Shulenburg
Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Parron
Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Widgeon
Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Clark
Mr. John Clary
Ms. Carol L. Briley
Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Crawford
Victoria Breslauer
Sales Systems, Ltd.
Gordon Dillon

Ms. Dorothy Glenn
Mr. and Mrs. E.L. Greene
Ms. Amanda DiPietro
Ms. Amanda DiPietro
Kathy Puglise
Rebecca and Michael Drake
Mr. Morris M. Homan, Jr.
Adoptions Together, Inc.
David Parron
Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Parron
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Manning
Mr. Edward Fulkerson
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Startt
Mr. and Mrs. Owen Gillette

Thomas Alan Gosser
Mr. Christopher Gower
Frances S. Griffin
Ellie Grumiaux

William Ellsworth
Grumiaux, Jr.
Helon Guthrie
Dr. Guy Harbert Jr.
Reid Hargrave

Misty Lee Harris
Mr. Lowell Hasel
Nina Hermes
Meaghan Herryty

Cameron Hewitt
Tori Hiers
Chuck Higgins
Bernard Hogge
Marcus Hogge

Phyllis Hogge
Taylor Holder
Ms. Carol Holt
Col. James Horney
Nicholas Hurdle
Lisa Isley
Ms. Vivian L. Jewell
James H. Johnson, Jr.
Robert M. Johnston
Leona and Sonja Jones
Jose
Dale R. Kisner
Kimberly Lader
Dena Michelle Laderberg
James Lamb
David Laughlin, Jr.
Mrs. Vennor B. Leggett
Maddie
Dominic Marzitello
Ava McCarthy

Charlotte McGehee
Mr. Larry McKenzie
Ginny McLaughlin
Marsha McCrae
Connie D. Mitchell
Barbara Ann Moore
Mother
Mr. Evan Muench

Caroline Nichols
Renee' Nobles

Mr. Donald Doerfler
Mr. Robert Gower
Ms. Carol Finlay
Mr. and Mrs. Ken Ablett
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick J. Gauvreau
Dorothy Leigh Traweek

Mr. and Mrs. Bartow Bridges, Jr.
Dr. and Mrs. Allen Hogge
Dr. and Mrs. Allen Hogge
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bathie
Mr. and Mrs. Herb Hargrave
Mark and Marina Hargrave
Michael and Vanessa Burr
Mrs. Betty Hasel
Mr. Samuel Thompson
Meaghan C. Herryty Charitable
Foundation

Mrs. Dawn McKenzie
Mr. and Mrs. Fred C. Headley
Patricia Higgins
Dr. and Mrs. Allen Hogge
Dr. and Mrs. Allen Hogge
Mr. Aleks Rajkovic
Dr. and Mrs. George Richardson
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EDMARC
 Hospice For Children

Hope for the Journey.

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- Help us expand our reach on social media. Share our posts!
- Do you shop at Kroger? Register your Kroger Plus Card online and designate Edmarc! You will raise money for our organization while you shop. <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>
- Designate Edmarc as your Rite Aid KidsCents charity at www.kidscents.com with your Rite Aid Wellness card member number. Then all you have to do is shop and round up!
- Edmarc is a certified United Way Agency. Designate Edmarc during your company's United Way campaign.
- Want to volunteer at Edmarc? Email volunteer@edmarc.org for more information!
- Is your family or company hosting a party? Think about raising money for your favorite charity, Edmarc, in lieu of gifts!



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Making Things Happen...

Spring Wish List—

- Volunteer Baker to make homemade treats for our children/teens grief support group
- Volunteer plumber and electrician
- Gas cards
- Gift cards to Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Target, Office Max and grocery store gift cards
- Peace by Piece Program Supplies : homemade desserts, bottled water, juice boxes, letter beads
- Sips for sibs: Juice boxes for kids'support group meetings
- Individual bottled water
- Tickets to Tides/Admirals games and other local activities including Virginia Living Museum, Marine Science Museum, Nauticus, The Virginia Zoo and Movie Theatre
- Picnic items: paper products (plates, cups, napkins)
- Gift certificates to an arts and crafts store, or \$25- \$50 for scrapbooks for families to make memory albums
- Michael's Gift Cards to make memory boxes
- 10-ride bus passes from HRT
- "Thinking of you" small gifts for moms and dads (travel-sized hand creams, bubble bath, body spray etc.)
- Gifts in kind for parents: gift certificates for haircuts, pedicures, manicures and massages
- Paper products: paper towels, toilet tissue and facial tissue
- 30-gallon clear storage containers
- Baby Footprint Kits with Picture Frame (can be purchased from the Discovery Store)
- Household cleaning supplies, (i.e. Mr. Clean, Windex, Clorox Clean-Up)
- Canned goods, non-perishable food items
- Tall kitchen trash bags
- Kodak photo paper-high gloss and matte finish
- Large storage units with drawers to house medical supplies (approximately 16", can be cardboard, metal or plastic)
- Gently used or new laptop computer for homebound children
- Baby monitors
- "AAA" batteries
- New bedding supplies: bed pillows, mattress pads, sheets-fitted/flat in all sizes, blankets
- New large, plush, cushiony stuffed animals to help prop children up in bed
- Cans of spray paint for memory boxes- pink, blue, green and red
- Large laminator sheets
- Clay Hand Print Kits (can be purchased at Wal-Mart for \$15.00)
- Diapers: Infant and Toddler Sizes
- Bottled Water
- Vacuum Cleaner

The Edmarc Visitor is written by the staff of Edmarc Hospice for Children. Jean Bowerman, editor. The Primm Company, layout