



July 15, 2011

Dear Prospective Donor,

We would like to invite you to the 5th Annual Hailey's Wish Golf Tournament to raise funds for Mitochondrial Disease Research and Education. To all who have contributed over the years, we extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation for your support!

Hailey passed away in April of 2006 from Alpers Syndrome, a fatal form of mitochondrial disease. In 2004 researchers at UCSD discovered the gene used to develop the first DNA test for Alpers. If not for this discovery, we may have never learned why this much loved and seemingly healthy child lost her life. At the time, little information about Alpers as well as other mitochondrial diseases was available. Sadly, we now know many children die undiagnosed; a "mystery." This is not acceptable.

Mitochondria are cells in the body that create 90% of the energy our bodies need to support growth and sustain life. Scientists have found that mitochondrial diseases number in the hundreds. They are almost as common as childhood cancers. Mitochondrial defects have also been implicated as factors in Autism, Diabetes, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. Currently one in 2000 people will be diagnosed with a mitochondrial disease in their lifetime and as research progresses that number will continue to climb.

Since founding Hailey's Wish we have seen a marked increase in information. We have also been contacted by numerous families worldwide who relate to Hailey's story. We have been able to provide them with resources such as which doctors are recommended in their area as well as general information. Sometimes they just need to communicate with another parent who understands what they are going through and can offer them comfort. Hearing from these families inspires us to keep up our fundraising efforts.

Donations to date have made it possible for Hailey's Wish, under the advisement of Dr. Jose Abdenur, M.D., Division Chief Medical Director CHOC, Division of Metabolic Disorders, to support Children's Hospital of Orange County and sponsor Grand Rounds there which educates the public and medical community about mitochondrial diseases. Other proceeds from our events help to support the cutting edge research efforts of Dr. Robert Naviaux, M.D. PhD at the University of California, San Diego.

*It is our wonderful supporters who have made this fifth year possible!* A goal for this year, based on discoveries over the last decade, is to fund a scientist, as the University does not pay for their employment. This would be a post doctoral PhD or M.D. level scientist to do mitochondrial research for one year. The cost would be approximately \$75,000 and would cover salary, benefits and research supplies. A “Hailey’s Wish Scientist for a Year” could literally help thousands of families, children, doctors and health care professionals everywhere!

Please join us for our Golf Tournament this year on Monday, October 24, 2011 at Dove Canyon Country Club in Dove Canyon, Ca. It promises to be another day and evening of fun! Whether you participate as a golfer, join us for dinner, donate a product for silent auction or send a donation, you will be a part of raising awareness, supporting research and hopefully finding cures.

Please help us to bring Mitochondrial Diseases to the forefront. Hailey’s Wish is a recognized 501 (c) (3) non –profit organization. Our Tax ID number is 20-5367838. All donations are tax deductible.

Sincerely,



Carol R. Cavlovic  
Hailey's Grandma and Board Member

**“Research is an investment that truly changes the world”**

R. Naviaux M.D. PhD