



MAKENNA & MAGGIE'S RACE 4 RESEARCH

April 25, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

Imagine hearing these words: "Your child has cancer." or "Your child has a rare genetic disorder." Those words can provoke many thoughts and emotions in all of us. For two families, has brought years of doctors, treatments, surgeries, healthy times, setbacks, fear and hope. The families of Houlton native Makenna Ward and Levant native Maggie Rudnicki heard these words about their daughters. Makenna, the daughter of Kirk and Amy Ward, was diagnosed with neuroblastoma in 2009.

Neuroblastoma is a form of cancer that occurs in infants and young children that accounts for approximately 6% of all cancers in children. There are 12,500 people diagnosed with neuroblastoma each year. Diamond Blackfan Anemia (DBA) is a rare blood disorder in which the bone marrow fails to produce red blood cells. People with DBA are severely anemic and require constant blood transfusions.

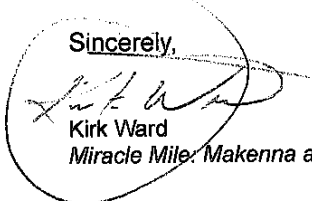
These, and other children's battles, have inspired so many to want to help in efforts to find cures. We are currently planning *Miracle Mile: Makenna and Maggie's Race for Research*, as a way to fundraise to find a cure and bring awareness to these diseases. According to Makenna's father, Kirk; "My reason for this event and inspiration is not only my own daughters fight with cancer but the thousands (12,500) of kids who are diagnosed yearly. Miracle Mile will also benefit Diamond Blackfan Anemia, a rare blood disorder in which the bone marrow fails to make red blood cells. So the race will personally effect our two young ladies represented, Makenna and Maggie." All proceeds from the race will go to two worthwhile organizations who are working to find cures, Curesearch and Diamond Blackfan Anemia Foundation Inc.

Miracle Mile: Makenna and Maggie's Race for Research will be held on July 3, 2013 in Houlton, Maine. Runners and walkers will meet at near Military and Cary Streets, just below St. Mary's Church, where they will race to the finish line, located in front of the Temple Theater. The race will begin at 6 pm with registration beginning at 5pm.

To help defray the cost of the race and enable us to give all of the proceeds to Curesearch and DBA Foundation Inc., we are currently asking businesses for any donation that they feel they could give to the event. This benefit race is a fun family event that will benefit two wonderful causes.

We hope you will consider making a donation to the event and/or participating in the event. If you or your business would like to make a donation, please make checks payable to Miracle Mile, which can be mailed to Miracle Mile, c/o County Physical Therapy 4 North Street Houlton, Maine 04730. If you would like more information about the event, please feel free to contact Kirk Ward (538-1494 or by email at ward_kirk@yahoo.com), Kara Wright (521-0765 or by email: karadmwright@yahoo.com) or Rita Gardiner at (694-3161 or by email at lufeeryder33@yahoo.com) You can also check out our facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MiracleMileRace4Research?fref=ts>. Thank you for your consideration in this matter. We appreciate your support.

Sincerely,


Kirk Ward
Miracle Mile: Makenna and Maggie's Race for Research Executive Board


Chris Rines


Kara Wright


Rita Gardiner