



Volunteer Connection

The Rainbow Report - February, 2019

5th Annual Clash for a Cause raises over \$16,000 to Grant Wishes



The 5th Annual Clash for a Cause was a huge success!



Former wish recipient, Blake Jackson spearheaded the fundraising tournament between his team, the Lakeland Eagles, and Walled Lake Northern Hockey. At the end of the game, each player presented his jersey to a loved one at center ice. TRC is grateful for the dedication of former wish recipients who continue to stay connected with the mission by fundraising and volunteering.

Read more about the event and Blake's story here.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

Reply to this email to sign-up or get more information!



Easter at the Village of Rochester Hills

Saturday, April 13th

2 - 5:30pm

Volunteers are needed to help with registration and family friendly activities.

Volunteer Spotlight

An Interview with Rob and MJ Javery...

How did you first become involved with The

Rainbow Connection?

We became aware of The Rainbow Connection about 11 years ago when our grandson was diagnosed with cancer at the age of 1. Seeing what our daughter and her family were going through at that time and what a difference Rainbow Connection made when they came alongside them. Ultimately with our grandson becoming a recipient of a “granted Wish” (which he loved !!!), this began our desire to get involved and volunteer to help other families the same way ours was.



What do you enjoy most about volunteering for The Rainbow Connection?

Knowing what all of these activities and efforts ultimately bring ... joy to the Wish child and their family in times of great challenge.

What has been your favorite experience with The Rainbow Connection? Why?

We've had the opportunity to be involved in supporting events such as The Dobson Golf Events, Fire and Ice Hockey Tournaments, Dream Makers Ball/Charity Auction as well as some of the local fundraisers. All of these have been a lot of fun ... however our favorite experience remains the same ... knowing the difference each event makes in the lives of these families!

What might someone be surprised to know about you?

We have 5 daughters and 14 grandchildren (#15 will arrive in April) who are all nearby here in the tri-county area.

What would you tell someone who is thinking of volunteering for TRC?

Jump in! Do it! You'll be welcomed by a bunch of smiling faces and quickly become part of this very friendly and energetic family, all having fun together for one common and great cause! Our kids!

Anything else you would like to share about yourself, your family, your work or other community involvement.

MJ and I are both employed in the automotive industry, enjoy the outdoors and spending time with our kids and grandkids. We also attend The River Church which is a blessing!

Thank you Rob and MJ for your time and dedication to our mission!

From the Wish Department

The Rainbow Connection grants its 3,500th wish!

Elliana (Ellie) will become the 3,500th Rainbow Connection Wish Child to receive a wish! To add to the excitement of this milestone, her sponsor is a former wish



recipient and 15-year cancer survivor Nadine Bazzi. As reported in last month's newsletter, Nadine raised \$10,000 through a Go Fund Me page to help sponsor the wishes of two children.

Ellie is currently receiving treatment for Leukemia, but her wish is to go to Disney World! She can't wait to meet the princesses, go on all of the rides, and eat lots of ice cream!

"The magic continues at The Rainbow Connection," Wish Director Ingrid Todt said. "We are so proud of Nadine, her accomplishments and her dedication to making Ellie's wish come true!"

New at The Rainbow Connection...

Join us for our first "Get Rainbow Connected Tour"!

Tours will be offered monthly and are an informal way to visit our office and learn more about our mission. Please attend and bring a friend, there is no charge. The first tour is **Tuesday, March 19th from 5:00-6:00pm**. Additional times and dates for tours can be arranged for groups or organizations seeking to learn more about The Rainbow Connection.

Contact Rebecca at 248-601-9474 or register online [here](#).

Happy February Birthday!



Cynthia Arnold * Rachel Dubuque
Erika Ellis * Melissa Gronzo
Mackenzie Grout * Tammy Jaracz
Jessica Kliest * Sandy Koelzer
Darlene Kujanek * Courtney Lafferty
Patricia Makssoud * James McNutt
Carol Nelson * Stacy Peardon
Archana Prasad * Courtney Silk
Casey Simlar * Aimee Symington
Jill Thomas * Bernard Tratt * Kim Ursing
Remeen Yaldo * Austyn Zelinski

Karen Johnson, Volunteer Coordinator
248-601-9474

