

HAYDEN

6-years-old, “an old soul”

What hurts?

Hayden came to Children’s National Health System in 2010 to receive a Bone Marrow Transplant to treat his Juvenile Xanthogranuloma.

What do you like best about Hope for Henry?

Hope for Henry throws the most amazing Halloween party! Our first Halloween party was in 2010. There is trick-or-treating, brand new costumes, and lots of things to eat. It is awesome! Hope for Henry is also very generous and brings Hayden gifts each time they visit and for his birthday. They seem to know the best times to deliver something special. When Hayden was first admitted for his bone marrow transplant, he was given a Hope for Henry Super Duper Fun Pack filled with gifts like a sound machine to hide hospital sounds, wall decals to decorate his hospital walls, and an iPad to entertain and distract him. All of these items were really helpful for our long stay!

What is your favorite superhero?

Hayden loves EVERY superhero who Hope for Henry brings to Children’s National. He has met Batman, Spiderman, Superman, and a number of professional athletes like world-famous boxers, Washington Capitals, DC United soccer players and others who are superheroes to Hayden. They make his day a gazillion times better. But alas, Batman is Hayden’s all-time favorite.

As a Mom, what do you hope for Hayden?

He is an “old soul”, retaining everything and then sharing his wisdom with those around him. My dream for Hayden is simple...life. I want him to live like the rest of his classmates. I want to be able to say to him "Hayden, it is nice outside. Go out and play". I want him to be able to name the planets and not the 20 different medications he takes daily. Simply, I want him to be happy.



Improving outcomes for Washington, DC’s sickest children, Hope for Henry Foundation brings smiles, laughter and joy to kids with cancer and other serious illnesses at Children’s National Medical Center and MedStar Georgetown University Hospital. Its year-round programming promotes comfort, care and recovery for these kids and their families.

Founded in 2003 and led by social innovator, patient advocate and author, Laurie Strongin, Hope for Henry has served more than 13,000 children in the Washington, DC metropolitan area and around the country.

www.hopeforhenry.org