

# SANTANA

## 8-years-old, “huge Redskins fan”

### What hurts?

Santana is fighting Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS), a type of cancer in which the bone marrow does not make enough healthy blood cells.

### What do you like best about Hope for Henry?

Hope for Henry's Super Path to Super Duper Better Patient Incentive Program. The first step in the program was identifying the challenging tasks that the medical team required of Santana like taking meds, working out with physical therapy and coping through painful procedures. Overcoming these challenges day-in-and-day-out allowed Santana to earn Hope for Henry Bucks. The incentive program helped him through his hospitalization and his bucks bought him two water bottles, a Washington Redskins for him and Philadelphia Eagles for his brother; a bottle of bright red nail polish for his mom who had been by his side from the start; and a Robert Griffin III Fathead™ for his wall.

### What makes you happy?

Santana loves Batman.

### What is your favorite thing to do in the summer?

For Santana, nothing beats watching his favorite team. Prior to hospitalization, Santana and his family were treated to watch the Redskins play courtesy of the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The UAE provided Santana with seats in their box and passes for the field. Despite having been just diagnosed with MDS, at that moment, Santana was the happiest eight-year old around.



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](http://www.hopeforhenry.org)