

August 22, 2012

Dear Sir or Madam:

It's hard to believe but this fall our angel would have been four years old! We did not know how short a time we would have with our baby Georgia. Georgia was a light in the lives of anyone who met her and was loved by so many. She was a healthy baby until at the age of 4 months when she became weaker and stopped meeting developmental milestones such as holding her own head up.



Georgia became very ill in March 2009 and was hospitalized. This was the beginning of a nightmare for us. On April 1st, 2009, Georgia was diagnosed with a disease called SMA – Spinal Muscular Atrophy. This is a terminal, genetic disorder that causes more deaths in young children than any other genetic disorder. SMA touched our lives in a most tragic way. A disease that no one in our social circle had ever heard of took a precious treasure from us in just a few weeks. Georgia was six months old when she died.

In her memory, Georgia's family and friends are holding the fourth annual Georgia's Journey of Hope¹ on September 30th at Glenwood Community Centre. This is a fundraising event to increase awareness about SMA and hopefully provide a cure. Proceeds will go to FSMAC – Families of Spinal Muscular Atrophy Canada² – a volunteer-driven organization working to fund research for a cure to SMA.

We are hoping generous donations from companies such as yours will help make the event a success. In the last three years we have raised approximately \$35,000 because of generous sponsors like you and there is hope for a possible treatment as soon as 2013. **Please consider donating a prize for our silent auction.** The auction will be held at the event on September 30th 2012. This would be a tremendous help and will increase what we can contribute towards SMA research. (Note: donations will be credited at the event where possible, and on our website.)

Thank you for your consideration and generosity towards finding a cure for SMA. Arrangements can be made with you to receive your donation either through the mail where possible or through pick up. If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please contact Laura at (204) 257-4582 or cell at (204) 296-4582 or by email at laurajob@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Kristen McDowell
Georgia's Mom

Laura Barkman
Chair, Georgia's Journey of Hope Prize Committee

¹ For more information see: journeyofhope.houseoflucas.com and journeyofhope.houseoflucas.com/our-sponsors

² Registered charity #86135 1922 RR0001. FSMAC website: curesma.ca