

Hearts and Hope was formed to both give back and pay forward for all that was done for a little boy named

LUKE Wesley Sigmon

and his family. Luke was born on December 3, 2008 and had his first 17-hour open heart surgery two



weeks later at Levine Children's Hospital in Charlotte. In February of 2009, he was transferred to Boston's Children Hospital where a second lifesaving heart surgery was performed. In August of 2009, he was placed on the heart transplant list and received a new heart on Halloween. During Luke's first 16 months, he and his family lived almost exclusively in a hospital. Their communities,

co-workers, family and friends - best known as **Team Luke** - raised much needed funds in order to help during this difficult time.

DON'T cry because it's over.
smile because it happened.

Luke Sigmon passed away on March 31, 2015. The words of Dr. Seuss, quoted above, became a comforting mantra to Luke's family and his Team Luke supporters.

During his six years, Luke changed the lives of so many and continues to do so today. Team Luke transformed into Hearts and Hope Foundation, Inc. and the Team Luke spirit continues to help children and families in need.



Your donation can be **mailed** or easily made on our **website**.

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heartshopenc.org



Allowing the hearts of all
to provide hope to children
and families in need

the house of hearts and hope



the house of hearts and hope



In June of 2019, we purchased and financed a townhouse in Durham that will allow families a “home away from home” while their child is being treated at Duke Medical Center. The House of Hearts and Hope, located only 5 short

miles from the hospital, will be similar to the Ronald McDonald houses. However, ours will be unique because while the Ronald McDonald houses are shared by multiple families, ours will be a home to only one family at a time. After a transplant or during cancer treatments, patients have to be isolated and extremely careful to avoid germs and sickness typically caused by contact with people. The House of Hearts and Hope will be a safe, germ-free, private residence for these children and their families to use while they are away from their home.

Luke Sigmon’s mother, Lyndsi, said one of her “fondest memories was when our family was able to celebrate Christmas away from the hospital. We were able to forget, just for a brief moment, about having a child with a special heart. We were just like any other family celebrating Christmas.”



Rita Lail, one of our board members whose son Trevor lost his battle with lymphoma said: “The best thing about having a place to stay (like the house), was the sense of normalcy that it provided during a time that was anything but normal. It was great to have a place to call home after a long day at the hospital. I was thankful to be able to do simple things



Trevor

like cook dinner or even make a bed. My hope is that the House of Hearts and Hope will be a refuge for families going through some of the toughest days in their lives. I want it to be a place that keeps families together. A place where they feel “whole” again instead of being separated.”

looking forward

Now that we have the House of Hearts and Hope, we need to find the funds to pay for it so that we can continue to support the other programs that we have. Our goal is to raise \$200,000. Please help us make our House of Hearts and Hope a debt-free home by making a tax-deductible donation to our wonderful organization. Your financial assistance will aid in assisting families with severely sick children so that their focus can be solely on their child. It will also keep us smiling because that is what Luke, Trevor and Kaitlin would want us to do. We know and understand that there are many wonderful organizations that help so many worthy causes. We just ask that you consider putting the Hearts and Hope Foundation and our House of Hearts and Hope on your charitable donation list. All of our members are volunteers so 100% of your donation will be used to help children and families in need.

Please see the back for information on how to donate.

our other missions

Since 2013 when our organization was formed, we have grown and added additional members, teams and we have helped many children and families that were in need. **TREVOR’S TEAM** was formed to help Trevor Lail and his family. He was a high school senior that battled lymphoma. **KAITLIN STRONG** was for Kaitlin Morelli, a young nurse that battled cancer. **GREYSON STRONG** was formed to help Greyson Stephens, a toddler with cancer. Together, this amazing group and many others have set up multiple programs that allow us to bring substance to our mission.



Kaitlin

Hearts Helping

Our major focus and largest program provides direct financial assistance to families with extremely sick children. These funds will help families with whatever their financial needs may be during this difficult time.



Greyson

Just Smile Hearts and Hope

We send handmade, colorful and medically functional infant gowns to hospitals in our region.



Hearts and Hope in Education

We help area high school students that need financial assistance.