

Help when cancer strikes

angel
foundation

Summer 2018

angel *Insider*

A Community *of Support*



Inside this edition:

Founder's Message.....	2
Fundraiser Spotlight.....	3
Jennifer's Story.....	4
Special Thanks.....	6
Community Spotlight.....	7

Letter from Our Founder

Dear Friends of Angel,

1 As I think back on the last few months, I am filled with gratitude for the generosity of our Angel community. Our recent Camp Angel Luncheon, sponsored by JNBA Financial Advisors, was a huge success! With your help, we raised nearly \$90,000 for Camp Angel and other Facing Cancer Together activities. The money raised will allow 200 children and teens to experience camp free of charge and provide our families with more opportunities to learn, talk about cancer and simply spend time with others experiencing similar challenges.

2 This summer, we would like to show you the impact of your generosity. We invite you to join us for a “silly and serious” time and see Camp Angel in action. Camp is an incredible experience for our families and we encourage you to visit and take a tour during our second session, August 16-18. Please contact Kathy Tolo at ktolo@mnangel.org to reserve your spot.

3 Coming up in July, join us for our 16th Annual Angel & Eagles Golf Classic! Held Monday, July 23 at the newly renovated Minnesota Valley Country Club, this annual event has raised nearly \$3 million to support local adults with cancer and their families. Angel & Eagles is a sellout every year and includes 18 holes of golf, a cocktail reception and dinner, entertainment and awards. For more information and to register, visit our website: mnangel.org/attend

Although we will be busy with our upcoming events and programs, we are also making exciting changes throughout the organization. We will be hiring a new President, refreshing our website design and adding an online Emergency Financial Assistance application system to provide easier access for adults with cancer who are looking for support. We'll keep you updated on our progress!

Enjoy the rest of this newsletter and, from all of us at Angel Foundation, thank you for helping us build a community of support for families facing cancer. We are proud to keep our services local, ensuring every dollar raised supports our families, friends and neighbors in the Twin Cities area. We could not do it without you.

With gratitude,



Margie Sborov, Founder



1

JNBA
FINANCIAL ADVISORS



2



3



Community Fundraiser Spotlight

Growing up, Brian Samec always had big dreams for his future. Unfortunately, when Brian was only 14 years old, his father was diagnosed with cancer. Two and a half years later, his father passed away and left Brian and his two brothers wondering what their futures would bring.

As an adult, Brian decided he wanted to help children and teens who were going through a similar experience. In 2013, he and several friends organized a charity hockey tournament they named Big Futures, and chose Angel Foundation as the beneficiary. "When mom or dad has cancer, it's scary. Making a difference for other young people going through this is what this tournament is all about!" Brian shared.

Now in its 5th year, the Big Futures event allows him to do something he loves while also giving back to local kids who have a parent with cancer. This year's tournament took place on April 20 at the Charles M. Schulz Highland Arena. The next day, Brian and his friends also hosted an open skate for Angel families, complete with a complimentary skate rental, face painting and a firetruck visit from the St. Paul Fire Department.

Since its founding, the Big Futures Hockey Tournament has raised more than \$55,000 to benefit Angel Foundation's Teen Outreach and Camp Angel programs. "I believe the



programs at Angel Foundation have the ability to make a real difference in the lives of the younger generation," Brian said. "I'm also incredibly grateful to the many volunteers and generous donors who make this tournament possible. They are an important part of making that difference for kids in our community."

Angel Foundation would like to thank Brian and his friends for their continued support. They are an important part of the Angel community. We look forward to another great tournament in 2019 and hope to see you all there!



Save the Date!



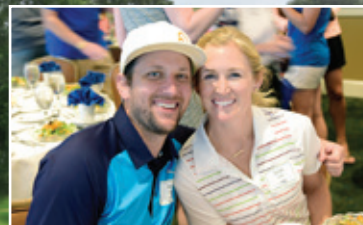
Join us!

Thursday, September 27 • 5-8 p.m.

The Food Building
1401 Marshall Street NE, Minneapolis

Join us for dinner!

July 23, 2018 | Minnesota Valley Country Club



Register at mangel.org/attend

Jennifer's Story



“Being sick is hard and came as such a surprise, but Angel Foundation has truly made this journey of mine easier. I can tell that they really care about us and we are not alone.”

In 2017, Jennifer Schwanke’s life changed in an instant when she heard three little words: “you have cancer.” Only 46 years old, a mother to four daughters and a grandmother of three, her experience had started simply enough when she began experiencing pain in her right hip. She kept a healthy diet and exercised on a regular basis, so her new symptoms were baffling. After multiple trips to the doctor, she started physical therapy, but it didn’t seem to help. Eventually, the pain grew worse until she had to quit exercising, running, even doing yoga. Then, a few months later, Jenni was involved in an accident and broke her hip.

Taken to the trauma unit at the Hennepin County Medical Center, the orthopedic surgeon told her she’d

The Lives We Touch

Jenni isn't alone in her experience. Many adults with cancer reach out to Angel Foundation and it is thanks to you, the Angel Community, that we can provide the support they need.

"Thank you for the financial assistance you gave while I was receiving treatment at the University of Minnesota. Your grant was appreciated by me and my family and helped us with groceries, fuel and phone while I was away from home for five weeks. Thanks for everything you do to improve the quality of life for cancer patients through education, financial support and acts of kindness." (Howard W.)



need a full hip replacement. Jenni was optimistic the surgery would cure her pain until it was discovered the real cause was cancer in her hip bone. More tests were ordered and when the results came in, her oncologist diagnosed Jenni with stage four, non-curable, Metastatic Adenocarcinoma in her right lung.

Jenni began chemotherapy and soon started feeling the financial strain of cancer treatment. Not long after, she became too sick to work and had to quit her job as a dental hygienist. It was a difficult time for the whole family, especially for her youngest daughter Madalyn who was still living at home. That is when Jenni learned about Angel Foundation and immediately applied for emergency financial assistance.

"I felt so fortunate when they approved our application. I had never been sick or struggled financially before. Angel paid my Xcel energy bill to keep the lights on at home, they provided gift cards that helped me buy gas to get to my medical appointments and put food on the table for me and my daughter. It was such a blessing during a difficult financial time."

The financial assistance helped relieve some of the immediate stresses Jenni was facing, but Angel Foundation offered more than just financial help. A few days after Jenni received her grant, Facing Cancer Together staff contacted her to make sure she was doing okay. They shared information about an upcoming parent support group and registered her daughter Madalyn for Camp Angel.

"Being sick is hard and came as such a surprise, but Angel Foundation has truly made this journey of mine easier. I can tell that they really care about us and we are not alone."

Now, six months since her diagnosis, Jenni reports that she and her family are doing well. Her daughter Michelle was recently married, daughters Molly and Marybeth are busy with their children, and Madalyn is getting good grades in school and is captain of the rugby team. While her treatment continues, she feels blessed to have an amazing medical team and the support of such a nurturing community.

"I want to take a moment to extend my gratitude for this much-needed grant to provide housing for my family during this time of personal turmoil. I am so thankful for the caring, compassionate spirit you extend to our community. Your foundation has provided a bit of relief for us. Thank you!" (Cindy M.)

"Our family can't thank you enough for your generosity and kindness. Your gift to us helped us through a very difficult time when my husband was at the U of M for his bone marrow transplant and subsequent treatment. He continues to recover at home. His transplant was in April and he won't be able to return to work until most likely October. We are so grateful for the help we received." (Serena J.)



As always, you are an important part of that nurturing community. It's hard to appreciate the little things when worried about bills, but your support helps families facing cancer find more everyday moments of joy during an otherwise stressful time. Thank you for helping Jenni and her family take a breath and enjoy the moments they share together.

A Special Thank You

Adam Broderick is a firm believer in Minnesota's nonprofit organizations and the impact they make on our local community. He also thinks that working together is the best way to help as many people as possible. Currently the Director of Information Technology at CommonBond Communities, Adam has also chosen to support Angel Foundation by sponsoring several Angel After Hours events in the past year.

Adam believes the mission of Angel Foundation complements the work he does at CommonBond, which provides affordable apartments and townhomes across Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin. He has seen firsthand the challenges families face when they live paycheck to paycheck and knows Angel's Emergency Financial Assistance program helps alleviate many of those challenges. In order to build strong futures, he believes kids need tools to be successful in school, and their parents need training for jobs with wages that can support their family. He feels the Facing Cancer Together program strengthens families in a different, yet equally important, way. He also knows the expense of cancer treatment can very quickly become insurmountable for vulnerable families and is happy to help Angel Foundation ease some of that burden.

"I think it's up to all of us to see ourselves as a part of a greater community and offer our neighbors the financial and emotional support they need to reach their goals. Being a Sip Sponsor at Angel After Hours is simply another way for me to make a difference."

It takes the support of many to make the work we do possible. Thank you, Adam, for being part of Angel's mission to build a nurturing community of support for adults with cancer and their families.



Suds & Survivors

September 20, 2018 | 6-9 p.m. | Studio 1414

A survivor's celebration, featuring a happy hour with free Fulton beer, silent auction and more!



Free to attend, but please register at mnangel.org/suds-2018

Thank You!

No Matter the Size,
EVERY GIFT COUNTS!

Angel would like to recognize the 705 generous donors who made a gift last year of \$25 or less. Those gifts added up to an impressive \$11,825 which allowed us to:

- Send five children to Camp Angel
- Host three fun Teen Outreach activities
- Provide 100 children and teens with an AngelPack, and
- Grant 15 local families with Emergency Financial Assistance

**Thank you for coming together
and making a real difference in the lives
of families facing cancer!**

Community Spotlight: W2 Films

Twelve years ago, Rich Wallin took a leap of faith, leaving the world of advertising to found W2 Films and pursue his passion for video production. As it happens, Angel Foundation became his first client when he was asked to produce a video for the Angel Gala.

Attending the gala and watching his video alongside hundreds of Angel supporters made him realize that his love of sharing stories could also help build communities. "That very first video I did for Angel Foundation's gala ignited me and truly informed how I do business," shared Rich.

Over the years, Rich's passion for Angel has continued to grow. In 2016, W2 Films sponsored a video project for the Teen Outreach program, which gave local teens the opportunity to share their family's story while also learning about filmmaking. This year, Rich and his team worked with Angel to create several marketing spots, highlighting our campaign to help families "Live in the Now" and find everyday moments of joy.

"Something great happens when I introduce my staff and interns to Angel Foundation - our two teams have such talent, motivation and passion, which helps all of us create an even more powerful story."

Currently, W2 Films and Angel Foundation are in the process of creating educational videos for the Facing Cancer Together program. The next step in a long and successful partnership to help our community, these videos will be shared online so parents with cancer can find immediate help and additional education.



W2 Films is a Minneapolis-based video production company, producing artistic and high-production-value film material.

Rich said it best, "It all started with Angel Foundation and I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for them. We're all in this together and I've learned to give first and the rest will follow."

Thank you, Rich, for being part of Angel's community of support and giving back to us in such an important way.



Angel Foundation provides support to adults with cancer and their families so they can find everyday moments of joy.

Join our mission at mnangel.org

IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT WALKING HER DOWN THE AISLE.

It's about walking her to the bus stop.

LIVE IN THE NOW

angel
foundation



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Since 2001, Angel Foundation has served thousands of individuals and distributed more than \$8M in emergency financial assistance to local adults with cancer and their families.

Mission Statement

Through an innovative and integrated approach of financial assistance, education and support, Angel Foundation helps adults with cancer and their families so that they may live life well with stability, strength and resilience.

Upcoming Events & Programs

Program Calendar



Caregiver Support Group

July 5, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Common Roots Café
Minneapolis

Kid's Night In/Parent's Night Out

July 12, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Angel Foundation Office
Mendota Heights

Urban Adventure

July 17, 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Mill City Museum | Minneapolis

Teen Outreach: Wheel Fun Rental

July 19, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Lake Harriet | Minneapolis

Waterpark Night

July 29, 7:30 – 10 p.m.
Apple Valley Aquatic Center
Apple Valley

Kid's Night In/Parent's Night Out

August 2, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Angel Foundation Office
Mendota Heights

Camp Angel

August 16 – 18,
9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Camp Eden Wood
Eden Prairie



Events Calendar



Angel & Eagles Golf Classic

July 23, 9:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Minnesota Valley Country Club
Bloomington

Angel After Hours

September 27, 5 – 8 p.m.
The Food Building
Minneapolis



Our **PROGRAMS** are free to join, but registration is required.
RSVP at info@mnangel.org.
Register for **EVENTS** at mnangel.org.