



12-year-old raises money for cancer research in honor of his mom

Student Council President Jackson Krinke's latest campaign at Forest Lake Elementary School had a specific goal in mind.

"I just wanted to help people who have cancer," explained Jackson, 12. His mother, Debbie, has Stage 4 breast cancer and is receiving treatment at Regions Hospital.

Searching for ways to support her fight, Jackson came up with a brilliant idea. He decided to hold a fundraiser at his school to raise money and awareness. He organized a special day allowing students who donated a dollar to cancer to wear a hat, a special privilege as ordinarily the students cannot wear hats at school. Jackson asked all his friends to spread the word about Hat Day and how it would benefit people with cancer. His teachers helped by putting a note in the parent newsletter.

On Hat Day, Jackson and his brother, Anthony, wore pink hats to honor their mom and raise awareness for breast cancer. In total, Jackson and his classmates raised \$501.

"I was amazed and surprised that so many people cared," Jackson said. "I am proud of all my friends for being so supportive and participating in the fundraiser. My best friend brought in \$25. That really meant a lot to me. I am really happy to be able to help people with cancer."

Jackson asked his mom where the donations should go and she suggested Regions Hospital to fund cancer research and clinical trials. Debbie was very touched by Jackson's school fundraiser.

"Sometimes you don't realize how much your kids are thinking of you. Jackson has done a lot to support me. He writes me cards and tells me that we can get through this. He is my positive role model."

This year, proceeds from the Wine Auction will go to benefit cancer research. If you would like to help shape the future of cancer care and help us expand our oncology research into phase 1 clinical trials, there are many different ways that you can get involved. To purchase tickets to the Wine Auction, make a charitable contribution, or volunteer your time, please contact Kelly Johannsen at 651-254-3093 or WineAuctionRHF@healthpartners.com.



Pictured above: Jackson and Debbie Krinke with Dan Anderson, MD, Oncology Physician in the Cancer Care Center at Regions Hospital. Jackson and Debbie presented Dr. Anderson with the Hat Day proceeds to benefit cancer research and clinical trials at Regions Hospital.