

## Local three-year-old in the fight of a lifetime

On May 18th 2009, Kaiden fell off a bench at her preschool. At home she complained that her abdomen hurt and later vomited. Her father took her to the shower to clean her up and noticed a large mass on her side. Her parents rushed her to the hospital, where doctors discovered that the fall had caused a muscle to give way to reveal a 4.3 inch tumor growing between her kidney and liver.

Doctors at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles diagnosed Kaiden with Stage 4 High Risk Neuroblastoma two days later. At the time it was detected, the cancer had already spread throughout her body, including her bones, skull and soft tissues.

Neuroblastoma is a rare form of childhood cancer, with approximately 600 cases identified in the United States per year. There has been little medical advancement to treat this disease over the last 20 years.

Kaiden and her family have been fighting to drive the cancer into remission. She completed her second round of chemotherapy on June 19, and is preparing for chemo round three of seven; stem cell transplantation & surgery to remove the primary tumor. Kaiden has a long, tough journey ahead of her and is in need of our love, prayers & support.

The financial impact this fight will have upon Kaiden's family is not yet known, but it is clear that it will be significant (stem cell transplants alone will cost ~\$250,000 per treatment and it is unclear how much, if anything, will be covered by insurance). Families and friends have formed "Team Kaiden" to coordinate blood donations, provide meals for the family, and to raise money to offset some of the medical expenses.

Times are difficult due to the economy, but if you are able, we are asking for your support. If you would like to help Kaiden and her family, please click on or copy/paste the link below to access Team Kaiden Central, where you can donate using your PayPal account, or major credit card: <http://members.dslextreme.com/users/jorgesen/TeamKaidenUpdate.htm>

Alternatively, donations may be sent to:

Kaiden's Neuroblastoma Fund  
c/o Rabobank  
146 West Los Angeles Ave  
Moorpark, CA 93021

Thanks for your help, and for spreading the word about this heroic little girl. And if you would, please say a prayer for Kaiden. If anyone can beat this disease, Kaiden can.

### **About Kaiden:**

Kaiden is a bright, energetic little girl, with an infectious personality. She likes Mickey & Minnie Mouse and the Disney princesses; her favorite color is purple; she likes to watch Dora the Explorer and loves to play with her brother and friends. Her fourth birthday is July 30. She is hoping to go to Sea World and wants to return to preschool with her friends.



Please contact Nancy Jorgesen at [njorgesen@yahoo.com](mailto:njorgesen@yahoo.com) if you would like to participate in Team Kaiden activities (blood donation, meals, fun activities for Kaiden, fundraising events, support for Kaiden's family, etc.), THANK YOU!!!