



Yellow Door FOUNDATION

This Month at Yellow Door

**JoAnne: One of Charlottesville's
"Distinguished Dozen"**

We Welcome Jaiden

Best Wishes to Emilee as She Heads Home

Catching up with Charlotte

Holidays at the Apartments



**4,258 nights of free
lodging!**



**For 58 pediatric
patients**



Along with 196 family members!



Families travel an average of 119+ miles



Stay an average of 71 days

"Distinguished Dozen"



Yellow Door founder and executive director, JoAnne McTague, was honored earlier this month as one of Charlottesville's

"Distinguished Dozen." The Daily Progress interviewed JoAnne asking about the Yellow Door journey. As we approach the fourth anniversary of opening the doors to our first apartment, it is amazing to look back at all that has happened since February 2018.

You can read the article [HERE](#).

Welcome Jaiden



Jaiden had been a completely healthy 13-year-old boy when he suddenly became very ill. He experienced liver failure within a few days of becoming sick. Fortunately, he was able to get a liver transplant very quickly. However, a side effect of his transplant was Aplastic Anemia, a rare condition where the body stops producing new blood cells. This condition decreased his platelet count prohibiting some wounds from healing.

He came to UVA Children's to get the best possible care. Doctors are monitoring him but ultimately he may require a bone marrow transplant to treat his anemia. Mom is staying at the Baer-Hart House while doctors decided the best course of treatment for this young man.

Best Wishes to Emilee!



Emilee's parents share her story:

"Our story started in March 2021 when our then 14 year old daughter was diagnosed with Ewings Sarcoma. To say we were shocked was an understatement considering our oldest Daughter was just coming out from her own journey with stage 3 stomach cancer!! We were completely devastated, in shock and scared!

We want to thank all the people at Yellow Door for providing our family with a temporary home away from home. It helped tremendously as anyone in the cancer world knows the C word will drain all your finances and fast! We will never forget your help in our time of need.

Emilee wrapped up chemo in December 2021 and finished treatment completely, ending in radiation, this past week. In March she will have

her next set of scans, which we will continue to pray that this ugly beast never knocks on our door again."

Emilee and her family stayed at Rosie's Place for three and a half months during her treatment. We wish Emilee all the best as she heads home to continue healing with the help of her furry friend!

Catching up with Charlotte



You may remember this little princess from the fall. She was admitted to UVA Children's at only nine days old when she began experiencing heart problems. While at UVA Children's, doctors diagnosed two heart defects and she underwent surgery to repair both. Her parents stayed with Yellow Door at the VOGA House while she recuperated in the hospital.

We are happy to share that Charlotte is thriving and celebrated her First Christmas surrounded by family.

Her grandparents wrote Yellow Door:

"We as grandparents of Charlotte cannot thank you and the Yellow Door Foundation enough for all you did for Alexandra and Ryan. It was great comfort knowing Alexandra and Ryan had a wonderful place to stay that

was close by to Charlotte and without the financial worry.

Thank you again for everything! We will be forever indebted to you and the Yellow Door Foundation!"

Community Partners Making a Difference at the Holidays

SHENVALEE GOLF CLUB, LAKESIDE BOOKS AND CROSS KEYS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY



New Yellow Door friends, Justin and Melissa, organized a holiday stuffed animal collection at Shenvalee Golf Club and Lakeside Books. They collected over 300 stuffed animals for Yellow Door families and other UVA Children's pediatric patients. They drove a truck full of cuddly animals (wrapped by Cross Keys Construction Company) down to Stone Creek Village in mid-December before returning the following week dressed as Mr. and Mrs. Claus to distribute to all pediatric patients in the hospital, eliciting HUGE smiles. **We are so thankful for these new friends of Yellow Door!**

UVA HOSPITAL RADIATION ONCOLOGY DEPARTMENT GIVING TREE

Last month we shared UVA Hospital's Radiation Oncology Department created a giving tree to collect items for Yellow Door Foundation. To say the collection was overwhelming is an understatement. **Sincere thanks to our friend Sue Gehr for organizing. We were so touched by the department's generosity this holiday season.**



RIVER CITY LENDING

The River City Lending team out of Richmond provides ongoing financial support for our families. **This Christmas, the team also provided gifts not only for our patients, but for siblings, parents and grandparents!**

Toys, books, very generous gift cards and even a basketball hoop were all **hand delivered by their elves, John and Kenna!**

Find Out How YOU Can Open Doors



The need for free lodging options is growing at UVA Children's. **Yellow Door is hoping to answer the call by opening the doors to a sixth apartment in 2022.**

We are currently looking for an apartment sponsor. Please contact JoAnne if you are able to support the Yellow Door mission and help families facing serious pediatric illness.

Follow us for more updates



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