



**Yellow & Door**  
**FOUNDATION**

## **This Month at Yellow Door**

**September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

**YDF cancer families: Helena, Chloe, Nora**

**In Memoriam: Margie**

**Welcome Magnolia & Grace**

**Check In With Alex**

*Fall Raffle Open to ALL:*

**Charlottesville Golf Package**

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**7,315 nights of free  
lodging!**



**For 88 pediatric patients**



***Along with 295 family members!***



**Families travel an  
average of 123 miles**



**Stay an average of  
84 days**

**Childhood Cancer Awareness Month**

A yellow ribbon is tied in a loop, with the ends hanging down. The text "NATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH" is centered over the ribbon.

# NATIONAL **CHILDHOOD CANCER** AWARENESS MONTH

- Approximately 1 in 285 children in the U.S. will be diagnosed with cancer before their 20th birthday.
- Each year in the U.S., an estimated 15,780 children aged 0-19 are diagnosed with cancer.
- Every three minutes a family hears the devastating words that their child has been diagnosed with cancer.

**Yellow Door joins the American Childhood Cancer Organization (ACCO) and groups all across the country to raise awareness for childhood cancer this month** in the hopes to support research, provide resources to children and their families, and shape policy.

Yellow Door has provided a comfortable and convenient home away from home for 29 cancer families averaging 135 nights per stay. **Your generous support enables us to continue supporting cancer families during challenging times. Thank you!**

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## Check In with Yellow Door's Current Cancer Families.



**HELENA:** We are happy to welcome back Helena and her dad, Rob, to "The Nest" **after traveling to Cincinnati in July where she underwent a stem cell transplant with her brother as the donor.**

Helena wished to return "home" to Yellow Door for recovery and continued monitoring at UVA. She and dad plan to be at The Nest for another couple of months. Her wonderful grandma, Laura, is a regular visitor. We are hopeful for a full recovery.

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**CHLOE:** Chloe and family have called the **Dreamer Apartment home since early April.** She is undergoing treatment for stage 4 kidney cancer. Currently she is finishing up a 5-day chemo treatment and hoping that it doesn't cause the GI issues she's experienced with previous chemo treatments.

Chloe's treatment has been tough on her little body but she is a warrior and keeps a smile on her face.



**NORA:** Mom gives this update, "Nora has completed two rounds of chemotherapy and is taking an oral chemotherapy medicine twice daily. **Her tumor has shrunk 10 cm since we first arrived at UVA!** She's doing well but since her cancer is so rare in infants, future plans for her care are being made week by week. We don't always know what is coming next. **In the meantime she is doing what normal 3 month olds do. She is babbling and LOVES to laugh and smile! She is also starting to roll onto her side!"**

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## **In Memoriam: Margie**

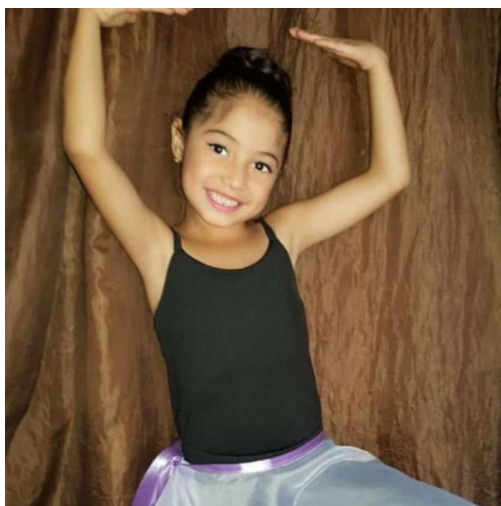


**It is with a heavy heart that we share the passing of Margie. Margie and her family moved from Honduras to the United States when it became clear Margie would require a heart transplant.** They stayed with family in Arlington, VA before coming to UVA Health Children's in early April. Margie waited for close to six weeks before receiving her first heart transplant. Unfortunately that heart failed; but she received a second heart just two weeks later. However, her lungs were never able to fully recover and she passed away in late August. The family stayed in the VOGA Apartment and soon came to consider Charlottesville as home.

Margie, the eldest of three siblings, radiated a profound light within her family and those around her. Despite her short life, she possessed a remarkably beautiful soul, which shone brightly even in the face of adversity. Her kindness and grace left an indelible mark on everyone fortunate enough to know her. Margie's social worker, on numerous occasions, expressed that she was among her all-time favorite patients. As we grieve her loss, we extend our deepest condolences to her family during this difficult period. **Despite the language barrier, the emotions of grief, compassion, and love transcend linguistic boundaries, and we are hopeful they feel the love from the Yellow Door Family during this difficult time.**

The family shares:

*"On behalf of the Andino Barahona family and Ramirez family and especially Margie Andino, proudly our wonderful daughter, we want to deeply thank 'Puertas Amarillos' for the great support received throughout this process in which they were able to provide us with a home while we went through a health process with our daughter. We would like to see the Yellow Door Foundation grow every day to be able to help many more people."*





# Welcome Magnolia and Grace



**MAGNOLIA ("MAGGIE"):** Not only did we welcome Magnolia and family to Fox Hollow last month, but we are excited to wish her a very happy 2nd birthday! She received the



gift of life this year and we are hopeful her new kidney will ensure a happy and healthy year for her.

Maggie was diagnosed in utero with bilateral multi-cystic kidneys which is almost always fatal. The family was told that she would most likely only survive a few hours after birth. She defied the odds. Maggie spent five weeks in the NICU before beginning weekly dialysis treatments at seven-weeks-old. The family knew dialysis was not a cure and she would require a kidney transplant in order to survive.

**That life-saving gift of a donor kidney came on August 5. Maggie is steadily making a strong recovery** and the family, including five older siblings, returned home to Lynchburg earlier this week but not before her older siblings enjoyed a visit from the Free Book Bus.





**GRACE:** We welcomed newborn Grace, her parents, and brother Wyatt to our Rosie's Place apartment earlier this month. Before her birth, doctors knew Grace would have heart issues, but they weren't prepared for Choanal Atresia, a narrowing or blockage of the nasal passageway that results in difficulty breathing. She is undergoing surgery this week to correct that.

Grace will then require future surgery for her heart condition Tetralogy of Fallot, which is a combination of four congenital heart defects: ventricular septal defect (VSD), pulmonary stenosis, a misplaced aorta and a thickened right ventricular wall (right



ventricular hypertrophy). This combination of heart defects usually results in a lack of oxygen-rich blood reaching the body.

The family will be able to stay close by until Grace is stable enough to go home.



**WYATT:** Here is Wyatt, Grace's brother, who loves the pool at Stone Creek Village. His folks said he's been such a trooper with visits to the hospital, and his pool time is the way he gets his "wiggles" out.

## Alex Receives a Donor Heart





You may remember Alex who we welcomed in July when Alex came to UVA for an LVAD, a device that assists the left ventricle. **A heart transplant would be required for survival but Alex desperately wished to see the band, Ghost, perform in concert.** UVA gave the green light and Alex was able to attend the show and then added to the transplant list.

**Alex received a donor heart a week ago and remains in the hospital.** Alex's dad and grandma just checked into our VOGA Apartment to be nearby during the next few critical weeks of recovery.

We are thankful Alex got to see the concert and are hopeful for a full recovery.

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A photograph of a white golf ball on a tee, set against a blurred green background of grass. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

## Yellow Door Foundation CHARLOTTESVILLE GOLF PACKAGE RAFFLE

**The golf tournament is SOLD OUT! However, tickets for the Yellow Door Fall Raffle are still available.**

## ***"Charlottesville Golf Package"***

**RAFFLE IS OPEN TO ALL**

Winning ticket will be drawn at the conclusion of our 3rd Annual Tournament, but winner does NOT need to be present to win.

### ***Package includes:***

Two-night stay for two at Boar's Head Resort

Foursome with carts at Birdwood Golf Club

Foursome at Farmington Country Club

*Over \$1,800.00 value*

Tickets:

1 for \$30

2 for \$50

5 for \$100

**[Buy Raffle Tickets Here](#)**

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# Come Visit Us to See Your Impact First-Hand



**Baer-Hart House**

*If you would like to visit a Yellow Door Apartment to meet families and see first-hand what your support does, or volunteer your time and talents:*

***Please contact JoAnne: 434-953-9123***

**[Donate Here](#)**

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## Follow us for more updates



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