



Dear Educator,

My name is Sarah Vaughn and I am a healthy 13-year old girl. During my kindergarten year, when I was 5 years old, something very unexpected and horrible happened to me. After several weeks of tests and numerous doctors' visits, we learned that I had Leukemia. I basically had to give up the next 3 years of my life to the doctors at the UW Children's Hospital so that they could cure me of this horrible disease. I went through a lot of chemotherapy, awful shots, a lot of pills everyday, feeling sick most of the time, losing my hair twice, spinal taps, and a lot of time in the hospital due to high fevers. I know it was not only hard on me, but also very hard on my family. We never knew when I would become sick and would have to be taken to the hospital.



Once I was cured of this horrible disease, I decided that I needed to do something to help other children that have to stay in the hospital. No child should ever have to go through what I went through. A couple years ago, I asked my classmates and teachers to help me, and raised a little over \$100. My goal last year was to raise more, so I brought in a bucket, and ended up raising \$541 from the 26 middle school students, parents and faculty at Immaculate Heart of Mary School in Monona. I was able to raise this money in only one day!

This year, it would be great if your school could help out too. From November 5 – 16, the new American Family Children's Hospital's is having a fundraising campaign called **"Everyone's Got Change"** to benefit the hospital's patients and families. Last year, some 41 schools did fundraisers through Rise Up for Kids that supported many patient and family services, including family meals, transportation, toys and games! Check out if your school is listed on the Rise Up page of www.nofinergift.org. If you can't do the "Everyone's Got Change" campaign, there are many other ideas on the website. Everyone's got change in their pocket, let's throw it in a bucket and see how we can make the lives of sick children and their families a little happier.

Thanks for your support,

Sarah Vaughn

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For more information about Rise Up for Kids, please visit www.nofinergift.org or contact Kylee Carolli Malik at (608) 890-9308 or kmalik@uwhealth.org.