

Written by **Raven Clabough** on December 6, 2021

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The Goodness of America

The Gift of Sight

An anonymous donor made a life-changing donation to help a seven-year-old Oregon girl who lost her vision as a result of brain cancer.

Raelyn Miller-Ramirez of Portland began feeling lethargic and having issues with her balance at just six years old, so her parents took her to the doctor, Raelyn's mother, Chantel Miller, told KGW8. Initially, the doctors believed Raelyn suffered from vertigo, but a trip to the emergency room in September 2020 would change everything. It was then the Millers learned Raelyn had brain cancer.

"The tumor was blocking her spinal fluid from traveling back and forth and that was causing her balance to be off," Miller said.

What's more, the tumor was causing vision loss. "That was causing her brain to swell, which crushed her optic nerve that made her lose her vision."

And while Raelyn is, by the grace of God, cancer-free, her loss of sight is an unfortunate life-long effect.

"We have our struggle days where things are hard and she gets frustrated because she just wants to see again, but all we can do is put things in front of her to help her," Miller told KGW.

But thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, Raelyn was blessed with a low vision magnifying glass on November 4 to help her see some of the time. The device will make it possible to do some of the things most children take for granted, such as reading, writing, and drawing. It even scans and reads books and handwritten letters back to her.

"Her vision range is only about 6 inches from her face," Miller told KGW8. "So that's why the magnification is so incredible, because closer to her face, with the bigger letters, she can see it."

The donation came through Campaign One at a Time, an organization devoted to ensuring "no child battling a severe illness ever feels alone." A donor gifted all the funds necessary for the device even before the organization was able to launch an official campaign for Raelyn, Breitbart reported.

According to Raelyn's fundraising page, Team Cole, Raelyn is "excited to be cancer free and enjoy the rest of her best life."

Back the Blue

Seven-year-old Abrielle Mundahl of West, Texas, made it her mission to raise money for first responders in her community as a display of gratitude for all they do.

Mundahl's modest goal was to raise \$100 selling water, baked goods, and painted rocks at her own fundraising event. She set aside two weeks to prepare for the event, hoping to make enough painted rocks and baked goods to help meet her goal. But by the end of the fundraiser, she had raised a whopping \$1,787.

Abrielle had wanted to do charity work ever since she learned about it in school at five years old. But COVID put a wrench in those plans until recently, when Abrielle came up with the idea of hosting her own fundraiser — "Back the Blue" — which took place on October 30, <u>WND.com</u> reported.





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The funds were donated to the City of West Police Department, West EMS, and the West Fire Department.

"I felt like I just accomplished something that I didn't know I was going to accomplish, and it was unexpected," she said proudly as she presented the checks on November 5.

According to a Facebook post by the City of West Police Department, which announced it would use the funds for community policing efforts, Mundahl surpassed her goal with the help of generous donors.

Her amazing efforts landed her a "Challenge Coin" from the City of West Police Department, a true honor in that small town.

Abrielle has caught the fundraising bug, and hopes to do more in the future, KWTX reported.

Take My Wish

Mississippi teen Abraham Olagbegi donated his "Make-a-Wish" to feed the homeless one day a month for an entire year.

Abraham was just 12 years old last year when he found out that he had a rare blood disorder and required a bone-marrow transplant. As he battled his illness, he learned he qualified as a recipient for Make-a-Wish, but instead of using it on himself, he decided he was going to use it to help others.

When Abraham told his mother, Miriam, of his decision, she was proud, but wanted to be sure he did not want to use the wish for something he really wanted, such as a PlayStation. Abraham insisted he would rather use his wish to feed the homeless.

"So, of course, we weren't going to miss an opportunity like that because we always tried to instill giving into our children," Miriam told CBS News.

On the third Thursday of every month, Make-a-Wish's Mississippi chapter coordinates with local charities and businesses to feed up to 80 homeless people in Jackson's Poindexter Park. Abraham's wish will continue until August 2022.

"We were excited," Linda Sermons of Make-a-Wish Mississippi told WLBT News 3 during the first event in September. "This is our first philanthropic wish in our 20-plus years of the chapter in the state. [It's] a huge milestone for us, but also this is the first meal that Abraham is able to serve."

"When the homeless people get the plate, some of them would come back and sing to us and thank us," Abraham told CBS News. "It just really feels good, it warms our hearts — and my parents always taught us that it's a blessing to be a blessing."

Meanwhile, Abraham's prognosis is promising after a successful transplant and an intense chemotherapy schedule. And with Abraham's health restored, he and his family intend to continue their mission of helping the homeless long after the "wish" runs out.

"We're very excited to be able to continue on this endeavor. It's just so rewarding," Miriam told CBS News. "If I was out there on the streets, homeless, I would want somebody at some point to think of me and to do something special for me, so, that's what I try to instill in my kids."



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