

SEPTEMBER 2018



The Piggyback Foundation

Carrying Families Through Times of Need

ESTABLISHED 2007

SUPPORTING PIGGYBACK



**NOVEMBER 4TH -
Cutting for the Cause
Christian Roberts Salon & Day Spa
1-4pm
Call 419-668-8086 for an
Appointment**



**NOVEMBER 10TH - Piggyback 5k
celebrating Holly Sneider
Milan Town Center
Fun Run 9:40am 5 K 10:10am
Signmeup.com/125216**

MEETING THE NEEDS OF FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN 2018-
Families Supported - 90
Children Supported - 185**

**Since 2007-
Families Supported - 470
Children Supported - 820**

**97% funds given to the foundation
go directly to families in need**



Our Mission:

The Piggyback Foundation helps families maintain a sense of normalcy during times of life threatening illness by providing funds to meet the emotional, educational and physical needs of the children.



Ways to help The Piggyback Foundation

Shop and Donate to When Pigs Fly. The shop financially supports the Piggyback Foundation.

smile.amazon.com Are you an Amazon shopper? If you are consider making the Piggyback Foundation your cause. Amazon donates 1% of your total purchase to our cause.

Personal and Corporate donations are still needed. Although we work everyday to raise funds through When Pigs Fly, the demand is increasing. Your personal or corporate donations go directly to families in need.

Follow us on ...



thepiggybackfoundation



WhenPigsFlyPBF

PAGE 1

A Message from our Founder: Lisa Hiler



It has been my honor to serve the families and children of The Piggyback Foundation for over 10 years. I am and will always be humbled by the generosity of our community in supporting our neighbors and people in our community who are faced with cancer and other life threatening illnesses. I am blessed that my family and friends have worked along side me to fulfill the mission of our foundation.

As we know, beyond the science and the statics, the medicine and the treatments, are people, their challenges and triumphs. The cure for cancer will be found in laboratories and research hospitals, but the battle against cancer is fought in neighborhoods like yours and mine.

In order to fulfill the needs and give assistance to the ever rising number of families suffering, we must continue to grow and make changes to help meet these challenges.

In 2017, the foundation created Executive Board in addition to our Working Board. We hired our first employee Amy LaCivita. She has been training for the past year and has been an invaluable addition to our organization. This year, the board approved promoting Amy to Director of the foundation. Amy has experience and passion for helping others!

I look forward to seeing what the future holds for our foundation and how God guides us in serving our community, making it a better place to live and bring joy to those in need. I ask for your continued support in prayers and blessings.

Joyfully,

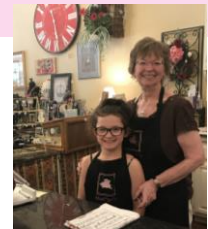
Lisa Hiler

Founder & Executive Director



Why I Support the Piggyback Foundation ...from Kathleen Theimer, one of our new shop managers...

Like most retired people I had extra time on my hands and needed something to do. A friend of mine told me about When Pigs Fly. I decided to check it out. After speaking with the ladies at the shop and learning about the Piggyback Foundation, I knew it was the right fit.



The next thing you know I became a volunteer. I have to say it was one of the best decisions I have ever made. I can't begin to tell you what a heart warming sense of fulfillment I have knowing I am a part, although a small part, of helping families find a bit of joy during a very difficult time in there lives. I can't even begin to imagine what they are going through but it is pretty wonderful we are there for them.

I also really enjoy working in the shop. It is a lot of fun and all the gals working there too, are great! It can get a little crazy at times, but everyone pulls together and we get things done!

I am happy to be a part of the Piggyback Family!

Kathleen Theimer



A message from our new Director: Amy LaCivita



I am extremely honored to be named the Director of The Piggyback Foundation. I've been married to my husband Jason for 17 years and have three children Evan (14), Addie (10), and Lauren (8). I have my Master's Degree from Tiffin University in forensic psychology and experience in helping abused and neglected children in Huron County. My education has helped me work with children and families but what helps me fit as Director of the Piggyback Foundation is also the experience I had first hand with cancer.

Just over three years ago I was diagnosed with stage 2 breast cancer. During my week off of treatment a friend took me shopping at When Pigs Fly in Norwalk, Ohio. I had never heard of this adorable store right on Main Street. A woman who gave me the story behind the shop greeted me. I was amazed that something like this existed in our community. I was given a flyer for their fundraiser Cutting for the Cause being held at Christian Roberts Salon and Spa. I learned more about the Piggyback Foundation and the financial support that When Pigs Fly gives to the foundation every month.

I was then given an application to apply to be a Piggyback family. I kept this application for a while not sure of how this organization could help me. I was a stay at home mom and my husband was an assistant principal and coach. We paid our mortgage and car payments as well as other monthly bills. What I soon learned was how costly travel back and forth from Cleveland could cost. My plastic surgeon was located in Beachwood, Ohio. I traveled every other week there from January of 2016 until my final reconstruction in April of 2017. I soon realized we didn't have much to spend on the extras: the \$350 for my son to play travel basketball, nights and weekends out with the family and other extra expenses. A friend of mine encouraged me to apply and said that I would have nothing to lose. A Piggyback board member contacted me. She gave me the news that the board had approved my application.

I quickly learned that the foundation was made up of amazing people who gave their time helping the children and families in our community faced with life threatening diseases like cancer. Whether it was by volunteering at When Pigs Fly, to donating household items to the shop, to personal and corporate donations. I was able to learn about the circle of giving. The community donates to the shop, the shop sells the item, and the money goes back to the community. So many wonderful people touched the foundation. I was learning that these board members had prior experience helping middle class families just like mine. They had a way of knowing what I needed before I even did. That's the beauty of this foundation. When they learned of my double mastectomy scheduled for December of 2015 founder Lisa Hiler asked if I had a recliner. I did not. The foundation purchased a new recliner for me to recover in the days and months to come. I was speechless. What they so selflessly gave without any strings attached. I was also reminded of the foundations motto of maintaining normalcy for children in the home when I told my son that he would have to wait until next year to play AAU basketball. Lisa stepped in and sponsored him that year and boy was she right. I watched my son grow as a player and saw that for all those months of dribbling and shooting that basketball was a way he coped with my illness. It was a gesture that paid dividends. Not only was he given an opportunity to develop as a player, but it gave me a reason to leave my home when most days were filled with extreme anxiety. I was not going to miss a game no matter how bald, how sick or how anxious I was feeling.

I was given another wonderful surprise before my second surgery that once again reminded me of the foundation's mission. An overnight for my husband and three children Easter weekend at Kalahari. With growing anxiety I was not able to focus on anything but the upcoming surgery. The Piggyback Foundation changed that! By having that precious time with my family made the next few days easier to live. For that moment I was able to forget my situation and focus on my family having fun. A night at Kalahari was not something we would have planned during that time. I was and still am extremely grateful for that opportunity.

I was approached by Lisa in 2016 about the possibility of coming to work for the foundation once my youngest was in school. I jumped at the idea of paying it forward and working with children and families just like mine. I had experience in social work with abused and neglected children and court contracting with the juvenile judge in court custody cases. I have always been in the helping profession, just a different group being served. I now had the opportunity to use my experience of my cancer journey to help those around me. I can never fill Lisa's shoe that's for sure, but as the Director I will put my heart and soul into helping those families just like mine.

"You know its God's work when many hands are touching it, and Piggyback has fingerprints all over it!"

Peyton's Story by Martha Long



Peyton discovered she had cancer when she was just 4 ½ years old. I met Peyton as a feisty little fighter with a twinkle in

her eyes in August of 2016.

She had a rare form of cancer behind her nose, Embryonal Rhabdomyosarcoma. Peyton was my very first family. I fell in love with her precocious and witty personality. Peyton's Daddy is her HERO. He persisted to take Peyton to Akron Children's Hospital after numerous ear infections and a visit to a hospital. Peyton coughed up what they thought was a blood clot. Peyton's Daddy didn't agree and took the so-called blood clot to Akron where it was tested and she was immediately diagnosed with cancer.

Peyton had surgery and extensive chemo to follow in Akron. She spent her 5th birthday in a Chicago hospital undergoing a special procedure for her rare cancer. The next 6 months were spent going back and forth to Akron enduring many chemo treatments and testing.

We celebrated Peyton's first year cancer free by going to a Fairy Garden where Peyton learned wished do come true! Peyton has participated in 4-H, T-Ball and will be getting her picture taken with our Super Heroes this fall.

One of our goals here at Piggyback is to bring a little joy to our families; however, little Peyton has brought us more joy than we would have ever imagined!

Sophia's Story by Julie Murdock



Sophia came to our Piggyback Family as an adorable 8 - month old girl

with significant heart defects and other serious health issues, which were causing a failure to thrive at her tender age. Having already undergone one complex heart surgery, she needed another heart surgery immediately.

After a successful operation and many follow up appointments, Sophia is a rambunctious toddler and doing better than her doctors had predicted!

However, just when Sophia received a clean bill of health, her mother, Bianca was diagnosed with Stage 3 Papillary Thyroid Carcinoma in April of this year. It looks like the cancer has been eliminated and that there is little chance of reoccurrence. God is good! The foundation is blessed to be a part of this family's life and to have helped them through this difficult time.



A thank you note from the Voltz Family...

To all Board Members, Volunteers, and Supporters of The Piggyback Foundation:

My wife - a recent cancer patient - learned of your organization through a nurse from University Hospitals Siedman Cancer Center at Firelands Regional Medical Center in Sandusky.

My wife was told to contact the foundation and then submit an application. Recently, our family was fortunate to receive word that The Piggyback Foundation would be willing to support our family in some manner. I cannot put in to words the impact your foundation has had in our lives in such a short amount of time. Our son who just turned 4 and daughter (2 1/2), were greeted during the home visit this week by two volunteers with small gifts, ultimately making both kids feel immediately comfortable. This showed me how well the organization truly understands the families you support.

A week or so prior, I was fortunate to have a genuine, in-depth conversation over the phone with Amy discussing our families situations, as well as the history, culture and philosophy of The Piggyback Foundation.

And just a couple weeks prior to that, my wife received a heartfelt letter in response to her application, including a check for groceries!

To say we are grateful is beyond an understatement; I cannot find the words to express our gratitude. During our home visit we were told all the ways The Piggyback Foundation has helped others in need. Just discussing the trials and tribulations with others who understand is helpful and therapeutic. But when we are told "we would like to ensure that your son is able to play soccer this session" or "we know you want both children to continue in Montessori school next year and want to help make that a reality", it literally brings tears to my eyes. It is a true Godsend.

This is a new experience for my family, one I never thought was possible - or even existed. My wife has been through so much and continues to fight every day, whether it be mental or physical. Having one less burden - even if it's just the ability to say "yes" to ice cream on a Friday night (instead of needing to save the money for another hospital bill) - makes a world of difference.

Even though there will be many more communications and actions between my family and your foundation, I needed to tell you how fortunate we feel to have your support. Tomorrow is Independence Day - a day to celebrate our country's freedom. As you know, some of those liberties feel as though they are taken away once effected by something as horrendous as cancer. But I want you to know, this will be an Independence Day our family will never forget; it's the first holiday since the disease where we have *something* in our corner that gives without taking, understands, and supports. That is The Piggyback Foundation. And for that, I say God Bless!

Rob Voltz



A message from our volunteer, Deb Hartley...

How and why I got involved with When Pigs Fly...

I went into the store in March to shop and was greeted by such wonderful people. They told me the mission statement. I was told they volunteer here, so I thought this is an awesome way to help children with cancer and their families. All of our volunteers are so amazing and like family. This has opened my heart to everyone I meet. I love to work knowing I am helping someone less fortunate to have a brighter day. I am so blessed to be a part of this outstanding foundation.

Help Support The Piggyback Foundation

Cutting for the Cause at Christian Roberts Salon and Day Spa has been held the first Sunday in November for the past 11 years. The event has raised almost \$90,000 for our foundation.

Matt and Lisa Herner, owners of the salon, have been a blessing and a support since 2006. They are founding members of Piggyback. And offered to host our first fundraiser at their Salon and Day Spa located at 15 W. Seminary Street in Norwalk.

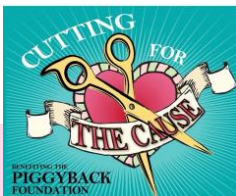
The ladies at the salon volunteer their time to cut hair, give massages, facials, pedicures, and manicures and 100% of the cost is donated to the foundation.

A silent auction and raffle is open for bidding at the salon the month of October. Items to bid on include an American Girl Doll, a vacation rental by the lake, Catering By Design Dinner Party, Wine Basket, K & K Home Interiors and many more. Stop in at the salon anytime after October 8th to place a bid or buy a raffle ticket.

Events like this are essential to our continued success in creating a positive impact on children and families in our community dealing with life threatening illnesses. Together we can make a difference, because every child loves a piggyback ride!

Sunday, November 4th 1-4pm

Call today for an appointment 419-668-8086!



The Piggyback 5K celebrating Holly Sneider is held the second Saturday in November.

There was a woman that lost her fight to cancer. She left such a profound mark in the community in which she lived. She had amazing friends and family surrounding her, fighting for her, loving her even beyond her passing.

Her friends in Milan thought of a way to celebrate her life, her family and accomplishments. This is how the tight knit community thought to celebrate her life.

A race, a memorable time to remember a great woman. She loved to run, and so the idea for a 5k came to honor her. To come again this year for the 6th year to honor her name, please register for the Piggyback 5k. The proceeds from this event will support the Piggyback Foundation who helped the Sneider family when Holly was ill. Your support will help us to continue providing children and families faced with life threatening illnesses such as cancer. Let's continue to honor the life of Holly Sneider. Please consider signing up for the race at www.signmeup.com/125216

The event will be held November 10th walk at 9:40 and run at 10:00 am!



We have a passion for helping people facing life-threatening illnesses like cancer. We can't do anything to change their diagnosis, we can only try to ease their stress and help them

Amy E. LaCivita
Director
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Norwalk, OH 44857

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information@thepiggybackfoundation.org

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FACEBOOK- Piggyback Foundation

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When Pigs Fly
Carlin Butts



When Pigs Fly

An Upscale Resale and Retail Shop
in support of
The Piggyback Foundation

31 E. Main Street
Norwalk, Ohio 44857
419-660-1932

Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10-6
Saturday 10-4
Sunday & Monday - Closed

 **When Pigs Fly Norwalk**

www.whenpigsflynorwalk.org

Accepting tax deductible donations of your gently used household furniture, decor, purses, scarves and jewelry, anytime, during store hours.



Opening soon...
When Pigs Fly Too
A Ladies Boutique
Carrying new and gently used purses, scarves, jewelry, new clothing, children's items & gifts
28 E. Main Street
Norwalk, Ohio



Help us Save Money
Sign up for our email and receive our newsletter online.

We are so excited!
Amy will be sending out a quarterly update on Piggyback, When Pigs Fly Fundraisers and Families!
Text your name and email to 419-577-1932
419-871-1143

Funded by private donations, fundraisers and When Pigs Fly Charitable Shop. To volunteer or donate visit our Website for more details.





The Piggyback Foundation
Carrying Families Through Times of Need Since 2007

Personal Reply

To: The Piggyback Foundation, P.O. Box 436, Norwalk, Ohio 44857

From:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____

____ I would like to partner with The Piggyback Foundation in support of families facing the challenge of maintaining normalcy for their children, when confronted with a life threatening illness, such as cancer. You can count on me to support the work of the foundation with a generous tax-deductible contribution of:

\$75. can cover Rec Center classes for a family with two children!

____ \$50.00 ____ \$25.00 ____ \$75.00 ____ \$100.00 ____ Other: \$ _____

Please make your check payable to: The Piggyback Foundation.

The Piggyback Foundation is a 501(C) (3) non-profit charitable organization.

All contributions are tax-deductible.

If you have any questions about your contribution, please call 419-577-1932.

____ Please sign me up for important e-mail updates regarding The Piggyback Foundation's work and our new online newsletter.

E-mail _____

____ In addition to my contribution, please have someone contact me to discuss volunteer opportunities.

The Piggyback Foundation, P.O. Box 436, Norwalk, Ohio 44857

www.thepiggybackfoundation.org

419-577-1932