



The Piggyback Foundation Newsletter

NOVEMBER
2024

Carrying Families Through Times of Need Since 2007

Dear Friends of the Piggyback Foundation,

As we approach the end of another year, I want to take a moment to reflect on all that we've accomplished together. Thanks to your unwavering support in 2024, we have supported over 70 families by building stronger family bonds and relieving parents overwhelmed by the financial burdens that illness brings to their home.

None of this would have been possible without incredibly generous people like you. Whether it is your time, talents, or financial resources you have given, you have made a difference. I want to express my sincere gratitude to every donor, volunteer, and partner for standing with us.

On behalf of the Piggyback Foundation, I wish you and your loved ones a joyful holiday season and a prosperous New Year. Let's continue to build a stronger community, giving hope to families in need —together.

Joyfully,
Lisa Hiler



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PBF Impact



	2024 So Far	2007-YTD
Dollars Raised.....	\$147,277	\$2,165,564
Dollars to Families.....	\$138,088	\$1,810,374
Families Served.....	65	806
Children Served.....	131	1,762

This Year, The Piggyback Foundation...

- Gave out \$3,500 in scholarships
- Assisted with back-to-school funds:
 - School fees
 - Driver's Ed fees
 - 5 computers
 - 4-H fees
 - Graduation expenses
 - Homecoming and Prom outfits
- Helped support children participating in basketball, football, baseball, volleyball, soccer, horseback therapy lessons, band, dance, cross country, track, and wrestling
- Provided funds for local trips to Put-in-Bay, Hocking Hills, Kalahari, and Toledo Zoo and for helicopter rides, fair passes, and fishing licenses
- Sent seven children to Camp Patmos
- Provided money for a family vacation to the Grand Canyon
- Raised \$13,145 to help families during Christmas

2024:

94% of funds raised went directly to families in need.

6% was spent on administration expenses/fundraising



Brynlee's Story



Brynlee was diagnosed with B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia just one month after her 3rd birthday. She was treated as high-risk for

a full year, traveling to appointments 4-5 days a week and enduring many patient stays. The family bags were always packed in case of an emergency visit.

"She has been the true definition of a warrior," Brynlee's mom, Lindsey, said.

Brynlee's family had heard of The Piggyback Foundation and were connected through a friend. Lindsey praises The Foundation for providing her family with a community of people who understood and were there for them.

"It put my mind at ease being home all the time, knowing there's a community right down the road from us."

The Foundation's retail shop, When Pigs Fly, became one of little Brynlee's fun things to do.

"Even while in treatment, we'd pop into the store. She wore a mask, and everyone was so understanding. It was our special place to be during treatment and would brighten her day."

Brynlee entered her maintenance stage a couple days before her 4th birthday and is scheduled to be done in March 2026. She is currently back in Preschool.

"Her smile never faltered. One of the very first things the hospital told us when we went was not to be surprised at how resilient kids are. Now I see what they really meant."

The Piggyback Foundation is so blessed to be able to share a part in amazing stories like Brynlee's. She is an incredible little girl, and we all love her.

"Piggyback friends became family. We knew we weren't alone. The generosity and kindness is more than I could have ever imagined. We are so incredibly grateful to The Piggyback Foundation."

Bob's Story

Bob was a beloved teacher who taught at Willard High School for 27 years. He was diagnosed with cancer in October of 2022. His family reached out to the Piggyback Foundation for support during this time.

"The Foundation supported our family by doing their best to understand our needs and hardships." Bob's wife, Bettie, said. "They supported our daughters through sports and in so many other ways: gas cards, gift cards, checks, gift baskets, and meals."

Despite going through multiple radiations and chemo treatments, Bob passed away on April 1, 2024, leaving behind his wife, Bettie, and two daughters, Emma and Ellie. The Foundation continues to support the family as they grieve his passing.

"When you suffer the loss of a family member, you are immediately showered with meals, groceries, visits, phone calls, and cards. But as time passes, everyone goes back to their normal lives. This is where the

family needs to feel supported and is exactly what the Piggyback Foundation delivers!"

The Piggyback Foundation does its best to provide love and support to families enduring such hardships. Memorial donations in Bob's name, holidays, and birthday gifts are ways that continued support is given to his remaining family.

"The Foundation has made such a loving impression on me and my family through their unwavering kindness and actions. Their continued support has been heaven-sent and will never be forgotten."





When Pigs Fly

Upscale Resale & Retail Shops

53% of The Piggyback Foundation Funding is raised at *When Pigs Fly*
100% of *When Pigs Fly* earnings goes to The Piggyback Foundation



When Pigs Fly

LOCATION:

31 E. Main Street, Norwalk, Ohio

HOURS: Tuesday – Saturday
10:00-4:00

PHONE: Shop: 419-660-1932
Cell: 419-577-1932

When Pigs Fly by the Lake

LOCATION:

509 & 511 Main Street, Huron, Ohio

HOURS: Wednesday – Saturday
10:00-4:00

PHONE: Shop: 419-616-5288
Cell: 419-602-2661



*Donations accepted during business hours on Tuesdays,
Thursdays, and Saturdays*

Why Volunteer



Jackie Norris

Jackie Norris has been involved with *When Pigs Fly* for over five years and is currently a manager.

Jackie has two favorite parts about working at the store: the people and the mission. She loves working with the public as well as her coworkers.

“There are great friendships going on between all of the volunteers every day. Everyone supports and cares for each other.

“Our mission is my other favorite part. That’s why I would stay here forever. We’ve helped a lot of people and a lot more people need help.”

Volunteering at *When Pigs Fly* won’t just give you a job. It will give you a community and an opportunity to make a difference. “The volunteers know that they’re doing something that matters in the community. They can feel good about it, just like it makes me feel good.”

Scherl Koch

When Scherl retired from teaching, she decided she needed a job with a purpose at least one day a week. After seeing *When Pigs Fly* and learning how much the organization did to help children, she knew where she wanted to be.

Scherl has been volunteering at *When Pigs Fly* for eight years and looks forward to coming in every Thursday.

“We see great stories come through here every day. *When Pigs Fly* helped a good friend of mine, I could see the brightness it brought to her life. It’s good knowing we’re helping so many.”

Scherl says you never have to feel guilty about buying anything in the shop because it's for such a good purpose.

“It’s a very heartfelt job. It’s not about the money, but the joy it gives us. That’s much better than monetary success.”





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:

_____ \$25.00 _____ \$50.00 _____ \$75.00

_____ \$100.00 _____ \$300.00 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.

