

Foundation for Emma

Parents of Fairfax Station girl, 7, start to raise money for pediatric cancer research.

By Steve Hibbard

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Emma Jordon, 7, of Fairfax Station died from Wilms' Tumor, a form of kidney cancer, on Sept. 18 during her Make-a-Wish trip to Disney World.

"She was such a strong girl, and an inspiration for the community," said her father Stephen Jordon, 49. The "petite ball of energy and blond hair" was bubbly and vivacious, who loved to play lacrosse, do ballet and Brownies. So to honor his daughter, he and wife Elena, 44, are establishing Emma's Foundation in her name.

< WANT>to raise money for Wilms' Tumor, a pediatric cancer that, unlike some high-profile cancers like breast cancer with fund-raising arms like Race for the Cure, Wilms' doesn't receive much attention.

"My thought would be, could we use Emma's memory to raise awareness for pediatric cancer?" said Jordon.

As part of the foundation, they formed the grassroots Emma Jordon Memorial "Kids Fighting Cancer Lacrosse Days," which is a series of community fund-raisers involving sports and children. The first ones on Oct. 12 and 19 were lacrosse clinics that raised \$1,200 at Orange Hunt Elementary. The clinics are for children ages 6-16, three for girls and three for boys. Guest lacrosse coaches and athletes from the University of Maryland, Catholic University and GMU offer their pro-bono expertise in clinics to teach lacrosse fundamentals. The next are slated for Sunday, Nov. 2, from 2-4 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 9 from 2-4 p.m. at Orange Hunt Elementary. Cost is \$25 and all the money is donated to the charity. To join, go to www.rebelax.com. This is the umbrella Web site to sign up and register. Call 703-302-9271.

Between Dec. 29-Jan. 2, Velocity sports and health club in Springfield is offering winter fitness clinics, donating its facility and instructors' time.



Family Photo

Emma Jordon, 7, died on her Make-a-Wish trip on Sept. 18.



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