

To whom it may concern,

My name is Tara Miles and I am writing this letter to explain what the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) means to us and why we do the Zoey Fest each year. Let me start from the beginning. My husband, Scottie, and I welcomed our first child, Bryce, in August 2000. Bryce was a healthy baby boy. Almost 7 years later, our baby girl, Zoey, was born on March 25, 2007. Zoey was the missing piece to complete our family. When Zoey was 11 days old, we began our very unexpected journey. During Zoey's first month, we found out she was born with one kidney and stage 3 chronic kidney disease along with mild-to-moderate hearing loss. We later found out, that Zoey has what is known as BOR syndrome, which affects your kidneys and hearing. Zoey spent a lot of her first year in and out of the hospital. That was a rough year for our entire family. We spent many days unsure of what the future held for us.

During that first year, we had so much support from family, friends and even complete strangers. We had a friend tell us about The National Kidney Foundation and the walk they do every year to raise money for research and awareness. Once Zoey was home and doing well, we did some research on the NKF and decided as a family that we wanted to give back in some way, so we signed up for our first kidney walk. That was just the beginning of Team Miles for Zoey Jade.

Team Miles for Zoey Jade was shown so much support and love from so many. Then in 2011, our cousins, Brance and Traci Gould, surprised us at their grand opening of Forest Edge Winery. They had named a wine, Zoey Rose', after our sweet Zoey and every bottle that was sold, they would donate \$1 to the NKF in her name. We felt honored and blessed that they would do something so amazing to support the National Kidney Foundation. That same year we started our main fundraiser, Zoey Fest.

Zoey Fest is an all-day family event with lots of fun activities and raffle items. In the last 9 years, Team Miles for Zoey Jade has raised over \$70,000 for The National Kidney Foundation. We couldn't do that without the support of family, friends, and our community. This will be our 10th year for Team Miles for Zoey Jade and we want it to be our biggest year yet. That is where you can help, we need donations for raffles and silent auction items to help make Zoey Fest a success. If you would be willing to donate, we would greatly appreciate it. Zoey Fest is on August 26, 2017 at Forest Edge Winery in Bullitt County.

Zoey is doing well living with chronic kidney disease. She has had a few obstacles, but doesn't let that stop her from being an outgoing and active 10-year-old girl. Zoey is very involved in gymnastics and has a great love for music and art. When the day comes, we know that the National Kidney Foundation will be there to help Zoey in any way they can.

Today, there are more than 120,000 people waiting for an organ transplant with over 105,000 awaiting a kidney. Your business has the opportunity to support the Zoey Fest through a charitable donation of a gift certificate, product or service. All proceeds will support The NKF mission *to prevent kidney and urinary tract diseases, improve the health and well-being of individuals and families affected by these diseases, and increase the availability of all organs for transplantation.* We hope that you will help us have our most successful year yet by donating to Zoey Fest. If you are interested in donating, please contact myself at 502-741-2408 or by email at tbmiles421@yahoo.com. Thank you for taking the time to read our story! We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thank you,

Tara Miles

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