



WITHOUT
END

WILLIE BEE
FOUNDATION
EST. 2017

The Willie Bee Foundation is entering its fourth year as a nonprofit. Our mission is to ease the burdens placed on families whose children have life-threatening illnesses. It is an honor and privilege to help each child, sibling, and family that we do. Every family is unique. Therefore, what we do for each family differs. We are fortunate enough to work through medical providers whom we trust and who get to know families well enough to know what could truly make a difference in their lives. It becomes even more special when we get to know many of these families, personally ourselves, so that we can continue to support them as needs arise.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

We have partnered with a variety of locally owned businesses to help the families we serve. We are lucky to have them on our side, and we value these relationships.

Splatters Studios in Spencerport allows us to give families opportunities for making keepsakes. Dan rolls slabs of clay for our handprint plaques, Kate decorates the plaques and prints based on the families' wishes, and they also provide kits for families to paint as a family in the comfort of their own homes.

We are grateful to the **Kiwanis Club of Spencerport** for donating their portion of the Ogden Parks and Recreation 5K to our foundation for the second year in a row. They presented us with a check in January for \$3100!

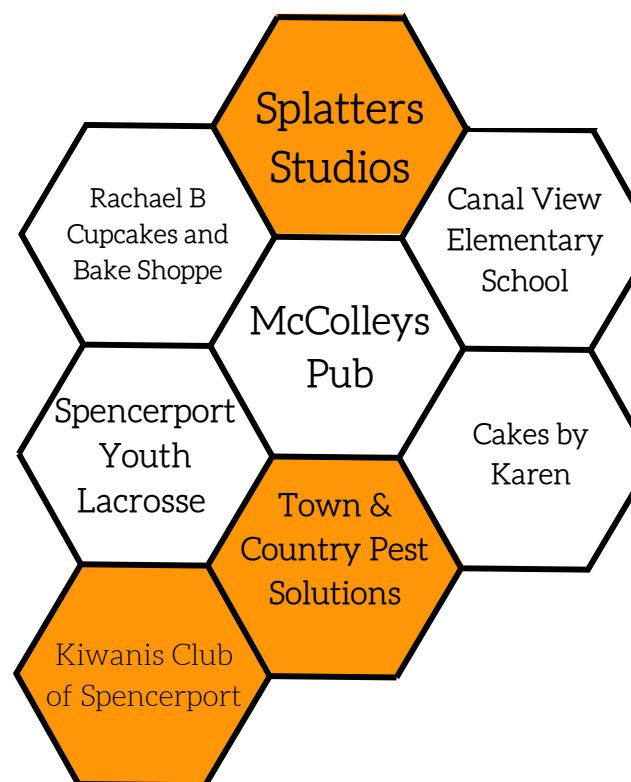
McColleys Pub in Spencerport donated the use of their backroom as well as donated the food to give one family a memorable evening during the Green Bay Packers game that Aaron Jones wore the cleats that Ethan had designed. **Cakes by Karen**, also of Spencerport, re-designed Ethan's cleat in the form of cake!

Town and Country Pest Solutions came to a family's aid during their son's death vigil. Bees were getting into their siding and they responded immediately to take care of the problem.

The faculty and staff at **Canal View Elementary School** in Spencerport donated their Secret Santa gifts once again to our foundation. They bought a variety of presents that are given out to the Nurse Practitioners we work through to have on hand as well as the child life specialists. We also kept a number of the gifts to have on hand as requests come in over the course of the year.

Spencerport Youth Lacrosse collected over \$700 worth of gift cards and donations for our foundation!

Rachael of **Rachael B Cupcakes and Bake Shoppe** has been a steadfast supporter of our foundation. Any time we need desserts for a family, we contact her and she takes care of us. Rachael provided the desserts for our first gala in 2018, and she has been by our side ever since.





FAMILY TIME

Our focus this past summer was to give families time together to make memories that would last a lifetime. We partnered with **Mike Cuzzupoli** of **ZuperEventZ** to offer three families inflatables and sweet treats. Two families enjoyed an outdoor movie night complete with a popcorn machine, snow cone machine, and candy. One family enjoyed an inflatable water slide, snow cone machine, and a visit from Star Wars characters. In addition, we rented a lake house on Conesus and split a week there between two families. We stocked the kitchen with all their favorites, left goodies for the kids, and had outdoor movie equipment set up for

a movie night under the stars. Finally, we were also able to send two families this past year to Great Wolf Lodge to give them an all-inclusive trip away as a family. Families stayed for two nights and three days, all meals were paid for, and families were given Wolf passes to ensure they had as much fun as possible and could participate in as many activities as possible.

SIBLINGS SUFFER TOO



We have also maintained our support for siblings of sick kiddos. We know firsthand how much siblings are affected. They suffer too, and we know that parents are trying so hard to balance the needs of their sick child with the needs of any siblings there might be. We have watched our own son, as well as other kids, put their siblings' needs first instead of thinking of themselves.

Bruce: Bruce made the decision to go fully remote this year as well as forego playing on his hockey team so he would be able to visit his baby sister in the PICU once a month. With the help of Jeanne Epping and Lake Shore Hockey Rink, we were able to offer Bruce some ice time so that he could get back on the ice to skate and play hockey. Our son, Luc, and the goalie on his team, Nico, had a great time playing around with Bruce.

Israel: Israel is one of five siblings. When his younger brother, Ethan, was diagnosed his love for playing baseball was put on hold. Thanks to the help of the U of R baseball coach, Joe Reina, we were able to provide Israel with updated baseball equipment that he can grow into, and once life resumes to normal and camps are held again, Israel will be attending the U of R baseball camp during the summer.

HOUSECLEANING

What better way to ease the burden of a mother than to help with keeping her home clean? Starting in January, we supported four families with bi-monthly house cleaning services through Flower City Cleaning. Once Covid hit, we had to reign in our budget; the house cleaning services were something that we needed to cease. But then we found **Michelle**, an incredible human being with a huge heart who said she wanted to help us. She has been amazing for the families whose four homes we have put her in. She has gone above and beyond to help them with whatever they may need while she is there cleaning, and we are just so grateful for her empathy and her generosity.

