



The Willie Bee Foundation has grown into something more than its founders and board members could have ever expected. When we reflect on the number of families we have helped and the depth in which we have helped

them, we know that nothing we are doing in Will's memory would be possible without the continued generosity of our supporters. We thank you a million times over.



## THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL BEE GRATEFUL gala

Our Second Annual Bee Grateful Gala on November 17th was held at the Hyatt Regency Rochester and was a huge success.

This event has become our largest fundraiser for the year, and it would not be possible without the generosity of our sponsors, donors, and supporters. Making it extra special this year was being able to highlight and honor some of the amazing children our foundation has helped within the last year. Hopefully, these posters put faces to where our funding goes, and allowed our supporters to see for themselves what they are helping our foundation do. All proceeds stay local and enable us to work closely with the medical providers and families that we do to figure out what will ease our families' burdens the most.

## PLOWING SERVICES

When Will was sick, I used to dread Clay having to come home from a long day at work only to go right back outside to clear the driveway. It was a chore that needed to be done, yet I needed him inside with me. Being home all day with a child who is sick plus their sibling is exhausting, tiring, and isolating. And as we brainstormed this fall for what new supports to offer families, I realized the positive impact that plow services could have on families.

I envisioned families like ours who have nurses coming to their house, physical therapists, speech therapists, social workers, child life specialists, etc. I always felt guilty if I couldn't get out to at least clear a path for the ones I knew who would be visiting us that day. Because of our experience and knowing what families can benefit from, we were able to provide plow services with walkway clearing to nine families this winter season! These families live in Brockport, Fairport, Churchville, Gates, Irondequoit, and Henrietta.

We are grateful that our six different plow services came from recommendations of friends and family so that we knew we could trust them and didn't have to waste time searching. Families have said the following about having these services:



"We didn't even hear him come! Thank you!!"

"It means so much to our family. My husband will have one less thing to worry about early in the morning before work and trying to help me with meds and feeds. So so thankful for you all."

"Such a huge relief! My husband was out shoveling last night at midnight when he got home from work. This will help so much!"

## CHRISTMAS 2019

This holiday season, The Willie Bee Foundation asked three of the nurse practitioners we work through to recommend two families each to help at Christmas. As a board, we also recommended four additional families we thought could use a little love and care. We helped ease the burden of ten families and bought for forty-five people between these families. We asked all of the families to provide a list of needs and a list of wants for each immediate member of their family. Our board as well as some friends and neighbors did all of the shopping and wrapping with some additional help from the Bernabi Elementary School Service Club who helped for their second year in a row.

Special and new this holiday season was that we were able to deliver the presents to the majority of these families. For many of these families, we got to meet the superheroes that are at the center of each family and who are the reason why we are doing what we are doing. We met kind-hearted siblings and, we met dedicated parents, grandparents, and aunts whose selflessness was quite evident. We left each house with our wheels turning about what additional supports our foundation could provide to them. While the help we had the honor and privilege to provide them at Christmas is amazing, we know we need to continue to walk beside them and support them in whatever ways will help their families the most.



### Additional ways we've helped recently:

Catered orders from Giuseppes Restaurant to help with dinners for families inpatient or families spending all day at clinic.

Coverage for dog training for a family who was promised a therapy dog and was given a puppy with no training instead

Respite coverage when insurance does not pick it up

Payment for a medication that insurance would not cover at the end of a child's life

Continuous house cleaning services for 4 families

Weekend at Great Wolf Lodge for a family whose son finished treatment

Thanksgiving & Christmas meals from Wegmans

**ROARING TWENTIES CASINO NIGHT**

Join us on **MARCH 27th, from 7PM ~ MIDNIGHT**  
at **THE CENTURY CLUB OF ROCHESTER**  
**566 East Avenue**

**\$65 TICKET INCLUDES:**  
**1 Cocktail, Hors d'oeuvres, \$20K Casino Cash & Live Music from The Swooners**  
**Sponsored by Hewitt Young Foundation**

Register on **EVENTBRITE** by **March 13th**  
<https://williebeecasinoeventbrite.com>

**ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE WILLIE BEE FOUNDATION**