Life Can Change In An Instant

Angelica was 31 weeks pregnant and she and Jacob were expecting their first baby. On a rainy day in March, everything changed in the blink of an eye. Angelica was on her way to pick up Jacob from work when her car hydroplaned on Highway 101. She was hit by another vehicle and narrowly missed a head on-collision with a semi-truck before crashing into a wall. Angelica immediately knew something was wrong with her baby, and unfortunately, her instincts were right. Angelica was taken by ambulance to Good Samaritan Hospital and six hours later, baby Julian was born, 8 weeks early and weighed just 3 pounds, 11 ounces. Doctors rushed Julian to the NICU and due to his premature birth, his lungs and other organs were underdeveloped. He was literally fighting for every breath! Angelica and Jacob were scared, overwhelmed and in shock. Their home was 60 miles away and Angelica was not going home without Julian. Angelica said, “this was my first baby and I wasn’t going to go home without him.” Thanks to you, they didn’t have to. Angelica and Jacob spent one night in a local hotel followed by 46 nights in the ACCESS RV. Because of your support, they were able to be with Julian, throughout his stay in the NICU. Jacob had to continue working during Julian’s time in the NICU in order to support his family. ACCESS provided Rotten Robbie gas cards to assist him with the daily commute. Angelica and Jacob also appreciated the food and snacks provided by ACCESS in the NICU parent lounge and in the RV. When baby Julian was finally ready to be discharged, ACCESS donated a new car seat to the family and made sure that mom and dad knew how to properly install and use the seat before taking their tiny bundle of joy home for the first time.

Angelica and Jacob said that without a doubt, this was the most stressful time in their lives. But thanks to the generosity of our ACCESS donors, sponsors and volunteers, they were able to be by their baby’s side, providing the love, nurturing and support that he needed. Angelica asked that we share these words with our ACCESS supporters: “Thank you. We appreciate everything that you have done for our family. ACCESS is an amazing program and we hope you will continue to help other mothers like me.” Thanks to you, ACCESS continues to be a beacon of hope for families like Julian’s.

ACCESS Services
- Overnight stays in our on-campus RV
- Transportation to and from the hospital for Good Samaritan families and oncology out-patients
- Childcare during hospital visits
- Food in the NICU parent room and oncology family library
- Emergency hotel, gas, bus and meal vouchers
- Community car seat inspections

YOU CAN HELP NOW BY DONATING TO ACCESS!

PLEASE MAIL IN THE SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE OR DONATE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE AT:

ACCESSGOODSAMSANJOSE.ORG

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 408-559-2395 OR SHANNON.HICKOK@HCAHEALTHCARE.COM

ACCESSGOODSAMSANJOSE.ORG
As I walk by the rooms of patients at Good Samaritan Hospital, my heart aches for the families sitting by the bedside. While I know that the patient is receiving excellent medical care, I also know exactly what the families are going through. My family had a personal experience with hospitalization when our 10-year-old daughter was flown 200 miles by helicopter to a hospital as a result of a head injury she sustained while we were on vacation. That one-hour helicopter ride seemed like an eternity, and I have never felt so scared, sad and alone. The feelings of stress, fear and sadness were overwhelming.

We were in a strange town, thousands of miles from home and unsure of our daughter’s fate. We didn’t have a vehicle, a place to stay and only had the clothes on our back. We didn’t think about eating or sleeping. All we could focus on was our daughter, hoping and praying that she would be okay. We were fortunate and our story had a happy ending. Our daughter is happy, healthy and thriving. But, we will never forget that time and it is still very fresh in our hearts and in our minds. That memory serves as a reminder of just how important the ACCESS program is to families in need. ACCESS is a program unique to Good Samaritan Hospital and is only possible because of our incredibly dedicated volunteers and our generous donors and supporters. ACCESS provides hope in times of darkness and stability in times of uncertainty.

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ACCESS provides resources in times of crisis. Thanks to you, the families at Good Samaritan have the support of ACCESS. In January of 2018, ACCESS increased the subsidies for our gas voucher program to accommodate the increase in gas prices. In addition, we are committed to helping more families stay closer to Good Samaritan Hospital while their loved ones are hospitalized. If our single-family RV is occupied, ACCESS will use funds to provide lodging in local hotel rooms to families living 30 miles or more from the hospital who are experiencing financial hardships. Please donate to ACCESS today and help us continue to keep families together during the crisis of hospitalization.

Thanks to you ACCESS accomplished the following in 2017

- ACCESS provided $9,045 in gas vouchers
- ACCESS gave 72 meal vouchers to families in need
- Families spent 180 nights in the ACCESS RV
- The Car Seat Team inspected and installed 438 car seats
- Over 800 families benefitted from the complimentary food provided by ACCESS in the NICU parent room and oncology family library ($10,000)
- Volunteers drove patients and family members 8,136 miles
- Childcare volunteers provide 47 hours of childcare
- ACCESS donated 14 new car seats to families in need

Your financial support makes a profound difference in the lives of many. Please consider donating to ACCESS today.

ACCESS AT NICK’S NEXT DOOR

On Sunday, March 25, 2018, Nick Difu, acclaimed chef and restaurateur, treated ACCESS families to a private dinner at his award-winning Los Gatos restaurant, Nick’s Next Door. Nick truly has a heart of gold. This was the third year that Nick donated a private dinner for 20 to the ACCESS silent auction fundraiser. Nick’s only caveat: the winning bidder invite ACCESS families to attend. Jody and Julie Dial were this year’s winners, and together with Nick, they hosted a night to remember! The guests included three families whose babies were hospitalized in the NICU at Good Samaritan Hospital. Each family received support from ACCESS during their baby’s stay in the NICU. Nick gave a heartfelt speech to the guests and shared that ACCESS has a special place in his heart because he too was a NICU baby. Thank you to Nick Difu and the Dials for a beautiful evening that will forever be in the hearts and minds of all those who attended!
HATS OFF TO OUR ACCESS DRIVERS

The dedicated members of the ACCESS transportation team drove 8,136 miles in 2017. The ACCESS transportation volunteers drive oncology patients to their ongoing treatments at Good Samaritan Hospital’s Mission Oaks Oncology Center. In addition, they drive family members to visit their loved ones at Good Samaritan Hospital, including parents with babies in the NICU (neonatal intensive care unit).

Rosalinda and Jose’s baby has been in the NICU for over four months and it has been difficult for Rosalinda to visit the hospital because the family has one vehicle that dad relies on to get to work. Thanks to our amazing ACCESS drivers, Rosalinda Munoz visits her baby in the NICU daily.

Rosalinda shared her thoughts about ACCESS: “I am very pleased and thankful for the services of the ACCESS program. Many thanks to those who take me to the hospital to see my baby and to those who take me home.”

The medical staff at Good Samaritan Hospital’s Mission Oaks Oncology Center understand how vital our drivers are. Carolyn Johansen is a radiation oncology nurse and she cannot say enough about the benefits of the program. “ACCESS drivers are such a valuable asset to our department. Our patients receive anywhere from 10 to 33 daily treatments, Monday through Friday. Many are elderly and they may live by themselves, or family and friends either work or may not be close by to help with transportation. There are not enough adjectives to describe our drivers. Every one of them is compassionate, kind, friendly and gracious to our patients and they are very willing to accommodate our patient’s schedules. Our patients and their families RAVE about them, saying they wouldn’t be able to get the care they need without their help. They are truly Angels on earth who volunteer their valuable time to help others in need. We can’t thank them enough for their service.”

CLOS LACHANCE WINERY HOSTS ACCESS GIVE BACK DAY

Mark your calendars for the Clos LaChance Winery give back day is on Sunday, August 19, 2018, from 11:00am-4:00pm. Clos LaChance will donate 20% of their sales to ACCESS when guests mention ACCESS at checkout. The winery is a stunning Old-World-inspired facility located in San Martin, California, only 30 minutes south of San Jose. Clos LaChance is a multi-generational family owned and operated winery, tucked into the beautiful Hayes Valley. Join ACCESS and Clos LaChance for a true wine country experience. Please note that the entire Clos LaChance facility is 21 and over and this is an adult only event! Bring your friends, your blanket, and your picnic basket, enjoy an amazing selection of wines, stunning scenery, and support a great cause! Clos LaChance is located at One Hummingbird Lane, San Martin, CA 95046.
ACCESS GOODWILL AND E-WASTE DONATION DAY WAS A SUCCESS!

Thank you to all who participated in the Goodwill and E-Waste donation day at Good Samaritan Hospital on Saturday, April 21, 2018. The donations collected weighed a total of 8,777 pounds, which raised $1,275.30 for ACCESS! Donors dropped off their gently used items in the parking lot at Good Sam and our tireless volunteers braved the heat and stayed busy loading and unloading from 9:00am-3:00pm. We filled an entire large truck full in addition to a smaller truck, loaded with the E-waste items. It was a fun day and a win-win for all.

Save the dates and save your stuff! ACCESS and Good Samaritan Hospital will host a 2-day Goodwill and E-Waste donation drive on Saturday, September 29 and Sunday, September 30. Stay tuned for more details!

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR 2018 CORPORATE SPONSORS

The Alfred and Kathleen Murabito Foundation

Your contribution allows us to grow and serve our community. Please consider donating, so we may continue helping families and children in need. We can’t do this without you.

Thank you.

ACCESSGOODSAMSANJOSE.ORG

For more information: 408-559-2395 or shannon.hickok@hcahealthcare.com