



## THE RYAN FOUNDATION, INC.

3701 E. JOPPA ROAD  
BALTIMORE, MD 21236

February 2007

Dear Gunpowder Golf Association,

Once again I would like to thank you for thinking of the Ryan Foundation as a part of your contributions to donate. Please let your association know exactly what the Ryan Foundation does with their money. We truly appreciate their continued kindness.

The Ryan Foundation was started after my son was diagnosed with Leukemia. He was only 6 months old. He suffered through many rounds of chemo, a bone marrow transplant, and a lot of infections. It was a long 9 months of battling cancer, when his little body gave up the fight. At 15 months old our precious boy passed away. I can tell you each day without my son, even 8 years later, is a struggle. My heart will forever have a hole that will never be filled. This foundation keeps Ryan's memory alive. With the money we raise we are able to purchase items that are needed at the hospital on the cancer floor at Johns Hopkins. Items that help the children and their families get through those long hospital days. Items that may put a smile on a Child's face that may have not smiled in days or a smile that may be the last their parents remember. We have many memories of Ryan's last days and the certain toys he played with in his hospital room.

We take 80% of all the money donated to purchase gifts for the children at Hopkins or for the playroom there. For example; purchasing new videos, books, games and toys. Recently, we purchased some musical CD's and a CD player for a little girl who has relapsed for the third time. Her nurse said that she only enjoys music now. When we bought her a CD player of her own to keep in her hospital room, she was thrilled. What a difference such a small thing made in her life, thanks to donations from the money raised at our golf tournament. The other 20% of the money raised goes to pay for people to get on the bone marrow registry. To become a bone marrow donor you have to pay \$70.00. Our foundation holds bone marrow drives to get people on the registry and pay for them to do so. Again, this will be saving lives of those needing a bone marrow transplant.

Please thank all of those that have given to the Ryan Foundation and assure them that without their continued support we could not help all of the children that we have and continue to help. I personally buy the items and deliver them to the hospital and I wish you could see the smiles on the kid's faces. It is the saddest thing you'll ever see. Little children with no hair, hooked up to so many tubes, yet they are still smiling. Their parents, as I did, hang onto any happy moment. Thanks for giving me and my family the opportunity to help these children, their families, and to keep our son's memory alive.

Make miracles happen! Thank you,  
Kelli Szczybor (Ryan's Mommy)&  
The Ryan Foundation