



Mikey, Manny, Elijah and RJ



Meet RJ and Elijah

RJ has been sick for most of his life. Multiple infections, strange reactions and multiple uncertain diagnoses have been his reality for all of his 12 years, with no understanding of why any of it was happening. With each medical issue, doctors would work to find a cure and each time came up with no explanation or relief. The mystery was only solved when RJ's little brother, Elijah, was diagnosed with IPEX a few months after his birth two years ago. IPEX is a rare genetic autoimmune disorder that causes issues in many areas of the body. When Elijah was diagnosed with IPEX, the doctors also tested RJ and found that he has the same disease. The only cure for IPEX is a Bone Marrow Transplant, which both boys will need to save their lives.

Elijah recently underwent his transplant, and RJ will follow in the year ahead. Elijah and his mom, April, have been at Brent's Place since the beginning of May working to get Elijah ready for his transplant. Elijah knows how to make an impression on everyone he meets with his wonderful crinkled nose grin and outgoing personality. Elijah is now inpatient for his transplant while RJ is back home, going to school, and watching the progress of his little brother, knowing that he will soon be going through the same process.

Anticipation of his transplant hasn't made RJ feel sorry for himself. During the summer when he would visit Brent's Place with his brothers, Manny and Mikey, RJ would always offer to help around the office making copies or helping with events. He is excited about the prospect of feeling better after the transplant. Having been sick for his entire life has meant that he has missed out on many aspects of childhood and he is looking forward to experiencing life without constant medical care and with more energy.

Manny, RJ and Mikey come up to visit when they can because they know that there is a long road of healing ahead, and it is best to be together. When Elijah is able to go home, they will get to enjoy some time all together before RJ comes to Brent's Place next summer for his transplant.

We are Social!

The families at Brent's Place have to avoid large crowds. However, we love engaging through the amazing world of social media.

Most popular Facebook post:
"We celebrated a first birthday! Happy Birthday dear Cisquo. You are adorable, strong, and amazing. May this be the first of many wonderful birthdays."



Facebook:

Facebook/BrentsPlaceDenver



Twitter:

Twitter.com/BrentsPlaceCO

Letter from Sean

It is hard to believe that another summer has passed and we are fast approaching the end of the year. It has been a busy summer for staff and volunteers at Brent's Place as we have navigated the challenges and opportunities that accompany our continued focus on getting better. I am sure that many of you experienced or participated in these efforts which included new staff and positions (see below) new locations and/or experiences for events such as Kid's Cure and Dos Casas, and new programs such as meal delivery for our families in the hospital during treatment. I can assure you that your contribution(s) to Brent's Place filled this summer full of special memories for the families who called Brent's Place home.



While I am sure that the summer has flashed by for you as well, we appreciate that so many of you took the time to generously contribute again this year as sponsors, event participants, volunteers and individual contributors. You will see throughout the pages that follow that our shared commitment to the 80 patients and families we have served so far makes each day a little brighter and provides comfort and joy that might otherwise be lost during this difficult journey. When the year ends and we look back on all that we have accomplished, I am confident that it will once again be our busiest and most impactful year to date. Having said that, I know that the impact we make cannot always be measured in program data or financial spreadsheets. I hope that each of you were able to experience the little moments that make Brent's Place so special through your volunteer work, participation in events like Kid's Cure or the window that our Facebook page provides.

We are grateful to have you all as part of our extended Brent's Place family.

Sincerely,

Sean Meyerhoffer
Executive Director

Welcome new staff!



Brittany Loan
Special Events
Manager

After a successful internship at Brent's Place in the fall of 2013, Brittany officially joined the Brent's Place team in February of 2014. For the past four years, Brittany has devoted the majority of her time to two different passions, music and human services. After leaving one of Colorado's most successful cover bands, Brittany studied Human Services at Metropolitan State University. Brittany truly enjoys working at Brent's Place and is a tremendous addition to the team leading our Special Events in support of Brent's Place families.



John Schliep
Business Operations
Director

John holds a Finance and Accounting Degree from University of Northern Colorado. John has been in the healthcare environment since 1983 and has held leadership positions at Longmont United Hospital, Children's Hospital Colorado and most recently at the UC Denver as the Administrator of Endocrinology. John's first exposure to Brent's Place was while he worked as the Administrator of the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders, Children Hospital Colorado, where he learned the value of Brent's Place provides to the transplants patients and families by providing a very clean, safe and supporting environment. As a Colorado native, John is looking forward to being able to serve the families and their needs while staying at the Brent's Place Facilities.

Jeff Lambertson, Director Since 2009, Shares His Family's Story

On July 2, 2004 a medical transport team flew through the night delivering our precious little 3 year old immune-suppressed, Katie, her sisters Lauren and Jennifer and Mom (Linda) and me to Denver, CO.

It had been just two days since we had received devastating news. After ten months of continuous chemotherapy, total body radiation and a bone marrow transplant Katie's cancer (Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia T-cell) had returned and was rapidly taking over her body. In addition to the devastating diagnosis, was even more crushing news, the doctors in California who were treating Katie had exhausted all approved treatment options. There was nothing more medically that they could do for Katie's cancer.

As a last option we were bringing Katie to Denver's Children's Hospital where we hoped to enroll her in an experimental trial for a new pediatric cancer treatment. We landed with only what we had been able to quickly pack the night before and carry on the plane, which were mostly medical supplies for Katie. Our only plan had been to get Katie to Children's Hospital and enrolled in the trial before her condition worsened or she would not be accepted into the trial. Beyond that we were in a fog, and we had no idea as to where we would stay or how we would live while we were in Denver.

After Katie was admitted into the Hospital and enrolled into the trial, we were introduced to Brent's Place. Our

entire family was lifted up by all of the support and extremely beneficial programs that Brent's Place offered. Most important, Linda and I felt that the staff and volunteers at Brent's Place truly understood. Brent's Place made our family

feel like we were in the best possible place where we could provide Katie and our family the best possible outcome.

For four months, I felt like our family had been blessed to have been able to stay at Brent's Place and I was in awe of the vision and hard work that had to have taken place long before our family arrived.

It was during a conversation with Donn that I was inspired to Pay it Forward. I realized that I wanted be a part of the team that continuously works towards the goal of ensuring Brent's Place



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will provide the same type of programs to families in need that were provided to my family. Since 2009, with the support of family and friends we have raised more than \$100,000 to name a room in Katie's honor and I have since served on the Board of Directors. It has been an honor, a privilege and a tremendous learning experience. I am humbled by the opportunity to collaborate and work with the incredibly diverse, talented and dedicated group of professionals who make up the Brent's Place Board of Directors, Committees, Staff and Volunteers.

Our Best,

*Katie (10 years Cancer Free), Lauren, Jennifer,
Linda and Jeff Lambertson*

Volunteer Spotlight: Swallow Hill Music

Brent's Place is excited to partner with Swallow Hill Music to help expand the music offerings at Brent's Place and allow more kids to experience the benefits and joy music can bring.

Founded in 1979, Swallow Hill Music is a nonprofit community for musicians and music lovers who appreciate the ability of music to bring people together. Amy Whitley, a board certified music therapist with Swallow Hill, comes to Brent's Place once a week to lead a music class with our kids and families. From guitar, to drums, to the xylophone, Amy has created a fun and safe environment for our kids to use music to help heal. We are so grateful for Swallow Hill's outreach efforts and look forward to seeing this program grow!

Why did Swallow Hill choose to partner with Brent's Place?

At the heart of Swallow Hill Music is a desire to bring music to the larger community of Denver, and as an organization, Swallow Hill continuously seeks out ways to be more involved within Denver and get connected to other organizations. Our outreach and school team sought out Brent's Place as an organization with which to connect due to a larger interest of sharing music with a variety of populations as well as increasing the breadth of what we offer around the city of Denver.

Why did you volunteer to lead a music class at Brent's Place?

I have been working at Swallow Hill for over a year, and when I came on board was very excited about the heart of an organization I saw to be genuinely interested in using music to connect to people all around the city. As a music therapist, my deepest passion lies in using music clinically to help a variety of populations depending on specific needs, and when I heard about Swallow Hill getting connected to Brent's Place I was immediately interested! I have had some music therapy in medicine experience prior to Brent's Place and so was very excited at the opportunity to grow in my skills as a music therapist as well as get to know the population at Brent's Place.

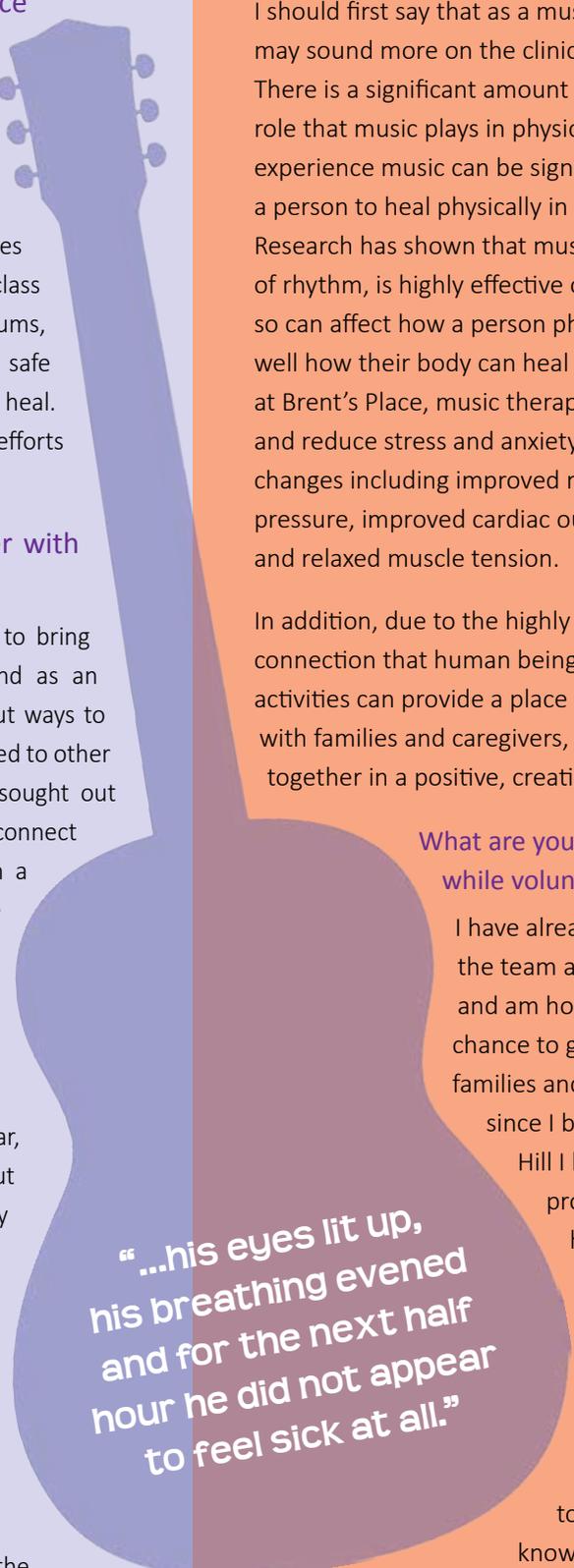
What is your philosophy on the benefits that music can have on Brent's Place kids?

I should first say that as a music therapist, my philosophy may sound more on the clinical side of the spectrum. There is a significant amount of research about the role that music plays in physical health and from my experience music can be significantly effective in helping a person to heal physically in a variety of settings. Research has shown that music, and the inherent order of rhythm, is highly effective on brain functioning, and so can affect how a person physically perceives pain, as well how their body can heal more quickly. For the kids at Brent's Place, music therapy can help to relieve pain and reduce stress and anxiety, resulting in physiological changes including improved respiration, lower blood pressure, improved cardiac output, reduced heart rate, and relaxed muscle tension.

In addition, due to the highly emotional nature of and connection that human beings have with music, music activities can provide a place for emotional intimacy with families and caregivers, relaxation and time spent together in a positive, creative way.

What are you most looking forward to while volunteering at Brent's Place?

I have already felt very welcomed by the team and families at Brent's Place and am honored to have had the chance to get to know some of the families and Brent's Place kids. Ever since I began working at Swallow Hill I have felt increasingly proud of the mission and heart of the organization and am very excited to continue this partnership with Brent's Place to share music with these incredible kids and their families. I look forward to continuing to get to know the larger Brent's Place community and be as much of a support as I can.



"...his eyes lit up, his breathing evened and for the next half hour he did not appear to feel sick at all."



Do you have a favorite memory yet of volunteering at Brent's Place? If so, what is it?

There is one young boy with whom I have interacted the most so far, and it brings so much joy to my heart to see his face light up every time he joins me in making music. The first time I met him I asked if he would like to play the glockenspiel with me. I began to sing and play "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" and noticed that his eyes lit up, his breathing evened and for the next half hour did not appear to feel sick at all. This young boy's mother brings him to music most of the weeks that I am there, and I feel blessed to be able to help facilitate a time of rest and fun for she and her son to enjoy making music together and not worry about his health concerns for a short while.

*To learn more about Swallow Hill, visit
www.swallowhillmusic.org.*

*For more information about music therapy, go to
www.musictherapy.org.*



Brent's Place Staff

Sean Meyerhoffer, Executive Director
John Schliep, Business Operations Director
Bridget Fitzpatrick, Development Director
Allen Browning, Family Services Director
Emily Roembach-Clark, Grant Coordinator
Rachel Bernstein, Community Engagement Manager
Brittany Loan, Special Events Manager
Becky Selig, Program Coordinator
Fabian Jimenez, House Operations Manager
Mary Kamau, Overnight Manager

Brent Eley Foundation Board of Directors

Donn Eley, Founder and Board President
Linda Eley, Founder and Board Secretary
Caryn Ellison, First vice president
Joseph Bruno, Second vice president
Bruce Siegrist, Treasurer
Jim Williams, Assistant Treasurer
Lori Bell, Assistant Secretary
Walt Raynor, Director since 2010
Jeff Lambertson, Director since 2009
Nick Tschetter, MD, Director since 2003
Mike Evans, Director since 2012
Kevin Kerber, Director since 2012
Joe-Joe Chacko Nair, Director since 2012
Tom Whyte, Director since 2013
Roger Giller, MD, medical advisor
Tom Smith, MD, medical advisor

Holidays at Brent's Place

The holidays are an important time for any family, and made more poignant when your child is sick. Brent's Place families face this holiday season away from home, separated from family and friends all while worrying about treatment, doctor visits, and the financial strain of medical care and travel expenses. Many families express fear and worry that they will not be able to provide a holiday for their child undergoing treatment and siblings during this period.

However, thanks to many generous sponsors, supporters, and volunteers Brent's Place is able to provide the holiday of our kids dreams. Thanks to corporate donors, families, and individuals, our children are showered with gifts, and our families are treated to a collection of holiday celebrations that include a Santa visit, holiday dinners, Dickens carolers, hot chocolate party, stockings and more.



Ways you can contribute to the holidays at Brent's Place:

- Sponsor a holiday meal
- Host a toy drive
- Sign up to fulfill a gift from the wish list
- Volunteer at a holiday event
- Put together stockings
- And more!

Go to donate.brentsplace.org/2014holidays to help with the holidays at Brent's Place.

Corporate Social Responsibility – Boulder Creek Neighborhoods

The very first line in the Boulder Creek Neighborhood's company Value Statement is "we respect lives fully lived." This is a sentiment that we take seriously for our homeowners, for our employees, and for our communities. Last summer, we were first introduced to Brent's Place and were immediately compelled to support the Brent's Place mission - supporting families during their time of such significant need. We couldn't imagine a better way to "respect lives fully lived" in our community than to get involved. So we did.

Since then, the Brent's Place families and staff we have encountered have made an indelible impact on the entire Boulder Creek team. From the moment that we announced the Brent's Place partnership at one of our quarterly all company meetings, our employees have rallied around the chance to give back. "We are humbled to be able to make even a small difference in the lives of these families," says Boulder Creek President David Sinkey. "It's a privilege to be a part of continuing this mission in Brent's honor."

Our company has set out to engage with Brent's Place on a personal level. One of our favorite ways of doing so has been the Family Dinner nights. The interest level has been so high that there is a waiting list for our Boulder Creek employees to be able to cook for the amazing Brent's Place families. Not only have the Family Dinner nights been a great team builder for our employees, the energy they bring back to the office after a night of cooking for 40+ people is contagious. "I look forward to the stories that come back after each Family Dinner night," says Direct of Marketing Jessica Champlin. Whether it's been talking in the dining room, mom to mom, or playing a quick game of tag with the kids on the playground, "I think it's the individual, personal connections that inspire us the most," says Champlin.

"That there is a place for families to go and simply be families during some of the most trying times in their lives is tremendous in itself, but then to see the entire Brent's Place team rally around the families and cheer on the kids in treatment...that's what is really special," Sinkey says.

One of the most impactful ways we have contributed to Brent's Place, has been the donations we make on behalf of our homeowners. Each time a homeowner closes on their new Boulder Creek home, we donate one day of "safe, clean living" to a family at Brent's Place. Our new homeowners are honored to be a part of providing such an important service to families in their time of need. "Not only is this a way of providing financial support to Brent's Place," says Sinkey, "but its also our opportunity to further spread the word about the mission of the organization, and pay tribute to the families living there."



And that is respect for lives fully lived.



BOULDER CREEK
NEIGHBORHOODS

We Remember

Our most sincere condolences to the families of those who have lost their loved ones. We keep these families in our thoughts and our hearts.

-Brent's Place Staff



Richard Smith



Roseann Fisher



Dallin Gunter



Keshawn Jackson



Kenneth Schemm



Diego Macias



Serenity Erskin



Maureen Krauth



Chloe Medina

Patrick Harrower

Words from a Brent's Place family

It's the little things that touch the lives of others... like providing a meal or two for our family. Those meals and touches of kindness you have provided means the world to us when our lives have already been flipped sideways. Thank you for adding some balance to our lives.

-Wendy, Aria's mom.



Get Your Company Involved!

Engage your employees,
add value to your company,
and support the families
at Brent's Place



Contact Rachel Bernstein
at 720-343-2807
or rbernstein@brentsplace.org



Brent's Place Foundation Level Supporters

Igo Oil Field Services | Finn Real Estate | Mercury Payment | Eley Family | Ellison Family
Nair Family | Evans Family | Williams Family | Zane Beadles Parade Foundation
Pinche Tacos | Ascent Foundation | Boulder Creek Neighborhoods | Jay Johnson

Thank you to all the chefs who offered their culinary skills at Dos Casas



Jamey Fader, Lola; Paul C. Reilly of Beast & Bottle;
Matt Selby of Central Bar and Bistro; Keegan Gerhard of D Bar; Alex Seidel of Fruition;
Brandon Biederman of ACE; Goose Sorenson of Goose; Tyler Wiard of Elway's;
Pete Marczyk of Marczyk's Fine Food; Lisa Bailey of D Bar; Troy Guard of Guard and Grace

Brent's Place Events - Wrap-Up 2014



Dos Casas

Dos Casas, April 2014: Brent's Place kicked off the event season with our 7th Annual Dos Casas event hosted by Lola. Over 150 people came out to participate in this unique evening that included a five course meal with wine pairings prepared by Denver's best Chefs. Thanks to the generosity of Lola and our guests, we raised more than \$40,000 for the first time in the event's history! Thank you to everyone at Lola and all the top Denver Chefs who donated their time and talent to making Dos Casas another amazing event!



MASH UP PUR-A-Thlon 5

Pur-A-Thlon, May 2014: The 5th Annual PUR-A-Thlon at Pura Vida Fitness & Spa was once again a day to remember! This year's event featured a unique MASH UP of specialty classes presented by Pura Vida's premiere fitness instructors. Due to the generosity of the participants, they helped support more than two families for their entire stay at Brent's Place. We would like to give a sincere thank you to Finn Real Estate and the wonderful committee, staff, and community members of Pura Vida for making a difference in our family's lives.

Kid's Cure for Cancer

Kid's Cure for Cancer, July 2014: This year, the 26th Annual Kid's Cure for Cancer underwent some new and exciting changes. The family fun walk was a 2-mile interactive course for the whole family. More than 800 participants including current and past Brent's Place families filled the course through the Anschutz Medical Campus ending at General's Park. Brent's Place is humbled and honored by the generosity of all participants, volunteers and sponsors who helped raise more than \$110,000 for incoming Brent's Place families. A special thank you goes out to our presenting sponsor AutoNation, whose fundraising efforts have continued long after the event, and to all our supporting sponsors: Children's Hospital, Macy's, Sheridan Ross, University of Colorado, Silver Sage, Health Connect Properties, EMC Insurance, UNSER Karting & Events, KOSI 101 and CU Health and Wellness Center. We would also like to thank our band, Zen Mustache, and the Optimist Club of Monaco South and Optimist Club of Tamarac for serving pancakes to 1,000 people!



Make plans to join is in 2015 to Support Brent's Place and Our Families

URBAN NAVIGATOR

Navigating a better journey for the kids at Brent's Place!

Urban Navigator, September, 2014: Urban Navigator was filled with many changes and improvements this year. Led by the Brent's Place Executive Leadership Committee, the event made the exciting move to the Denver Highland's Neighborhood and found a new host at Rosa Linda's Mexican Café. With a whole new neighborhood to explore the challenges were better than ever before and all teams reported this being their favorite year. Prizes included a 60" flat screen Aquos television and goodies from all around town. We are already excited planning the 2015 Urban Navigator.



BRENT'S PLACE *Invitational*

The Golf Invitational, August 2014: The 15th Annual Brent's Place Invitational continued our summer of successful events, raising over \$80,000! 128 golfers came out to support Brent's Place at the beautiful Red Rocks Country Club including Daniel, a past resident, who spoke for the third year in a row at the post-golf program. Thank you to Red Rocks Country Club and all of our supporting sponsors: EKS&H, Bellco Credit Union, Children's Hospital, Colorado State Bank & Trust, and McDonald Automotive.

THE ROADLESS RIDE



'14

The Roadless Ride, October 2014: For the 8th year, Greenwood Athletic and Tennis club has hosted and sponsored one of our most successful Roadless Rides. All classes sold out and over 75 people attended the after party. Willie, a long time GATC employee continues to surpass all expectations and raise the cost of one families average stay (equal to 112 days: the average cost for one families stay is \$10,000). Thank you to all participants, sponsors, and volunteers for another great year!



A Special Thank You to Our
Foundation Level Event Sponsors:
Mercury, Finn Real Estate, AutoNation,
IGO Oil Field Services, and
Greenwood Athletic and Tennis Club.





11980 East 16th Avenue
Aurora, CO 80010

*Making a difference
in the live of children with
cancer and their families...
one day at a time.*

Brent's Place is
a member of the



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HOSPITALITY NETWORK

See our list of generous donors at
www.brentsplace.org/donors

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Creating communities to support hope and healing



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f o u n d a t i o n

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

The generosity of our loving donors
enables Brent's Place to remain
a "Safe-Clean" home away from
home for our kids with cancer and
their families as well as offer fun,
safe programs.

We couldn't do it without the
support of our community.

To see a list of recent donors,
please go to

www.brentsplace.org/donors

Brent's Place Wish List ★ ★ ★

- HE (High Efficiency) laundry detergent
- 5 twin beds (mattress, box spring, and frame). Must be new.
- Plastic Shower Curtains – White or Clear
- Large Tupperware containers
- Bleach
- Clorox Wipes
- Can openers

For more information about
current needs and how to
contribute, please contact us
at 720-343-2800



At Brent's Place, our focus is serving families, one day at a time. We couldn't do this without the generous support of our donors. Our One Day at a Time program funds the **\$93 per day** it takes to cover the costs associated with each of our 20 apartments. To make a contribution go to www.brentsplace.org and click on the donate button.