

June 7, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Valerie Richardson and I am writing this on behalf of my daughter, Rianna, who is 3 years old.

In 2004, just 2 weeks before Rianna turned 1, she got very sick. After many doctor visits and test, we found out she had kidney stones. Kidney stones are very uncommon in children, which had caused us and her doctors great concern. More testing was ordered by her local doctors and she was referred to specialists, (nephrologists and urologists), at UNM Hospital in Albuquerque, New Mexico. After a lithotripsy procedure performed 3 times, to burst the initial stones between July 2004 and June 2005, they began to dig deeper into what was causing the stones. In December 2005, Rianna was finally diagnosed with Primary Hyperoxaluria Type 1. This is a very serious and rare disease that will possibly result in a liver and/or kidney transplant when Rianna is older.

We have been referred to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota to see the experts in Hyperoxaluria. However, this trip will be very expensive and with her every day medical expenses, (medication, special diet, doctor visits), we are experiencing some difficulty in funding this trip. We are asking for donations to assist us in covering the expenses associated with getting Rianna and myself to the Mayo Clinic, to get my little girl the medical assistance she needs. The expenses with the lost time from work, travel, food, and lodging add up very quickly. Over the out of pocket expenses not covered by our insurance has made it impossible to put anything aside for her continued treatment. The donations we are seeking would be for the travel to and from the Mayo Clinic, and incurred expenses during our stay there. We have already put this trip off longer than we should have. We will need to spend 3 to 5 days in Rochester during the test and appointments and pay for air fare, food, lodging and transportation while we are there. Our goal is to raise \$2,000.00 and any amount that you are willing to give would be extremely helpful and greatly appreciated.

**With a mother's gratitude,**

Valerie Richardson  
On behalf of Rianna

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