



The Shannon Daley Memorial Fund is proud to announce its 24th Annual Charity Basketball Event. The Readington Teachers and Readington Men's All-Star Team will once again take on the world-renowned Harlem Wizards.

The Harlem Wizards are one of the greatest basketball show-team organizations to ever "lace it up and let 'em fly." The Harlem Wizards' performance offers a rare combination of individual athleticism, teamwork, and entertainment to delight fans of all ages.

The Shannon Daley Memorial Fund mission is to assist local families facing financial hardship due to a child battling a serious illness. Our first recipient is 3-year-old Isabella Diventi from Raritan Township who has a Primary Immune Deficiency. Our second recipient is 11-year-old Kinsley Geurds from Lambertville who has FOXGI syndrome. The other recipients have not been identified as of yet.

The event will be held Tuesday March 4th, 2025, at Hunterdon Central Regional High School Fieldhouse in Flemington, New Jersey. Game time is 7:00 PM. Hunterdon Central Regional High School is located on Route 31 in Flemington. For further directions call (908) 782-5727.

We also have business opportunities for advertisers. More than a thousand spectators will attend, and we are anticipating another sellout. Ad rates are as follows: Back Page \$2,500 ,Full-Page \$1,000, Half-Page \$500, Quarter-Page \$250. All donations of \$50 or more will be noted in the Program.

Advance tickets for the game are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12. All tickets are \$10 at the door. Donations can also be made directly to the above address at any time.

For ticket information please call (908) 229 - 5460 or go to [www.shannonfund.org](http://www.shannonfund.org). If you would like to advertise in the program, please call (908) 528 - 2231 or email [Paul.McGill@shannonfund.org](mailto:Paul.McGill@shannonfund.org) . Tickets also are available at:

Darrow's Sporting Edge	(908) 534 - 2838
Sneakers Plus	(908) 788 - 2921
Mr. Clymer	(908) 283 - 6738

## Isabella Diventi's Story

Isabella was born on February 14, 2021—my perfect little Valentine. From the very beginning, her life has been full of challenges. Just a few days after she was born, Isabella had her first hospital admission, followed by another at just a few weeks old. We spent all of 2022 and most of 2023 inside the hospital, often for weeks at a time without ever leaving.



Over the next three years, she endured more than 30 hospital admissions, many of which required multiple rounds of IV antibiotics to fight severe infections. She's had pneumonia more times than I can count, six ear surgeries, countless ear infections, and every virus under the sun. Our life felt like a constant emergency, with endless trips to the emergency room, hospital stays, and specialists trying to uncover what was causing her body to struggle so much.

I remember begging the emergency room doctor to please figure out what was wrong with my little girl. I

carried a 500-page binder filled with every medical record, hospital visit, and test result into the ER, hoping someone would see the pattern and give us the answers we desperately needed.

Isabella contracted a severe strep infection, which triggered something called PANDAS (Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections). The infection caused swelling in her brain, leading to severe behavioral problems and seizure-like tics that no one could explain. Even after seeing a neurologist, we were left without answers. This strep infection hit her little body hard and took months to fully recover from its devastating effects.

Still not fully recovered from the strep infection, everything changed when Saint Peter's Hospital diagnosed Isabella with a dangerous infection called Mastoiditis, an infection inside her skull that required surgery. Her doctors quickly realized how serious her condition was and decided she needed specialized care. She was immediately transferred to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), where we finally got answers: Isabella would need weeks of specifically tailored IV antibiotics to fight the specific infection in her body and Isabella was diagnosed with a Primary Immune Deficiency.



Primary Immune Deficiency is a lifelong condition that affects Isabella's ability to fight off infections. It impacts many parts of her body, including her lungs, GI system, ears, sinuses, skin, and even her ability to heal from wounds. Everyday illnesses—even something as simple as a cold or an allergic reaction—can become serious and potentially life-threatening for her.

To keep her as healthy as possible, Isabella receives IVIG treatments every four weeks at CHOP. IVIG therapy provides antibodies her body can't make on its own. Each treatment day is long and difficult, but Isabella faces it with incredible bravery and strength.

We are incredibly thankful for the amazing team of specialists at CHOP, who continue to provide the best care possible. They've helped Isabella through countless procedures, tests, and treatments, always with compassion and expertise.

Despite everything she's been through, Isabella is strong, resilient, and full of life. She's our little warrior, and we're so proud of how far she's come. I truly believe God has a reason for everything, and we are beyond grateful for The Shannon Daley Memorial Fund for supporting families like ours during difficult times.

## Kinsley Geurds's Story

We welcomed Kinsley into the world the day after Christmas in 2013. Her big brother and three sisters awaited with cuddles and unconditional love. Our family was complete.

At two months old Kinsley began to turn blue. While at the hospital they discovered she had issues with her brain. Her first surgery followed later that week. We didn't



but the next eight years of her life would be spent living in the hospital for weeks at a time, 5 code blues, 21 different symptoms without a diagnosis, and over 50

surgeries/procedures. With each hospitalization our family was separated, Dupont is in Delaware, and I was a stay-at-home mom. In my absence, we never left Kinsley alone in the hospital, her siblings were left in the care of family and friends.

Relying on our community to help while I was gone and my husband worked. Routines shifted, unanswered questions, and the extra care required at home were challenging.

Yet our children's love for their sister grew. They learned the medical terms, assisted with her j tube feedings, and put her oxygen mask on during blue spells. Never seeing her as an inconvenience. She was just their baby sister. She wasn't just tubes, IVs, and medical equipment she was their playmate, and they enjoyed their time together.

Resembling a China Doll with porcelain skin, brown wavy hair, and huge blue eyes. Her smile is only erased by pain. Her petite frame might signify fragility, but her strong will and fighting spirit rival that of a heavyweight boxer. Her body has been through more than most people would endure in three lifetimes, yet she continues to be happy and full of love. Her contagious laughter, wicked sense of humor, and unwavering strength and resilience have been stealing hearts while redefining what it means to be a complex medically fragile child. She loves red, listening to music, bubbles, and long walks in her wheelchair. Kinsley was diagnosed



two years ago with FOXG1 syndrome. To date, there are only 1,100 people across the globe with this diagnosis. There is no known cure or treatment.

She suffers from life-threatening seizures that turn off the part of the brain that signals breathing. Unfortunately, we have experienced this at home without nursing care and had to resuscitate her. She is non-verbal but says more with her facial expressions than anyone could with words. She cannot eat food,

only tasting, and hasn't taken her first step... yet. Despite the original prognosis that she would not live to see her first birthday, she just celebrated her 11th birthday the day after Christmas, she continues to be a force of nature and an example that anything is possible.

We are beyond grateful to the Shannon Daley Memorial Fund for choosing our family. The hard work and dedication of the volunteers who created this event and gave so generously are appreciated. Many blessings to you all.