

Father Says Thank You with Laptops

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Bob Evanosky knows the value of a laptop. Isolated for months at a time with his critically ill son, who was undergoing a cord blood transplant, a borrowed laptop was his link to his family and friends in Chicago.

In gratitude for the care given to their 14-month-old son Jack at Duke, Bob and his wife, Sonya, presented the Duke Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit with a check Jan. 26 for 18 laptop computers and a laser printer.

The \$13,805 donation grew out of a last-minute response to a friend who was running the Chicago Marathon. The family friend and two other runners signed on sponsors to raise money for the newly formed foundation to benefit Duke's program and families it serves. Bob Evanosky then contacted Hewlett Packard and explained his mission. They reduced the price of each computer, enabling the foundation to buy 18 computers -- one for each patient room plus a few extras.

In addition to the laptops, the Evanosky Foundation is funding a project called "Jack's Library." This funding will help purchase computer-based curricula for children undergoing transplants at Duke. Jack was treated at Duke for a rare and fatal metabolic disease, Metachromatic Leukodystrophy helped negotiate with Hewin discount on the computers. (MLD).



Bob Evanosky (right) expressed his thanks to the Duke Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Unit for the care of his son by raising nearly \$14,000 to buy 18 laptops and a printer to be used by patients on the unit. On hand for the presentation of the check was Mark Coen, from Carotek, who helped negotiate with Hewlett Packard for a

"Paper carries germs, so it can't be shared among kids who are must be isolated from germs during transplant," said Evanosky. "We are working with the educational staff at Duke and the Durham County Public Schools to develop an electronic curriculum so that we can aid teachers in effectively teaching kids in the transplant unit."

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