

February 10, 2011

Dear Family and Friends,

As I sit here to gather my thoughts and put pen to paper for the 13th year you'd think the process would be easy. Let me assure you it's not. Each year I ponder the question; "How am I going to ask these wonderful people in our lives to reach into their hearts and give again to this mission that is so very important to us?" Many of you who have been on our mailing list since the very first year have watched Kelly grow up. You have watched as she learned to adapt and overcome the challenges of a life with CF. What you may not realize is that with each year the challenges become more complex. When Kelly was younger Kenneth and I handled most of the daily details involved with treating the disease. Even though Kelly learned to manage her medications at a very early age, we watched over her for accuracy. As she has grown we now see our job as preparing her to take care of herself completely. Kelly has finished over half of her sophomore year in high school. Reality is that in just 2 1/2 years she will be on her own, away at college and completely in charge of her own care. We are confident that she will be ready for the challenge as she continues to amaze us with how she has handled growing up with CF.

The past year has been full of excitement for Kelly. She started a part time job, played fast pitch softball and co-ed slow pitch softball. She also stays active with her church youth group and the church signing team. She is currently in her 13th year of dance and loves it just as much as she did after her very first lesson at age 2. Her class marched in the Courtland Christmas parade this past December and boy was it cold! One of our most memorable moments was watching our little girl get all dressed up to attend the homecoming dance at SHS. She has never looked as beautiful as she did that night. Just as this past year has been full of excitement, the next several months are sure to be as well. Kelly will take her PSAT soon, but according to her the most exciting news is that she will get her learner's permit in March.

It is obvious that Kelly is thriving. She had her ups and downs but overall was blessed with good health last year. This was due in large part to you. It has been your dollars over the last 13 years that have helped the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation fund the research responsible for the treatments and medications that have helped Kelly and others like her to manage their CF and live full lives. Because CF affects only about 30,000 individuals your financial support is critical. The foundation receives very little federal funding and relies mostly on funds raised in the private sector. CF doesn't get the publicity that many of the more well known diseases receive. CF is a genetic life shortening disease. A few decades ago the life expectancy of a CF child was 2 years. Dedicated scientists, researchers, and doctors have helped increase that expectancy into the early 40s through new treatments and medications. This increase is a direct result of funds raised financing the research.

Over the last 12 years "Kelly's Angels" has raised \$257,000. This has only been possible because you have helped us. You are a vital member of Kelly's Angels and we can't begin to thank you enough... but we can't stop. Kelly has a lot of living left to do, lots of plans to make, lots of goals to reach, and lots of fun to have. We will again be grateful if you can join with us this year and make a tax deductible donation. Just make your check payable to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and return it to me by March 31, 2011. The Great Strides walk for this area of Virginia will be on the Va. Beach boardwalk on April 2nd 2011. You can find more information on Cystic Fibrosis as well as Great Strides at cff.org. Please join us on the 2nd if you can, and thanks again for continuing to support Kelly Anne and this cause which one day will make **CF** stand for **Cure Found**.

God Bless,

Tracey Stallard

