

# Kids with Cancer Society

**BECAUSE OF YOU...**

**Children like Tessa can look forward to the future!**



Tessa was diagnosed with Pulmonary Blastoma, a rare form of childhood lung cancer, when she was only 18 months old. Tessa's mom remembers that day very well. It was a beautiful day and Tessa was playing outside. Tessa then started breathing funny almost like she was trying to catch her breath. Mom rushed Tessa to the hospital where they ran multiple tests and everything started happening quickly. The tests had shown that Tessa's chest had collapsed, and immediate procedures were required to save her life. Mom has shared, **the moment was all a blur, but something that will be in her mind, forever.**

## **Message from Tessa's Mom:**

*When your child is diagnosed with cancer, you feel singled out and you feel so alone like no one understands what is happening. The moment of hope for me is when I stepped into the Kids with Cancer Society house. It made me realize that we are not alone, that there are other families and children who are exactly like us. It meant everything to me because the Society could relate and I knew then, I didn't have to do this by myself.*

*Since we live outside of Edmonton, the Kids with Cancer Society provided us with a safe place to call home during treatment and follow-up appointments, at Papa Ken's House. They handled all the stress for me so I could focus on what is most important, my daughter.*



*Tessa on treatment*

*I want to thank everyone who helped us throughout our journey. Today, Tessa is doing great, it has been four years since her last round of chemotherapy. Even after her treatment, she has access to the right resources and tools that she can use throughout her lifetime because of Kids with Cancer Society. I never thought I would give birth to my role model. We are proud and thankful to celebrate this amazing milestone with our warrior princess.*



*"This Bravery Bell was given to Tessa by the Kids with Cancer Society on May 12, 2017. The gift of the bell is a gratitude treasure for us as it symbolizes our daughter's strength and every year, we watch Tessa ring it and we are reminded of her last day of treatment—a very special day." – Dawn, Tessa's mom*

**BECAUSE OF YOU...**

**Children with cancer in our community do not have to fight their cancer alone.**

**TOGETHER AS A COMMUNITY...**

We are there for the entire family, right when they hear the words "your child has cancer."

We are there for children to help put a smile on their face when they experience many pokes, tests and procedures to get better.

We are there when the medication given to save their life, impacts their ability to learn.

We are there when Mom and Dad are not able to be at work, to help them pay rent, buy groceries, and purchase medical supplies.



**WE CHANGE LIVES TOGETHER**

*Thank You!*