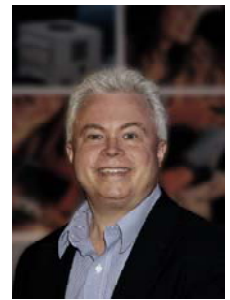




## August 2007 Update

From the desk of Washington Chapter's  
Executive Director, Steve McGraw



### Our 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year!

Our Washington chapter of Starlight served **14,549** seriously ill children and their families through our Hospital Happenings and Great Escapes programs during our past program year, more than doubling activity of the past year!

Our **Annual Luncheon event** on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Seattle Sheraton will be the focal point of our 15th anniversary. Our Starlight families, donors, board members, volunteers, hospital and business partners, and staff will all join in this celebration of service to seriously ill children and their families in Washington State. Our special guest of honor will be Howard Lincoln, currently the CEO of the Seattle Mariners and formerly the President of Nintendo of America and one of the founders of our chapter. I hope you will join us for this memorable event.

If you enjoy golf or know someone who does, please consider our **Starlight Annual Golf Classic & Auction** at The Golf Club at Newcastle on August 21<sup>st</sup>. You can register on our website.

Looking forward, the Washington Starlight chapter is ready to advance from our roots of mostly a central Puget Sound focus to truly a State chapter, making a positive difference in the lives of seriously ill children and their families across Washington.

To this end, two main strategic initiatives have been engaged by the Board of Directors and staff this year. One is growing services and presence in Eastern Washington by opening and advancing an office in Spokane, and the other is developing the Board into a State level Board of Directors with strong leadership and greater geographic reach.

Our programs are 100% dependent upon donations. If you are able, please contribute. Online giving is via [www.starlight-washington.org/donateonline](http://www.starlight-washington.org/donateonline).



**Starlight Child  
Brooke Travis  
Age 18, Entiat WA**

**October 2006  
Homecoming  
Queen**

At age five, I was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis. At 12, I was listed for a double lung transplant. Three years later, I received new lungs at Stamford University.

*I was able to enjoy two wonderful years with a full set of working lungs.*

Then in September 2006, I was diagnosed with Bronchiolitis Obliteran Syndrome, a form of rejection. I was forced to be on oxygen fulltime, and breathing became difficult. I was listed for a second transplant, and in December I was rushed to the University of Washington, unable to breathe on my own. For five weeks, I was on a life support ventilator in the intensive care unit.

In March 2007, I received my second double lung transplant, at age 17. Having two lung transplants in my short lifetime has changed me tremendously.

*I'm so thankful and lucky to receive such a wonderful gift from the donor families.*

I turned 18 in April, continue to take anti-rejection medications, and was able to walk with my class at my high school graduation in June. My doctors had believed I would not make it to my graduation.

*My lung transplants have opened so many doors in my life, and I can do things now that I thought I would never be able to do again.*

Note: Brooke and her family have been able to attend several Starlight Great Escape events. Her brother, Garrett, also has Cystic Fibrosis. Her sister, Brittany, does not have an illness.

**LAST CALL! Join Sonny & Jack  
at our 3rd annual Starlight Golf Classic & Auction!**



Tuesday, August 21  
12:30 p.m. shotgun  
Golf Club at Newcastle

Event Chair  
Todd Johnson, KOMO 4

Honorary Co-Chairs:  
Sonny Sixkiller  
Jack Thompson



**Player registration includes your guest for the Awards  
Dinner with silent and live auctions!**



These photos are from our Teen Formal in May, attended by over 100 Starlight kids and their guests at our 4<sup>th</sup> annual prom, held again at Tukwila's Embassy Suites hotel. This "Great Escape" event brings a sense of normalcy to seriously ill teenagers (and their families) from around the state who are not able to attend their own school formal.

*Editor's note: More than 95,300 Americans await an organ transplant, according to the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network.*

Starlight exists to provide "normalcy" for a family, by providing games and toys to hospitals and to families, hosting parties in the hospital and in-community events for the whole family to enjoy, and providing Fun Centers, PC Pals, and Starlight Sites.

Recent "Great Escape" events include Mallory Todd sailings, Mariner's baseball, Northwest Trek, zoos in Seattle, Tacoma, and Spokane, plus a lot more.

**Chapter Staff**

**Steve McGraw, Executive Director**

**Erin Behen, Program Services Director ~ Joyce Bottenberg, Development Director**

**Julie Dresback, Great Escapes Coordinator – Spokane area**

**Stefany Peterson, Office Manager ~ Tanja Pineda, Volunteer Coordinator**

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Starlight Starbright is a 501c3 charity, federal ID #91-1558287

**"We help seriously ill children and their families cope with their pain, fear and isolation through entertainment, education and family activities."**



**Starlight Child**

**Kyler Young**

**Age 19**

**Puyallup**

**Heart defect**

**Kidney failure**

**Stroke**

*Note: Our Starlight families keep in touch with us and with each other. This is Kyler's mother with the July story about his hospitalization. The family's goal is Kyler having a second kidney transplant.*

Early July: Please keep Kyler in your prayers. He is currently at Children's with a pretty serious infection. He will probably be there for a couple of weeks and then we will have to make some decisions on how to go about doing his dialysis (depending on if the infection clears up in the plastic dialysis tube, which could be hard to get it out of a piece of plastic). He is in a bit of pain now and then but overall, he is Kyler, looking forward to seeing what kind of new games they have at Children's since the last time he was there.

Late July: Kyler was in the hospital for a week. He had surgery to remove the dialysis catheter, and then had another surgery later in the week to place a hemo dialysis catheter. He will now go to the St Joe's dialysis center for Hemo dialysis three times a week for four hours each time. He will be on antibiotics for two weeks for his bacteria infection and six weeks for the fungal infection. He will not be able to receive a kidney transplant during that time if a cadaver becomes available. Bummer.

*Note: Kyler had a kidney transplant at age 2 (from his Mom), and is now on the transplant list for a second kidney. A blood type B or O donor is needed.*

**Volunteer Opportunities**

- Hospital parties
- In-community family events
- Warehouse, Office
- Fundraising events
- Marketing
- Committees

*Our volunteers served 560 hours during June!*