

Hector Rodriguez-Cortes, MD
Alejandro Cambara, MD
Angelica Garzon, MD
Catalina Ruiz Mesa, MD
Pediatric Hematology Oncology

1600 S. Andrews Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 † 954.355.4527 f 954.712.6688

January 17, 2019

Dear Jessica June Children's Cancer Foundation,

Avier is a two year old pediatric oncology patient at Salah Foundation Children's Hospital at Broward Health Medical Center. Avier was diagnosed with Atypical Teratoid Rhabdoid Tumor (ATRT) in February 2018. He had surgery and was briefly hospitalized at Broward Health Medical Center before being referred for treatment options at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN. The family interrupted their lives to travel to St. Jude in hopes of a miracle for Avier. Unfortunately he didn't respond to treatment and is now on hospice care.

Avier's family has remained realistically optimistic throughout treatment. When attending appointments, his family always has a positive attitude, despite the hardships they are going through. They have stayed strong for their son and their other children, and have relied on family and their faith for emotional support. Throughout this process, their family changed when they welcomed a new baby in November 2018. Avier's father has taken time away from work to travel to St. Jude and for his medical care at home. He is working as often as he is able to, in order to provide for his family. This family would benefit greatly from the support of the advocacy program during these unimaginable circumstances.

Sincerely,

Melissa Stachowiak, LCSW

Social Worker