

# MIRACLES IN ACTION



## Luke Colavita

AGES: 16

RHABDOMYOSARCOMA

COHEN CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER



Luke was diagnosed at 19 months old and was clearly showing pain several times a day. He would double over, grimace, and run back and forth crying until the pain stopped. We thought he was having bowel issues, so we took him to a GI doctor who found nothing wrong. But the pain remained...enough to wake him from a sound sleep on many occasions. Our next action was to see the urologist. The doctor found a tumor from an ultrasound of the bladder, which the biopsy determined to be rhabdomyosarcoma. The tumor acted like a valve preventing him from urinating. The running back and forth moved the tumor enough for the urine to drain from the bladder, causing the pain to stop.

Our lives completely change when he was diagnosed with cancer. Our pediatrician and urologist both recommended Cohen Children's Medical Center. We spent almost a year at Cohen Children's Medical Center, but it took only a couple of days to realize that there was no better place for Luke. The doctors were brilliant and informative and made sure that we thoroughly understood every step of his treatment. The nurses were attentive and warm, and the supporting staff immediately made us feel like they would do anything they could to comfort us during this time when our lives was thrown into upheaval. It was as if we were welcomed into a whole new family. The medical care he received was nothing short of outstanding, and it is was only matched by the care that the whole family got.

### **How donations helped Luke:**

CMN Hospitals donations heavily impact pediatric cancer research. Financial support also goes to the Survivors Facing Forward program that helps Luke and families like his to cope with his condition and the unique concerns ahead.