

LOMA LINDA: Walk benefits families of kids with cancer

10:00 PM PDT on Wednesday, September 14, 2011

CHILDHOOD CANCER FOUNDATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Childhood Cancer Foundation of Southern California on Sunday held its 12th annual Brianna Cadman Memorial Kids' Walk, a 1.5-mile trek from the foundation office to the Loma Linda University Children's Hospital.

More than 350 people participated in the walk.

Many carried posters and banners with pictures of their children, sang team chants and made noise to bring awareness to childhood cancer.



Contributed Image

Michael Valle, 6, leads Team Flying Michael the Batman in the 12th annual Brianna Cadman Memorial Kids Walk on Sunday. Michael was diagnosed with neuroblastoma.

Sponsored by San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, Genentech, Family and Friends of Rodolfo Escobar, Beaver Medical Center, Loma Linda University Cancer Center and the Family and Friends of Aaron "Sonny" Sandoval, the walk raised \$12,000 for services to families who have a child with cancer. "

The event was named in memory of Brianna Elise Cadman. Brianna touched everyone she met. In this way she was not unlike thousands of children who get cancer each year.

In February 1999, Brianna was diagnosed with a rare cancer, Ewing's Sarcoma.

She had a motto: "Think Can-Survive, not Cancer."

After chemotherapy and a stem cell transplant, in October of 1999 Brianna went into "remission."

In November she developed a cough and tests revealed she had relapsed. Brianna died on Dec. 30, 1999, four days before her 12th birthday.

Even though she is physically gone, her spirit will continue through all she knew and through the love and strength of her family.

For more information about Childhood Cancer Foundation of Southern California: 909-558-3419, kids@ccfsocal.org, or www.ccfsocal.org.

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