



HUGS FOR CUBS

Hugs For Cubs



We are the cancer support program run by the six-time National Champion Santa Barbara Foresters. Founded in 1995, Hugs for Cubs has helped thousands of young people and their families with visits, support, outings, encouragement, and financial aid.

Hugs for Cubs and the Foresters: The ultimate winning team!

We're proud to present the following pages that show some of the smiles that make all the hard work worthwhile.



Our Dear Lexi

Every summer, a young person is chosen as the Hugs for Cubs kid and is honored with their initials on the team's hats. For 2015 and 2016, that honor went to Lexi Brown. Though she battled with great courage and humor—"Fight Like a Girl!"—Lexi passed away in spring of 2016. We'll remember her forever, honored to have known her!





July 23, 2016

Lexi Brown Day!

The Foresters wore special hats in Lexi's favorite color of purple, and her family was on hand as the entire Foresters community honored and remembered Lexi and her courage. Of course, the Foresters honored Lexi by crushing the San Luis Blues, 8-0!



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E.P. '19.

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A visit to Via Christi Hospital in Wichita, Kansas, is an annual highlight of the Foresters' trips to the NBC World Series. Starting in 1995, we have visited over 2,300 children. Hugs for Cubs has received praise from hospital officials, the Wichita media, and of course, the families the players are able to help.

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The visits are certainly fun for the patients and their families, but like ripples in a pond, the good feeling of helping others resonates with the players. They return to their hometowns ready to keep doing the good work inspired by their time in Santa Barbara.



HUGS FOR CUBS



Future Major Leaguers have taken part in these visits, but just as importantly, future fathers, future community leaders, future businessmen, future inspirations have been part of our team. The players often say that they get as much out of the visits as the families do.

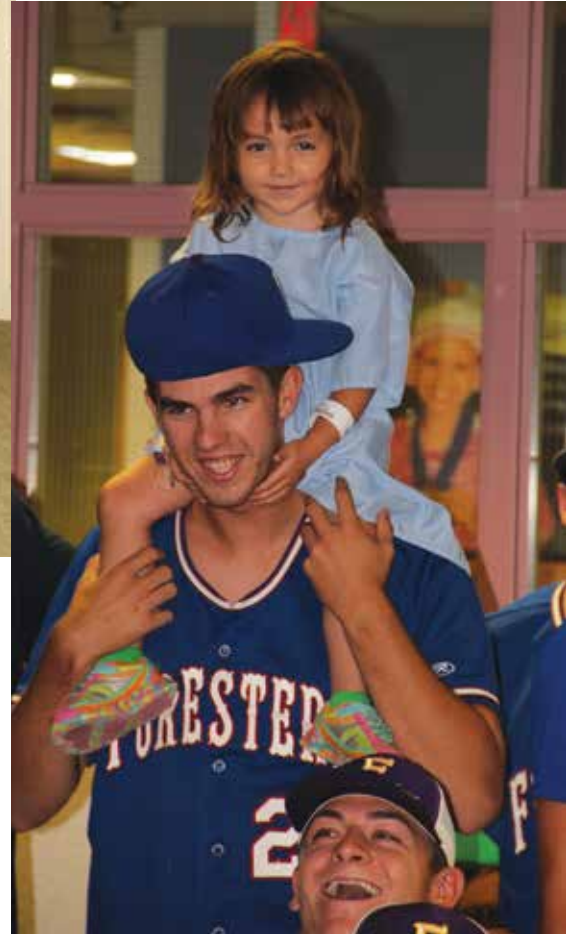


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The 2016 Foresters spent some time with this little bowler and other children, before taking the field and tying an all-time record with their sixth National Baseball Congress championship.



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SURF DAY!

A summer highlight is the annual Hugs for Cubs Surf Day. Local staff and volunteers lead an expedition of Hugs kids and families and landlocked ballplayers to the beach. After some lessons, it's time for everyone to hit the waves (sometimes in more ways than one). What better way to forget the battles of the hospital than with a day at the beach!



Hugs for Cubs founder Eric Pintard (right) was a lifelong surfer. His inspiration continues to motivate supporters of the Hugs for Cubs.



HUGS FOR CUBS



The 2012 Hugs for Cubs kid—and stalwart Foresters batboy—Wyatt Taylor showed the players he could hang ten as well as hang out with the players. Pitcher T.J. McGreevey showed that he should stick to doing his work on the mound!



HUGS FOR CUBS



Thanks to support from local bowling alley Zodo's and the support of numerous volunteers, several "Hugs for Cubs Bowling Nights" are held each summer to provide an outing for the kids and a chance to mingle with the baseball heroes they watch at the ballpark.



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In 2013, Hugs for Cubs kids Wyatt Taylor and Sam Helfand joined Manager Bill Pintard on the cover of the Foresters 2013 Game Program. Thanks, guys!



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ANGELS GAMES!



The Los Angeles Angels are longtime supporters of the Hugs for Cubs. Through their generosity and the help of Hugs for Cubs donations and volunteers, busloads of kids and families head to Anaheim for a game. There they are treated to a visit to the field, a great baseball experience, and a few hours away from the worries and struggle with cancer.



HUGS FOR CUBS



That's Angels' longtime manager Mike Scioscia greeting Hugs for Cubs kids. Mike and his players and staff have always been supporters of the Hugs for Cubs and take time to meet with the youngster. (Below) Angels broadcaster Rex Hudler took time to meet with Bill Pintard and Hugs for Cubs kids during one visit.



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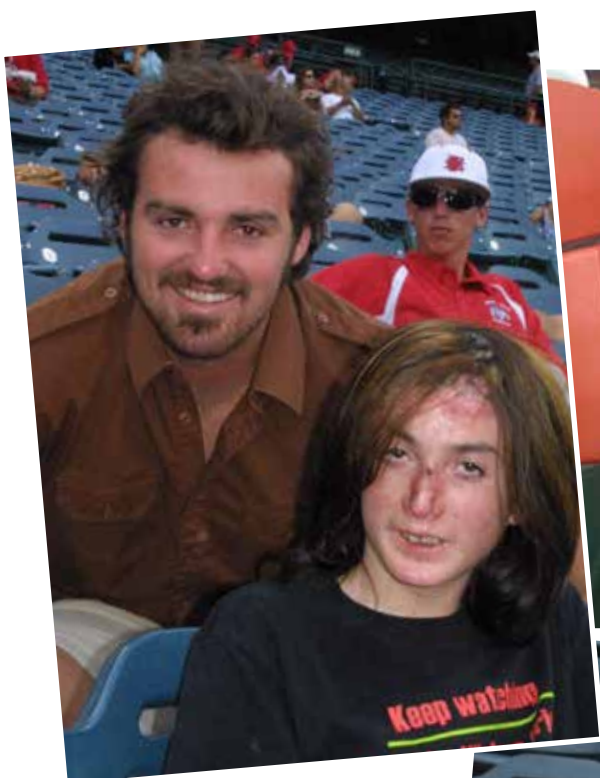


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HUGS FOR CUBS

More Smiles

The personal relationships that grow visit after visit, event after event, are the key to the Hugs for Cubs. More than just a simple handshake or a pat on the back, Hugs for Cubs kids and their families are drawn forever into the family of the Hugs and the Foresters.



HUGS FOR CUBS



OUR BUD!

In 1996, the Foresters met a young man in Wichita named Bud Fulfer. Bud was not expected to live very long. But with strength, courage, and amazing medical help—plus a ton of love from Hugs for Cubs—Bud defeated his cancer and grew up to hold the Foresters first National Championship trophy.



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New Friends!

In recent seasons, the Foresters have added another dimension to their community service through ongoing work with Little League Challengers, a division aimed at helping kids with physical and mental challenges enjoy the great game of baseball.



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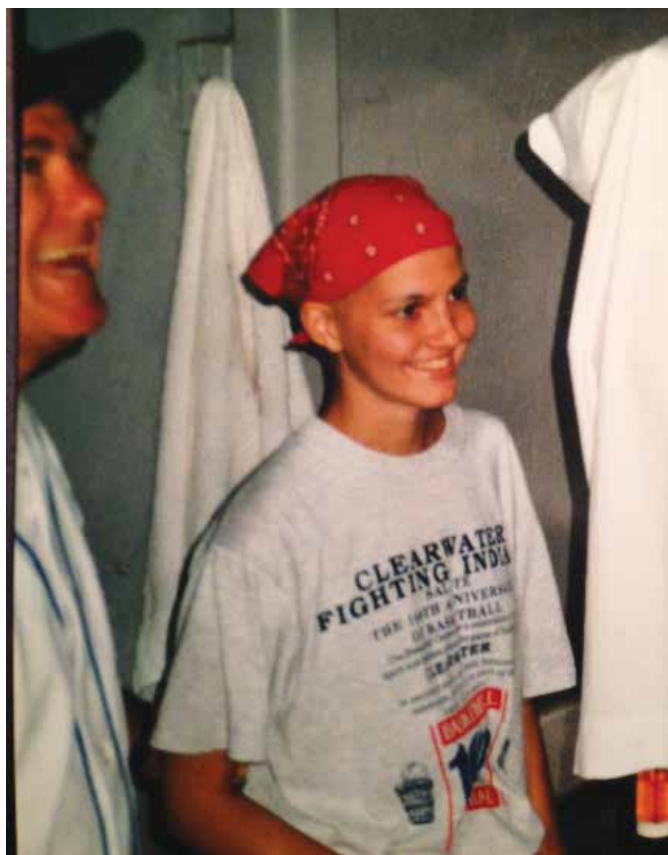


HUGS FOR CUBS



(Below) How do we know the Hugs for Cubs is working? Because of people like Andi Friend. She was so sick when the Hugs first met her that she had to carry her IV to attend a Foresters game in Wichita . . . but a dozen years later, she was able to cheer the team again, with a family of her own.

(Above) How do we know the Hugs for Cubs is working? This scene says a lot. In 2013, a young lady from Carpinteria heard about the Hugs for Cubs and the work the group does helping kids. She and her friends had a lemonade stand and instead of keeping the money, they donated all \$83 to the Hugs for Cubs to help bring smiles to kids who can't have their own lemonade fun.



HUGS FOR CUBS



The fight against cancer goes on. It's a fight that we can't always win. In 2011, we lost Hugs for Cubs kid Trent Gehrke to cancer. Trent was an inspiration to everyone who met him and every Foresters player from that summer will remember him forever.

Win or lose, the Foresters and the Hugs for Cubs will never stop fighting!

Hugs For Cubs



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THANK YOU!

On behalf of the Foresters/Hugs for Cubs
board of directors, coaches, staff, volunteers,
and players, THANK YOU!
to the

Our Supporters

for your loyal and generous support of our mission.
Know that we carry your love and good wishes
to every Hugs for Cubs kid we meet,
now and in the future!



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