



Division of Pediatric Orthopaedic Surgery

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Barb Ettington Barb@ettingtonetal.com 212-222-5208

Family Gives A Big Halloween Treat to Other Hospital Families

Two years ago, eight year old Jacqueline was not able to participate in Halloween - a favorite holiday. Instead, Jacqueline spent the day at Verrazano Radiology receiving a full-body bone scan in preparation for her surgery the next day. Two weeks earlier, Jacqueline was diagnosed with a 9 in. Non-ossifying fibroma on her left femur and was casted from hip to toe to prevent the bone that was left from breaking.

The surgery, performed by pediatric orthopedic surgeon Francis Y. Lee, MD at the Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York-Presbyterian on November 1, 2006, went well and Jacqueline progressed to the next stage of treatment which included a full leg brace, crutches and physical therapy for six weeks. Jacqueline worked extra hard on her physical therapy exercises and was able to make it back in time for the spring soccer and softball season. She competed with her dance troop in April and July and swam competitively through out the summer.

Non-ossifying fibroma is one of the most common benign tumors found in children and adolescents. Surgery is indicated if the tumor is weakening the bone, putting it at significant risk of a fracture.

This year the Staten Island family hosted a Halloween Party to celebrate Jacqueline's good health and decided to turn it into a fundraiser in order to give back to the hospital that had cared for her so well. Now ten years old, Jacqueline dressed as *Little Red Riding Hood* and greeted over 225 costumed characters to the party. She was able to join in the costume parade, the dancing and did her jumping for joy. In her announcement at the party, she thanked guests for coming and for their contributions "to help other families." Jacqueline's mother explained that when their daughter was facing

surgery two years ago, they found themselves short on cash and having to deal with the extra burdens that come with having a child in the hospital. She said, "We wanted to help other families in the same situation."

On December 1st, the family proudly presented a check for \$4,000 to Dr. Lee and Carrie Muhlstein, the Pediatric Orthopedic Social Worker at the Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital of New York-Presbyterian. The funds will be used by the Social Work Department to help surgical families in their time of need.



Photo left: Jacqueline, 10 years old and dressed as Little Red Riding Hood, welcomed 225 guests to her Halloween fundraiser in Staten Island to benefit families facing similar orthopaedic surgeries as she did two years ago at Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital.

Photo right: Dr. Francis Y. Lee, pediatric orthopaedic surgeon (L), and Carrie Muhlstein (R) pediatric orthopaedic social worker, accept a check from 10-year old Jacqueline, a patient grateful for her own success, and happy to donate a check for \$4,000 she raised at a Halloween party to help other families facing surgery.