



Dear Community Supporter:

We would like to invite you to become part of something very special in our community. The Park Ridge Newcomers Club's (PRNC) "**Labor of Love**" is an annual philanthropic event organized by Club members in which the proceeds benefit a selected recipient. This year our Labor of Love will be held on **Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>** at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare in Rosemont.

Our recipient is **12-year old Benny Martinez**, a student with a big heart and a love of Nintendo at Lincoln Middle School in Park Ridge, who is battling a cancerous brain tumor. Per the Martinez family wishes, our Labor of Love is **raising money for a study in Benny's name on childhood brain tumors in partnership with the St. Baldrick's Foundation**; a portion of the money raised (15%) will go towards Benny's medical expenses. St. Baldrick's is very special to Benny and his family as you will read below...

Benny is a smart, funny 12-year-old boy who was diagnosed and immediately underwent surgery to remove a cancerous brain tumor while on spring break with his family this past March. Just eleven days *before*, Benny was recognized as the top fundraiser in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade at his school's St. Baldrick's fundraiser to help kids with childhood cancer and had shaved his head in solidarity with those struggling with childhood cancer. Benny was generously helping other kids while never imagining he would soon be the one needing assistance.

### ***Will you join us in our effort to support Benny?***

*There are so many ways to participate.*

As part of our Labor of Love, we will be hosting a silent auction/raffle and would greatly appreciate **your donation of a product or service**. We also have an event program booklet where **you can purchase an ad. Sponsorships for the event are also available** at various levels. You can also help by **attending the event** and **spreading the word to others**. **Direct donations** can be made at <https://www.stbaldricks.org/fundraisers/mypage/2377/2017>. If applicable, these are all great ways to expose your business to approx. 600 community members who attend the event and contribute to a great cause.

Benny continues chemotherapy and has been undergoing intensive physical, speech, and occupational therapies. He has had to learn to eat, speak, and walk all over again. He has made great improvement, but will continue his rigorous therapies for some time. Despite all that he is going through, Benny continues to go to school when he can; seeing his friends at Lincoln Middle School helps motivate him to push through.

Greater details on how you can support our event are attached; you can also visit **[parkridgenewcomersclub.org/laborofloveoflove](http://parkridgenewcomersclub.org/laborofloveoflove)** or visit us on Facebook at **Park Ridge Newcomers Club**.

For Benny,

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2017 Labor of Love Co-Chairs