



## Lorianne Ross, 11 years old

Suffering from acute lymphoblastic leukemia

“When people donate, they are sending a message to sick children and their families, a message of hope that we are supported during this difficult time, that we are not alone. Thanks to the equipment funded by these donations, Lorianne’s chances of recovery have been much higher..”



For three days, little Lorianne, then two years old, is feverish and refuses to eat or drink. She has no energy, which is quite unusual according to her parents, Katherine and Jean-Sébastien, who are used to seeing her smiling and full of life. They go to their local hospital and are immediately transferred to the CHU Sainte-Justine. A battery of tests helps diagnose the disease that afflicts the little one. When the diagnosis is revealed, the news hit like a tsunami: Lorianne is suffering from acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Her parents barely have time to absorb the news before they have to go into “support mode” for their daughter, who must quickly begin chemotherapy treatments. Lorianne starts a long fight, which will last two years...

Katherine and Jean-Sébastien draw the courage they need from their daughter’s smile and joie de vivre. After two years of chemotherapy, Lorianne is finally in remission. Life can resume its normal course.

But when Lorianne is around seven years old, she complains of pain in her legs and knees. One day, arriving at school, it is her teacher who carries her in her arms to get off the bus. The little girl can no longer walk. Fearing a relapse, Lorianne’s parents take her to the hospital, where her oncologist checks her blood count. Although, thankfully, the result is normal, a microfracture is discovered in her knee. A cast is applied

and she can go home. But Lorianne’s condition deteriorates rapidly. She can no longer do anything without complaining of pain. With the fever setting in, her parents take her back to the CHU Sainte-Justine.

“Relapse”. With this word that they most feared to hear, Katherine and Jean-Sébastien know what awaits their daughter. More conscious of her condition, Lorianne buries herself in silence, and her smiles become rare. She is hospitalized for the first nine months of her fight, with occasional outings. For two more years, Lorianne not only battles leukemia, but also has to undergo physiotherapy to learn to walk again. A more powerful chemotherapy treatment is able to treat the disease and, at the age of 9, Lorianne officially goes into remission.

Today, Lorianne is well and spreads joy everywhere she goes. All hopes are again possible for her.

*Lorianne’s family thanks you for being there for her and for all the sick children in Québec!*

**Katherine Palmer, Jean-Sébastien Ross, Maélie and Delphine**

## Little miracles don't happen on their own...

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