

CHILDREN BATTLING CANCER BASKETBALL CLINIC



By Dawn George
President, Children Battling Cancer

We are extremely grateful to Adam Meyer of Real Money Sports for his support of Children Battling Cancer. Adam not only has been a generous donor to help CBC provide financial aid for the families, he also takes the time to meet one on one with these very special families and bring some much needed joy into their lives.

The Basketball Clinic Adam hosted over the summer was a huge success. We brought pediatric patients from multiple South Florida oncology clinics that came out for a very special day of motivation and fun. Many of these kids were at different stages in their battles. Some were newly diagnosed, some had been battling for several years on chemotherapy radiation and even stem cell transplants and still others were nearing the end of treatment and trying to rebuild their strength.

Regardless of what stage they were in, Adam took the time throughout the camp to encourage

"Thank you to CBC and Real Money Sports for putting on this great sports clinic. My son says he part of Adam's team now and can't wait to play basketball again! Thank you for giving him something to look forward to."

each child individually and then let them do something they have each wanted to do since their diagnosis... be part of a team sport. Participation in sports is one of the first things to go when a child is diagnosed with cancer. Even before their hair falls out they are grieving the loss of the sports and

team activities they love. Most of these children can only hope they will play again. Adam makes sure that happens regardless of whether they are still on treatment or able to play a complete game. Adam allows each child to play at their own pace. He helps them focus on something other than cancer for a day and it works! There were nothing but smiles on Adam's court that afternoon.

Adam Meyer puts his money where his mouth is in more ways than one. Adam does not only talk about how blessed he feels to have a healthy family and a thriving business. He picks up the phone, calls my office, and says, 'How can I help?' And he does

more than just cut a check. Adam laces up his shoes and gets on the court with the kids of CBC for some one on one but not before making sure they are all properly laced up too.

Adam provided each child with a brand new pair of Kobe Bryant sneakers so they could feel like part of a team. Some of these kids haven't had a pair of sneakers on since they heard the words, 'you have cancer'. Ever since, their lives have been spent in bed or in hospitals receiving treatment. But not on this day, today they are going to have some fun and rebuild their strength in more ways than one. In between dribbles you can hear the words of encouragement Adam is motivating them with. We sat and watched as Adam coached 9 year-old Matthew Swenson who is battling a very aggressive form of cancer called Neuroblastoma. Matthew had barely enough strength to get the ball half way to the net on his first try but Adam passed the ball back to him and told him he could do it. And he believed Adam. With every pass the ball rose higher and before we knew it Matthew was hitting the rim. Somehow I sat there and realized that Adam knows that Mathew's battle against cancer is a lot like that. And he wants Mathew to know he can do it. Thanks Adam.... in more ways than one! •

