

Dear

On September 18, 2010, I will join hundreds of others to help end the devastating effects of viral myocarditis by hiking in the fifth annual ***Alyssa's Hike for the Hearts***. This hiking event is scheduled to take place at Akron's Goodyear Metro Park, where we will hike the 1.8 mile Parcours trail in honor of Alyssa to help raise awareness about this horrible disease. By making a pledge on my behalf, you are supporting viral myocarditis research at Cleveland Clinic's Children's Hospital and for scholarships for school-aged children to attend Camp Carl.

This event is being planned in honor of Alyssa Ann Calaway. Alyssa passed away very suddenly on September 12, 2002 from viral myocarditis, an often fatal disease in young children which has no cure. Other than flu-like symptoms immediately preceding her death, there was no clue that she was so ill. Alyssa was a bright, happy little girl who loved her family and friends. She is so missed and still so loved by all those who knew her.

The hike is called ***Alyssa's Hike for the Hearts*** to address Alyssa's physical and spiritual heart. On September 12, 2002, Alyssa's physical heart died—there was nothing that could be done. But there is a part of Alyssa that is more alive now than ever before—her other heart. Her heart that loves her family and friends...the heart that couldn't wait to be with Jesus and dance and sing for Him. That heart is beating stronger than ever and cannot be affected by death—not ever! That very important part of her heart needs to be addressed also. There is an established Campership fund at The Chapel in Akron where Alyssa attended church regularly. That special fund in her name sends school-aged children to Camp Carl—an awesome resident camp located in Ravenna and owned by The Chapel—where kids learn about God during the summer. Alyssa's family and friends have been able to send several children on their own, but we would all love to see 20, 30 or more go in Alyssa's honor.

My goal is to raise at least \$ \_\_\_\_\_ this year. Please help me reach that goal with your pledge. Your donation is tax-deductible. Please mail all or part of your payment amount today in the self-addressed stamped envelope enclosed with this letter.

Otherwise, I will need to collect your pledge by August 24, 2010. Please make your check payable to ***Alyssa's Hike for the Hearts***. My deadline to get my pledges in is August 31, 2010. Following the event, I will send out a brief recap of Alyssa's Hike to my sponsors.

Thank you in advance for your support. Please call me if you have any questions or comments about ***Alyssa's Hike*** or check out the website at [www.alyssashike.org](http://www.alyssashike.org). I can also be reached at

Sincerely,