



# Hemophilia of North Carolina

Since 1977, serving the people  
of North Carolina  
affected by bleeding disorders.

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Dear Friends,

It is amazing how quickly life changes. In November 2010, Karl and I went to the hospital for the birth of our second son Noah. Everything went as planned and we were so happy to welcome him into the world. The following day he was taken for his circumcision, routinely as our other son Riley was a couple of years earlier. But unlike with Riley, Noah's circumcision kept bleeding. We were asked if there was a family history of bleeding disorders, but Karl and I dismissed the questions since there was not. The following day, we learned that Noah has moderate hemophilia A. We were told about hemophilia, treatment using recombinant factor, and how treatment has changed in the past couple of decades. After Noah spent a few days in the NICU, we were able to take him home. But then what?

Though I found support on Facebook talking with other parents and blood brothers from across the country, I still felt like I needed to meet other people who lived near me. I remembered that the social worker at the hospital had given me the website for Hemophilia of North Carolina (HNC) so I looked it up and filled out a membership application. I also wanted to learn everything I could about hemophilia. HNC connected me with another mom in the area who also has a son with hemophilia. My family attended our first Annual Meeting and met so many nice people who understood what we were going through and who have become like an extended family. I no longer was feeling isolated and alone. I decided that I wanted to get more involved with HNC so I started attending more events and volunteering for the HOPE Program for families. After volunteering for a few years, I became HNC's Program Manager where I am excited to be able to provide education and support for our bleeding disorders community.

Karl, Riley, Noah, and I attended our first walk in 2012. We named our team Hulk Smash after Noah's mealtime antics where he pounded the table like The Hulk. Fundraising for the Walk provided a great opportunity to share and educate those around us about hemophilia. Friends and family were so willing to support us. Over the years we have received support from students that I taught, Noah's daycare, neighbors, friends, family, and coworkers. The money we have raised over the years has all gone back to HNC in order to provide education, advocacy, promotion of research, and supportive programs and services.

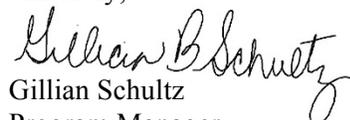
From attending the many events put on by HNC, including the Charlotte & Raleigh Family Festivals & Walks, it is evident what a tight knit community we are! It is this community that has helped me to see all the possibilities that Noah will have in his future, and that he will not be limited by his bleeding disorder.

Please support the 2019 Family Festivals & Walks in North Carolina, so that others can find the same support and community that my family found.

**A proud member of**



Sincerely,

  
Gillian Schultz  
Program Manager

*Hemophilia of North Carolina is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible.*