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The SoCal Home

Impactful Real Estate News

Mother Always Said You Should...

My Mom used to tell me over and over again to do this and do that, not do this and not to do that. ALL, I recall, very valuable advice. Looking back on it, I can say she was, and still is, a very wise woman – even though I may have not thought so at the time.



Time reveals, in fact, just about every caring Mother is a Wise Woman. I can see why we carve out a special day each year to acknowledge Mothers. So here is a shout out to all Mom's – Happy Mothers Day!!

My mom is no longer here. While that can make me sad this time of year, there is a silver lining in every cloud. I am sure some reading this can relate and have similar stories. For ALL those, whose Mom is no longer with us, I'm sure they are missed. In addition to that, there are also many who never knew their Mom due to unfortunate circumstance. But we can celebrate this Mothers Day as we know Moms both here and no longer here are special in more ways than we can count.



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- Mom always said you should do this.**
- How Your Referrals Help Kids**
- And More**



Especially the Mom's who are sitting right now by their Child's hospital bed not too far from where I type this...

You may recall that we are on a mission to raise \$25,000 for Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

Right now, there are kids who are trying to beat the Cancer Monster and other debilitating diseases at Children's. The Mom's with kids fighting are most likely NOT thinking about their special day this month. They are simply just being "Mom" doing what a real loving Mom does.



This is where you can help...

Kids under the care of Children's Recovery Center are 300% more likely to enter into remission IF they can get into the recovery center. BUT, the Recover Center survives on Sponsorships and Donations. So YOUR REFERRALS HELP THE KIDS...

Who do you know considering buying or selling a home you could refer to my real estate sales team?

Not only will they benefit from our award winning service, but we donate a substantial portion of our income on every home sale to Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.

It's easy to refer your friends, neighbors, associates or family members considering making a move.

Simply go to www.ReferralsHelpKids.com or you can call us direct at 213-880-9910. You can also pass along one the business cards enclosed.

Moreover, rest assured your referrals are in VERY GOOD HANDS!

Here's Why...

Home Sellers Receive this guarantee: I Will Sell Your Home at Your Price or I'll Buy It!*

Home Buyers Receive this guarantee: If Within 24 Months of Buying Your Home You Are Not Completely Satisfied With It, I Will Buy It Back or Sell It For Free, Your Choice*

Again, It's easy to refer your friends, neighbors, associates or family members considering making a move. Simply pass on one of the business cards enclosed, or go to www.ReferralsHelpKids.com. And of course you can always call me direct as well at 213-880-9910.



We hold ourselves accountable and are confident you or anyone you know making a move, that you refer over, will have a fail safe

Life moves fast for some and we are eager to make the Home Selling and Buying experience a smooth rewarding one. Over the last two decades of helping thousands of families sell their home and/or buy another, we have met some wonderful, loving, caring people. People like you! So your referrals, those you know considering a move, that we help – you can rest assured that not only will they get the award winning service we are known for, but that a solid portion of the income we receive from the transaction will go toward a very worthy cause.

My Mom told me to give all I could, no matter what I was doing. Thanks Mom for that bit of advice. Many years later, I get to repeat it here and do all I can to help you, your referrals and try and help Children's Hospital do good work, extending young people's lives.

We make it easy for you to refer your friends, neighbors, associates or family members considering making a move. Pass along my business card enclosed or go to www.ReferralsHelpKids.com. And again, I love hearing from you so you can always call me direct at 213-880-9910.

As this year continues to unfold, everyone here on my team wish you the very best.

And – thank you in advance for the referrals

With all my appreciation.


Corey Chambers

P.S. Remember we love honoring our past clients like you. Read all about that at www.ReferralsHelpKids.com. A significant portion of our income on every real estate transaction being happily donated to Children's Hospital Los Angeles in an effort to raise \$25,000. You can find out more about Children's at www.CHLA.org

P.P.S. The story of this young person enclosed may cause you to look at your loved ones differently. It did me. Check it out.



Supporting
**Children's
Hospital
LOS ANGELES**

We Treat Kids Better



It's easy to refer those you know considering buying or selling a home. Here are the 4 Options Again:

1. You can pass along our business card to them, I have enclosed a couple here for that purpose.
2. You can go to www.ReferralsHelpKids.com and enter their contact info on line or forward the link to who you know considering a move.
3. You can fill your referrals information on the enclosed prepaid return postcard and drop it in the mail.
4. Of course you can always call me direct as well at 213-880-9910.

Impactful Real Estate News

Contact Us

Your Home Sold GUARANTEED
or I'll Buy It*

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www.GuaranteedSaleSoCal.com



Why I support Children's Hospital Los Angeles

I grew up right here in the Greater Los Angeles Area, born in Los Angeles County at St. Francis Hospital. I remember when I first heard about a young person close to our family suffering from a nasty disease and getting treated for that at Children's Hospital Los Angeles. It was then that I began to pay closer attention to the work they do at that hospital. Since then, I have learned that it is a collection of hard-working health care professionals, most making their home right here in the Los Angeles area, all coming together for a common cause. That cause is to help young people overcome unfortunate health issues that life sometimes throws our way. Being a Los Angeles Area California native, I take pride in supporting in a way that I can the good work these people do at Children's. My team rallies around our annual goal of raising money and donating portions of our income to help Children's in their quest to heal young people when they need healing. My team and I are committed to providing outstanding results for buyers and sellers referred to us by our past clients. I have discovered that Children's Hospital Los Angeles shares similar commitment to their patients. And since their services survive on sponsorships and donations, we are happy to contribute and proud to support them.

Sincerely,

Corey Chambers

*seller and Corey must agree on price and time of possession. Realty Source Inc BRE#01889449

Elliott's Total Eclipse of the Heart

By Katie Sweeney

On the morning of Aug. 21, 2017, a nurse brought a special gift into 2-year-old Elliott's room at Children's Hospital Los Angeles: a pair of eclipse glasses. It was the day of the much-anticipated total solar eclipse—the first in nearly a century to be visible across the mainland United States. “There was a lot of excitement in the hospital, a lot of energy,” remembers Elliott's mom, Raquel. “Everyone wanted to see this crazy eclipse.” So around 10 a.m., Raquel headed downstairs alone, special glasses in hand, to the hospital's Sharon D. Lund Reflection Garden, a tranquil spot with soothing water veils that had become her sanctuary over this long, impossibly hard summer. And as she watched the silhouette of the moon slowly converge with the sun, blocking 70 percent of the daylight, she made a silent wish—a prayer, an affirmation, a plea: “I want Elliott to receive his donor heart today.”

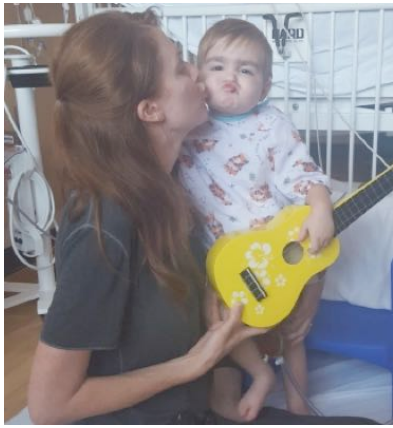


Out of the blue Just three months earlier, Raquel and her husband, Travis, couldn't have predicted in a million years that they'd be at CHLA for this eclipse. From the time he was born, Elliott had been thriving—a happy, “chill” baby and toddler who had been growing well and meeting all his milestones. But one morning in the middle of May, the 20-month-old toddler woke up sick. He didn't want to eat or drink. He was clingy and fussy, and then he threw up. Soon, he was making strange noises while he was breathing. Worried, Raquel took him to his pediatrician, who sent her to a nearby emergency room. A chest X-ray revealed fluid in Elliott's lungs, and he was admitted to the hospital. The next morning, the doctor on duty—who had once worked at CHLA—ordered an immediate echocardiogram, an ultrasound of his heart. The technician hadn't even finished the test when the doctor summoned Raquel and Travis out into the hallway. She'd just called Children's Hospital Los Angeles; an ambulance was on the way. Elliott was in heart

failure. Raquel was so stunned, she almost fainted right there in the hallway. Travis, who is 6-foot-8, almost fell on top of her. “The doctor had to grab me and take me to a chair so I could sit down and catch my breath,” she remembers. “Heart failure? I mean, that had never crossed our minds. He had been thriving. How could this have happened? How? Why? I was just overwhelmed.”

200-pound lifesaver

When Elliott arrived at CHLA, he was immediately admitted to the [Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Foundation Cardiothoracic Intensive Care Unit \(CTICU\)](#). A sea of doctors converged on him, inserting a central line so they could administer vital medication for his heart. “He was in critical condition,” Raquel says. “Extremely critical.” Elliott was diagnosed with dilated cardiomyopathy, a condition where the heart becomes weak and enlarged and is unable to pump blood well. A brain natriuretic peptide (BNP) blood test measuring his heart function came out in the 4000s; a normal result is under 100. How could a seemingly healthy toddler like Elliott suddenly go into dire heart failure? Doctors don't know. “In about 60 percent of children with dilated cardiomyopathy, the cause is unknown,” says [Jennifer Su, MD](#), one of Elliott's cardiologists at CHLA. “It's unclear whether Elliott had an infection that caused this, or whether his heart hadn't actually been working well for months, but had been compensating, and the acute illness was just a tipping point.” Regardless of the cause, it quickly became clear that Elliott's only hope was a heart transplant. But a wait for a heart can take months. Elliott's heart wasn't going to last that long. Enter the Berlin Heart, the only ventricular assist device (VAD) approved for children by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The device is essentially a mechanical pump that takes over the work of the left ventricle—pumping blood to the body and vital organs—and serves as a vital “bridge” to transplant. machine that drives it. The pump, though, is not implanted in the body. Instead, surgeons implant flexible tubes in the heart that extend through the skin and connect to the external pump, which is connected to a 200-pound computerized machine that drives it. That meant Elliott would not be able to leave the hospital. He was literally “leashed” to the machine. But it was his only chance. “Elliott's heart function was at a level where it could give out at any time,” Dr. Su says. “Without the Berlin Heart, he would not be alive today.”



Living in the moment

By the time Raquel was making that total eclipse wish on Aug. 21, Elliott had been on the Berlin Heart for almost three months. It had been, to say the least, a long, hard summer. “Our world turned upside down,” Raquel says. “We called our jobs and said, ‘We can’t come in; we don’t know when we can come in.’ Everything stopped for us.” Elliott spent the first eight weeks in the CTICU, before he was finally strong enough to move to the Cardiovascular Acute unit. His body was weak; he had to learn how to sit up, stand and walk all over again—this time while attached to the Berlin Heart. The family settled into a routine. CHLA became their home, their second family. Mixed in with the exhaustion were wonderful moments—like Elliott’s music teacher coming to visit him, playing soothing ukulele and guitar and bringing him instruments to help with his occupational therapy. And there was the moment Raquel and Travis were able to hold their son for the first time in six weeks. “It was like holding him for the first time all

over again,” his mom says. They learned, most of all, not to think ahead. “We just had to live in the moment,” Raquel says. “Otherwise, you get so anxious. Those walls just come closing in on you.”

A helicopter lands

Around 4 p.m. on the day of the total solar eclipse, Raquel was watching a movie with Elliott in his room when one of the transplant nurses walked in. “The best part of my job is telling parents we’ve found a donor,” the nurse said. Raquel’s jaw dropped. You mean—? Yes, the nurse said. A donor heart was available for Elliott. Raquel’s total eclipse wish had come true. “I freaked out,” she remembers. “I just knew this day was special, just the energy. I knew it.” She and Travis started celebrating. She ran to tell the nurses in the CTICU. She was elated—and then, just as suddenly, a wave of sadness came over her. “It started hitting me that, oh my God, a child died,” she says. “I was mourning for that child and those parents.” Elliott was wheeled into surgery the next morning. Around noon, Raquel and Travis and a few close family members were outside the hospital’s HBO Café when a helicopter approached CHLA. They ran to get a better view. “That’s my son’s heart,” Raquel told a group of CHLA employees eating lunch nearby. “My son’s new heart is on that helicopter.” Elliott’s surgery, led by [Ram Subramanyan, MD, PhD](#), went smoothly. But soon after surgery, Raquel and Travis had to endure one more scare: Elliott’s new heart was failing—a condition called graft dysfunction. The new heart wasn’t pumping strongly enough. Dr. Subramanyan and the team took him back into surgery and reopened his chest—an emergency measure that ensured Elliott could be immediately connected to extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO), a heart-lung bypass support system, if his new heart gave out. Luckily, that wasn’t needed. After he came out of the operating room, the CHLA team started him on additional medications, including insulin (he had very high glucose levels). His heart function quickly improved. Six weeks later, on Oct. 4, 2017, the family finally went home.

‘Thank you, little heart’

Today, Elliott is 3 ½ and doing great. He’s extremely gregarious, smiles and says hi to everyone, and adores playing outside in the dirt with his toy trucks and beloved toy space shuttle. He has energy to spare. “He’s a normal, hyper little 3-year-old,” says his mom. “You would never know he had a heart transplant.” Raquel and Travis want to express their gratitude to CHLA—the nurses, doctors, surgeons, Child Life specialists and the entire Heart Institute team who walked hand-in-hand with them on this most difficult of journeys. “We’re just very humble and grateful,” Raquel says. “We still live in the moment, but we also look forward to the future.” She thinks about the donor family every day. She knows it was that family’s courage and generosity—amidst gut-wrenching grief—that gave her son his second chance. Sometimes, at night, she’ll tiptoe into Elliott’s room and watch him sleep, his chest rising and falling effortlessly with his healthy new heart inside. And she’ll say a little prayer, a little blessing of thanks: “You’re such a good heart. We’re always going to take care of you,” she whispers. “Thank you, little heart.”



Article courtesy Children’s Hospital Los Angeles

How you can help:

Refer your friends, neighbors, associates or family members considering making a move: www.ReferralsHelpKids.com or call Corey at 213-880-9910