



The Acabal Family

Battling: 5-year-old, Makayla

Makayla and her two sisters, 10-year-old Mary and 3-years-old Katie, are a part of a loving family. Her mom Shelma, and Dad Cruz, are always together, for better or for worse.

It felt like the world was crashing down last August when Doctors diagnosed Makayla with Acute Lymphoid Leukemia. Makayla found herself facing the biggest battle imaginable for a 5-year-old. Since her diagnosis, young Makayla has endured chemo treatments, lumbar punctures, labs, and transfusions. She is still on an IV chemo and oral chemo regimen, as well as lumbar

punctures once a month. Doctors consider her a 'high risk' patient with persistent Leukemia. At the current pace, she is on track for yet another one year of treatments, so long as there are no delays. Makayla has encountered several infections during the course of her treatments. She still has a long road ahead.

This battle has caused the family to face one of the 'for worse' times they have ever encountered. They had to shift from two incomes to one. Makayla's family continues to put their faith in God and trust in their doctors. They are taking things one month at a time. Makayla's older sister Mary has especially been struggling with watching her little sister fight this battle and seeing her sister so sick. Mary makes it a priority to be strong for her sister so much so that she would rather stay with her sister than even go to school. It would mean so much to Shelma and Cruz to be able to give Makayla and her sisters a Christmas where they don't have to think about Makayla's pain during such a difficult time.

This year we join to help this family have a wonderful Christmas!