



The Hausia Family

Battling: 4-year-old, Oto

Oto comes from a big family who are from Hawaii. He is the middle of 6 Children to Tama's and Melenait. His siblings are, his sister, Tama's 9-years-old and Melenait 10 months-old, and brothers, Lomano, 5-years-old, Pala 3-years-old, and Zion 1-year-old. Mom, Ankanesi 29 years-old and Dad, Sione 29-years-old.

Last November, Oto was diagnosed with a rare cancer called Rhabdomyosarcoma. This news devastated his family as this was unimaginable. It started when Oto had a cyst that was located on his face which the doctors discovered the cyst had turned cancerous. After the initial shock began to wear off,

Sione and Ankanesi where in the fight with Oto. They where in and out of appointments with surgeons, oncologists, and ophthalmologists to find the best plan of action. Oto began chemo but four months in he had relapsed twice because his body was rejecting the chemo. He was on track to begin radiation as soon as possible, but then the doctors made a recommendation which really changed their lives. The Hausa family, from Hawaii, were highly encouraged to come to Houston ASAP for Oto's treatment instead of staying in Hawaii. Oto's tumor is solid, and right underneath his right eye. It is a very sensitive area. He also has some in his lymph nodes. The doctors felt the proton treatment in Houston would be the best plan for Oto. So, in agreement, two weeks later, this family of eight, packed what they could and relocated to Houston.

Oto is now Houston and receiving treatment at MD Anderson. He's relapsed once and even though he has received 30 rounds of radiation, his tumor has become more aggressive. Four-year-old Oto has had surgery to remove the tumor which the doctors took out as much of as they could. His treatments continue as the family adjusts to their new life in Houston.

Hausia Family Story Continued...

The Huasa Family has high Hope's for Oto and all of them are standing by his side. Whether it is inpatient, or home, his siblings are there every step of the way. They choose to speak life over their circumstances. Oto's dad is working currently and tries to get as much overtime as possible to support their large family. The complete life change has taken quite a toll on the family. They are currently in a small apartment with a foundation who helps people in situations like theirs. They must move by the end of December and have been seeking an affordable place to live for a large family with one income. The timing is challenging with Christmas approaching. Ankanesi's wish is that the family can enjoy Christmas and not think about all the appointments and their current struggles, ending the year positive.

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