

Joseph's Angel Flights are more than just transportation to his doctors

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"fly by the seat of his pants," an aviation phrase meaning he has a terrific sense of his body position and movement in space.

Knowing how important aviation is to Joseph, Joanne found doctors at the Casey Eye Institute in Vancouver, Washington who could potentially help improve his vision. But his autism makes car trips difficult - he can fly, but has trouble riding in a car. Joanne spent her entire savings on the adoption with very little income to spare. She had seen an Angel Flight West booth at an aviation trade show and gave us a call. We're so glad she did. We've now flown Joseph and his mom twice and look forward to flying him again in the future!



Support *Angel Flight* WEST



#GIVING TUESDAY

Sometimes the road to health is a runway!

This holiday season, AFW is kick-starting our #GivingTuesday fundraising campaign during the month of November through December 3rd. We want you to be a part of it!

Our goal this #GivingTuesday: raise \$45,000 to fly 225 missions!

Your generous donation will allow us to reach and serve more people in need of our flights.

Thanks to a matching grant from our Board of Directors, all donations received before December 3, 2019 at 11:59pm PST will be doubled up to \$25,000!

BECOME A #GIVINGTUESDAY AMBASSADOR

Lend your voice to raise awareness and funds for Angel Flight West by becoming a #GivingTuesday Ambassador. Start your own fundraiser to help more people in need access free flights to healthcare.

For more information on becoming a #GivingTuesday Ambassador or to make a donation towards #GivingTuesday go to:

<http://bit.ly/AFWGT2019>

Thank you for supporting Angel Flight West on #GivingTuesday!

3161 Donald Douglas Loop South
Santa Monica, CA 90405



Phone: 310-390-2958
Web: www.AngelFlightWest.org



FLIGHTS OF HOPE NEWS



Thanks to you, little Jane is on the road to health despite multiple health challenges and many specialist visits.

INSIDE

Jessica battles terminal illness far from home.

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Joseph's Angel Flights are more than just transportation.

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Angel Flight West delivers health and hope using donated flights to serve those with healthcare or other compelling human needs.

Angel Flight West links volunteer pilots and commercial airlines with people whose non-emergency health needs require air transportation to access care.

Angel Flight West fills an important need for children like Jane

Without your generosity, little Jane might not have received the care she needed to survive.

Sweet little Jane from Kalispell, Montana was born prematurely with heart disease, Down syndrome, and other complications, and spent 37 days in the NICU as doctors fought to stabilize her condition. At four months old, she narrowly avoided a liver transplant when her own liver

miraculously started working.

Jane's case manager at Montana Children's in Kalispell contacted Angel Flight West in June, and we flew her to Children's Hospital Colorado where she had major heart surgery. Colorado volunteer pilot Tom McIntosh and his wife Peggy were so charmed by Jane

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

It's hard to come to work every day at Angel Flight West and not be thankful and inspired. The passengers we serve are a constant reminder that health and well-being can never be taken for granted. They also remind us that we can always choose hope regardless of our circumstances. If you've volunteered for AFW, you've likely been left with the same feeling. Grateful for doing something we love to help others in our own small way.



Josh Olson
Executive Director

This feeling of inspiration and gratitude is the equivalent of gas to a plane that fuels our desire to help others, and to serve those who need donated flights. In our Ascent to 8,000 Flights Campaign, we're growing to meet more of this massive need for transportation to healthcare. This year, we will fly a new high of over 5,000 donated flights serving those in need.

I can't say this enough to all of our volunteers, supporters, and partners: THANK YOU! It's your increased support and activity that has fueled our mission growth. It's the reason we can serve more people like Joseph, Jane, and Jessica - passengers who you'll read about in this newsletter.

I am inspired by your passion and generosity, and look forward to turning that inspiration into opportunities to eliminate the transportation barrier to medical care. We can't wait to share more of these success stories with you. Thank you for all you do and for your continued generous support!

Ever grateful,

Josh Olson, Executive Director

Jessica battles terminal illness far from home

Thanks to you, Jessica is responding to treatments she wouldn't have been able to receive where she lives.



Jessica is receiving life-saving bone marrow treatments at a hospital 700 miles from her home. Struggling with mounting medical bills, your gift helps her and her family not have to worry about this one aspect of her health care.

"I always thought I could handle any situation," Jessica told AFW, "being a wife, mother, having a rewarding career. But, it all got flipped on its head when I was diagnosed."

Jessica was the active mom of two young children, living with her husband in South Jordan, Utah, and working as the director of marketing at a sports medicine imaging company when she was diagnosed with terminal stage three follicular lymphoma in 2016.

After her first round of treatment in Utah, Jessica had to stop working. Her doctors eventually referred her to the University of Washington Medical Center in Seattle, over 850 miles away. Her family began struggling with mounting medical bills now on a single income. Jessica found Angel Flight West through a hospital resource center, and her missions to Seattle began in 2017.

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Jessica's Story Continued...

Unfortunately, after the protocol there the cancer kept recurring, and Jessica was placed in hospice. Her doctors then recommended a bone marrow treatment at UCSD Moores Cancer Center in La Jolla, California, another 700 miles away.

Jessica has been able to receive treatment with AFW flying her and from this new destination five times so far. She is responding incredibly well to the new treatment with a positive prognosis. AFW will continue to be there for Jessica as long as she needs.

Angel Flight Fills an Important Need for Children like Jane

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and moved by her story, that when her return flight had to be cancelled because of bad weather, Tom purchased airline tickets to get the family home and even walked them to their gate.

Jane currently needs to see six pediatric specialists five days a week, and her mom had to quit her job to manage all her care. She'll need one more open-heart surgery in the near future, but she's on the road to good health and looking cuter than ever. Mom Nicole wrote to Tom, "You made her successful surgery possible, and we are grateful beyond belief. We will never be able to thank you enough."



Thanks to your generosity, Joseph is getting the care that could improve his sight and get him closer to his dream of becoming a pilot.

Joseph's Angel Flights are more than just transportation to his doctors

Thirteen-year-old Joseph might possibly love aviation more than any other teenager in Auburn, Washington. Joseph was born in China and spent his first 11 years in an orphanage before he was adopted by single mom Joanne and brought to the U.S. That flight changed his life in more ways than one, and Joseph had his first flying lesson shortly after because his newfound passion for airplanes was so great.

The special thing about Joseph, though, is that he was born with microphthalmia, a condition where his eyeballs are extremely small and he can only see light. He also suffers from what is most likely institutional autism from his extended time in the orphanage. But Joseph loves airplanes, and his dream is to design instruments to help blind people become pilots. He trains with the Washington Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, and flight instructors have told his mom that he has the ability to

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