

Press Release Wicked Cool Music  
Barrington, NH  
January, 21, 2012

## A Community Quietly Comes Together

This story is not unlike many around, except that it has affected us profoundly for one reason or another – perhaps it is because she is a friend to our children, or because she is our neighbor or simply because she is so young. In any event, this small community (within our 10,000 residents) has come together to raise money for Katherine's family using what they know. From an airsoft event to a car wash to a dance and now Tom Schena, a local up and coming artist, raising money in the way he knows. Tom, a talented singer and song writer is dedicating one of his songs to Katherine's cause and making it available for people to buy with the initial proceeds going to the family.

### Who is Katherine Martel?

If you speak to Katherine's mom, she will tell you that Katherine is the strongest person she knows. Katherine's ability to smile and welcome her friends and family to visit her at her lowest times is a true demonstration of courage and love. If you ask her friends, she is a funny and caring high school freshman with the same normal struggles as any teenager, except for this one additional health issue.

### What is Katherine's Story?

Katherine had just begun her freshman year at Coe Brown Northwood Academy. Only six days into the school year she came home with a severe headache and began vomiting, with no relief. Katherine was taken by ambulance to a local emergency room where she proceeded to have a seizure, followed by a CAT scan revealing a brain tumor. She was then rushed to Boston Children's Hospital where she underwent immediate brain surgery, removing the tumor. Since then Katherine has experienced an infection in her body, a collapsed lung, a mini stroke, a trachea tube and swelling in her brain requiring a shunt. Time was spent in intensive care and then in rehab with the intent to make Katherine strong enough to endure the radiation and chemotherapy needed to treat the cancer, including new tumors that had appeared. Since this time Katherine has been working hard to regain her speech and the use of her right side. She continues with PT, OT and speech therapy while dealing with continuous infections and other issues, such as short term memory loss. Travel to Massachusetts from New Hampshire is a constant in her life, with overnight stays in the hospital being the norm with her mom by her side. It is the hope of all that Katherine continues to rise above her current health conditions, putting this phase of her young life behind her and allowing her to move on, living a healthy, happy and vibrant life.

### United for Katherine

Friends of Katherine have come together and formed **United for Katherine**, a group of fundraising efforts where the money raised is put in to an account for Katherine's family. These funds help to offset the costs of living and travel expenses, parking fees at the hospital, and living arrangements when in Boston. Katherine's mother has been by her side since day one of this ordeal, causing her to leave her job so she can focus exclusively on Katherine and her medical care. This has put financial strain on the family at a time when they need to focus all of their attention and energy on the health needs of their daughter.

“We travel back and forth from NH to MA for treatment and take one day at a time. She now attends PT, OT and speech therapy when we are home in New Hampshire at Wentworth-Douglass Hospital. I have not been able to work since this ordeal began in August, and I spend all of my time with my only child wherever we need to be. Katherine has a long road of treatment and recovery in front of her and there have been many setbacks and bumps in the road, but we will keep moving forward and look toward putting this nightmare behind us.”

- *Lisa Soucy Sturtevant, Katherine Martel's Mom*

## How Can You Help?

Prayers and donations seem to be the best way anyone can support this cause. Any amount of either is greatly appreciated.

### Prayers and Affirmations

**Only positive thoughts, please.** Instead of focusing on the cancer to go away, try to simply think of Katherine as healthy, vital and back in school being a teenager. You don't need to know or meet her to think of her. If you prefer prayer, please ask for her to get healthier every day.

### All Donations Welcome!

**(A) Donations (monetary, gift cards, gas cards) can be sent directly to:**

**Lisa Sturtevant**  
c/o Wicked Cool Music LLC  
494 Greenhill Road  
Barrington, NH 03825

**(B) PayPal Donations can be made by:**

1. Sending a donation to [billing@TheLatestDevelopment.com](mailto:billing@TheLatestDevelopment.com)
2. Going to [United4Katherine.com](http://United4Katherine.com) and donating there.

*(please note that we are using The Latest Development LLC as our online donation bin for now)*

Or

**(C) Purchase Tom's song "A Little Help" on any one of these online outlets:**

[TomSचनाMusic.com](http://TomSचनाMusic.com)



*All proceeds until April 30<sup>th</sup> or up to \$100,000 (or greater, at Tom's discretion) will go directly to pay the family's living and travel expenses.*

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## Contact Information

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