

## Jacob A. Moore

Jacob Moore, 14 years old, is one of Georgia's most visible advocates for children's healthcare and educational reform in the state of Georgia due to his Mommy's involvement in the issues. Jacob has been involved in various media awareness events including CBS's investigative report on the Katie Beckett Waiver Medicaid Crisis, Fox's therapy report, Associated Press article on Down syndrome during the Presidential election in 2008 and CNN's Medical Minute. In addition, Jacob has been involved in numerous Disability Day events and participated in two healthcare rallies at the Georgia State Capitol.

Because of Jacob's Mommy's advocacy efforts, Jacob was involved in a six part mini-series by the Georgia Dept. of Education and Georgia Public Broadcasting. The series, focused on parents' involvement in the school system and maximizing students' potential in the public education system. Jacob has also been involved in a national video production of the second video for "The TV Teacher- Alphabet Beats" writing program to help children learn to write.

Although Jacob has had over 100 surgeries and procedures (Over 25 spinal taps, GI, heart, ENT, eye, IV port for chemotherapy, etc.), it hasn't stopped his energetic and loving spirit to succeed in life. He currently receives over 4 therapies a week including physical, music, occupational, speech and behavioral. Due to hard work of many people on the "Jacob team", Jacob is now talking, loves to read, play the piano, bells and xylophone, yoga, and participate in baseball for the Alpharetta Braves team, his favorite sport. Jacob's hope and dream is that society will see him for his abilities and not disabilities, as he continues to amaze everyone that he encounters in the world (transcribed by Mommy and Daddy).

On November 13, 2009, Jacob was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) - also known as Childhood Leukemia. More information can be found on [www.teamjacob.org](http://www.teamjacob.org). To following Jacob's Journey, please go to: <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/prayforjacobmoore/mystory> .

Jacob also played the piano during the Shriner's Telethon in Rome, Georgia on August 5, 2007 to benefit Shriner's hospitals across the country! On May 30, 2009, Jacob received the gold medal for the 50 M dash at the Special Olympics State Games at Emory University. One year later on May 22, 2010, Jacob continued to receive two gold medals for the 50 M walk and soft ball throw even though two months early had spent 8 weeks in the hospital learning to walk again due to cancer treatment!

In October 2010, Jacob was asked to be The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's "Honored Hero" for the spring runners, walkers, cyclists and triathletes events. In addition, Jacob's family will be an honored family for the UGA Miracle group who raises money for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta (CHOA). In June 2011, Jacob was named "walk ambassador" for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta's annual Six Flags walk raising money for the hospital. In July 2012, the entire Moore family was highlighted during the CHOA AFLAC Cancer Center telethon to help raise money and awareness for pediatric cancer in an interview on WSB radio.

On January 9, 2011 (Jacob's actual birthday), the Moore family celebrated with a fundraiser (Jumping for Jacob) to help raise \$30,000 to fund a research grant at Northwestern University-Chicago on the biology and targeted therapy of childhood Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (ALL) in patients with Down syndrome.

On January 20, 2013, Jacob completed chemotherapy for Leukemia after a long 3.5 yrs of treatment and will continue to be monitored by the AFLAC Cancer Center for another 4.5 years until he is considered "cured of cancer" at the age of 18 yrs old (total of 8 yrs of treatment and monitoring). [www.youtube.com/watch?v=ecN1e5dSUcQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ecN1e5dSUcQ) On 3/10/13, over 350 family and friends celebrated by having a "No Moore Chemo" party. Senator John Albers and the State of Georgia declared this day as Jacob Moore Day in the State of Georgia. [www.youtube.com/watch?v=2f9gzQZutvs](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2f9gzQZutvs) In addition, in September 2013, Jacob and his family were involved in working with Senator Albers and Governor Deal to declare September as Childhood Cancer awareness month in the State of Georgia! [www.youtube.com/watch?v=lt0jLTDR69E](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lt0jLTDR69E)

Later in 2015, Jacob will be featured in a full length documentary “*Universal MusiCare: The Music Therapy Experience*” looking at the impact music therapy has on development, language, self help skills, pain control and overall happiness in life in Jacob’s life. (Jacob has been receiving music therapy since the age of 3 months old) <http://www.terra-rising.com/>.

Jacob and his family are currently involved with many organizations including: North Metro Miracle League, Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research, National Down Syndrome Congress, Down Syndrome Association of Atlanta, Unlock the Waiting Lists, Georgia Autism Society, Special Olympics, Autism Speaks, Camp Sunshine, CURE Childhood Cancer, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, National Down Syndrome Society, Families of Children Under Stress (FOCUS), Sibley Heart Center Kids at Heart Program and Scarborough & Friends Foundation.

Jacob attends 6th grade at Haynes Bridge Middle School. He resides in Alpharetta with his parents Steven and Heidi, brave brother, Jared 12 years old and dogs (Libby and Lance).