

MATTHEW THOMAS COSTIS

February 28, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

On February 9, 2008, Matthew Thomas Costis, an eight-year-old child with no previous severe medical history, was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Matthew underwent surgery at Children's National Medical Hospital in Washington, D.C., on February 12 to remove a grade 4 glial mass from his cerebellum that was posing an immediate threat. The surgery was successful, and Matthew has begun to recover. Unfortunately, his fight has just begun. Imaging revealed two lesions located in the area of the temporal lobes, and on February 20, Matthew was diagnosed with a type of stage-four brain cancer known as Glioblastoma multiforme (GBM). He will begin radiation therapy on March 3, 2008, and continue for six weeks. Chemotherapy will follow radiation for an undetermined amount of time. Matthews's parents have made all attempts to provide the best medical care possible, but Matthew faces continuing medical bills for the foreseeable future. The family needs financial assistance to maintain their home and meet their essential needs while they care for Matthew. We are asking for help from the community in the form of monetary funds, grocery gift cards, gas cards for commuting back and forth to the hospital, and any other gestures one might want to make. It is our prayer that this brilliant and loving child will be triumphant in his fight against Glioblastoma multiforme and will make a full and timely recovery.

Sincerely,

The Parents and Family of
Matthew Thomas Costis