



Anna Basso and Micaela White's friendship began when both girls were seven years old. Their carefree days of childhood included school dances, birthday parties, sleepovers, father/daughter campouts, and birthday breakfasts at the IHOP by school. When Anna and Micaela embarked to separate high schools, their friendship remained strong.

During their junior year of high school, both lives were forever changed. First, Anna was diagnosed with Ewing sarcoma. A year later, Micaela was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia. For several months the girls spent time together in the hospital sharing an experience others could only imagine. While in the hospital in the midst of recovery from her bone marrow transplant, Micaela learned that Anna had passed away, after chemo could not stop the progression of her disease. Just two months later, Micaela developed complications related to her treatment and passed away. Friends of both young women attended two funerals in the summer of 2011 before heading off to college.

Two foundations were formed to honor each of their young lives. The 1 Million 4 Anna Foundation provides small, age-appropriate, spirit-lifting gift teens fighting any cancer in 22 children's hospitals across the United States through its Anna's Closet program; they have awarded over 250 collegiate scholarships to Ewing sarcoma warriors and survivors; and the Foundation's largest research grant established a formal Ewing Sarcoma Research Program at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas. 1 Million 4 Anna continues supporting this programming that involves multiple Ewing sarcoma research projects led by five brilliant research scientists, determined to find new ways to treat and cure this devastating cancer.

Micaela's Army Foundation supports children and teens through their "Sock-it-to-me" program, Mickey's Meds, and "Teddy Bear-thon." Inspired by Micaela's love of dance, the Foundation also partners with *Dancers Give Back*, another non-profit organization, hosting annual events for young dancers. Proceeds from these events have funded various clinical trials and research programs around the DFW area. Most recently, Micaela's Army funding has supported a St. Baldrick's Scholar at the University of Rochester. The team in Rochester is currently studying how leukemia can send "trick signals" to the immune system with the goal of finding ways to turn off these signals in order for the immune system to be used to cure leukemia.

This summer, Micaela's Army Foundation and the 1 Million 4 Anna Foundation are joining forces in the fight against pediatric cancer. We hope you can join us for our First Annual Improv Night. Thank you for your consideration!

**We are determined to continue our growth and success and we sincerely appreciate your support!**

