



## Teen pays it forward by helping other families fight cancer

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Just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday, here's a touching pay-it-forward story from *The Wall Street Journal* today.

Jackie Ceraolo, 15, was diagnosed in 2008 with osteosarcoma, a type of bone cancer. Such a diagnosis can be painfully devastating to a teen, but thanks to the support of individuals and companies that came forward with laptops and tickets to the Rachael Ray Show, she found the strength to get through her two surgeries and 27 rounds of chemotherapy treatments, ultimately conquering the cancer.

Now cancer-free, Jackie and her family are paying it forward, working with two other New Jersey families to start the Beauty Foundation Friends, an organization of teenagers from around New Jersey to raise money for charities that help families affected by cancer.

"When a family faces a cancer diagnosis, often times a mother or father can lose a job, have a hard time paying bills or just preparing meals," says Jackie's mother, Laurie Ceraolo, who is now a board member at the Beauty Foundation, as quoted by WSJ.

Providing everything from monetary assistance to child care, Beauty Foundation Friends has been able to raise an astounding \$23,000 for a Dance-A-Thon this Friday in just four weeks.

The secret to their success? The bulk of the fundraising by the teens was done through social networking sites like Twitter and Facebook.