



Give Thanks



Remember

Dedications 2 Dads



Show Love



Help a Family

Media Kit

An Initiative of the Andre Sobel River of Life Foundation





What It's About

Give Thanks. Remember. Show Love. Help a Family.

From June 8 to 28, honor your dad this Father's Day with a gift that will have a real impact: a donation that will help a single parent family with a terminally-ill child.

Dedications 2 Dads, an initiative of the Andre Sobel River of Life Foundation, is calling on you, mothers, fathers, grandparents, siblings, caretakers, and others, to help single parent families this Father's Day.

Donations go to help single parents, like a single dad with two kids who had to reduce his hours at work to take his child to treatments, or a single father who has recently lost his job and is trying to provide for his family while providing the comfort and level of care his ill child deserves.

I am a father. Money is tight when living paycheck to paycheck and fear of losing my son, my job, and our home was an unfortunate reality.

Because of the Andre Sobel River of Life Foundation, we still have our house. More importantly, thanks to God, we still have our beautiful son, our family is intact, and I have a better job too.

Robert Benchek

Follow **Dedications 2 Dads** on **Twitter** [@asriveroflife](https://twitter.com/asriveroflife).



We will be hosting Tweetchats throughout the next few weeks. Tweet about your dad and share your experiences by using the hashtag **#andred2d**.



Make a Dedication to Your Dad

Here's how it works:

- 1) Visit the Andre Sobel River of Life website (<http://www.andreriveroflife.org>) and click on the **Dedications 2 Dads** icon.
- 2) Click on the **Donate** Link.
- 3) Select a way to donate, either from the **\$5 for 500 Dads** option or one of the other great ways to give, like donating transportation or a bag of groceries.
- 4) For every donation, you can send your dad a card. This option will be available at the end of the donation.
- 5) A list of the dads who have had donations made in their name will be listed on the Andre Sobel River of Life website.

Your dedication will have a personal touch for dad as well as recognition to people across the web for that dad in your life.

For media inquiries & **Dedications 2 Dads** information,
please contact Christina Gagnier.

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The Story of a Single Father

A is a 15 year old boy being treated in Los Angeles who was diagnosed in 2007 with leukemia. He has three other siblings, and his younger sister was his donor for a bone marrow transplant as she was a nearly perfect match. Their mother died in 2006, and their father, who is also ill, is taking care of all four children.

For the last three months, he has been unable to work due to his own illness as well as the extra attention that A's care has recently demanded. This Dad can barely manage, and the family is under extreme financial stress. We have been able to help by paying for their electric and phone bills (which were two months behind), bringing their rent payment (a month past due) current, and paying forward the rent two months in advance. The landlord helped by assuring us that, as the family hopes to relocate to Section 8 housing in the next two months, he will allow them to remain in case of any delay with this process. We are grateful to him.

We also passed onto the family food vouchers (\$225) and negotiated taxi fare in case of a medical emergency for either father or son. We purchased a very special school backpack for the younger sister who served as a donor with her name embroidered upon it that brought a big smile to her face.

Total assistance to date: \$3,455



Little Ways to Give, Big Impact

Help A Single Dad Get to the Hospital

\$10

Sometimes the simplest thing -- like having enough money for bus fare -- can keep a father and child from getting to the hospital for the child's regular chemotherapy.

A gift of \$10 can pay bus fare for Dad and his child to get to and from the hospital, ensuring that the child receives critical medical treatment. When your child is seriously ill, it is stressful enough. Help relieve a family's financial burden so that Dad can focus on his son's healing.

Buy a Gift Card For Cell Phone Minutes, Gas, Food

\$25

When a child is diagnosed with a life threatening illness, family finances get stressed fast. If mom quits her job to stay with the sick child, and dad is on disability, where will the money come from? Even the simplest purchases -- for food, diapers, gas, medicine -- can overwhelm a family struggling to care for a child with a terminal or catastrophic illness.

Your gift card will help a kind neighbor or relative go shopping for this family in need. Your gift will help to ease their financial burdens, so that the parents can focus on the child's healing.

Buy Groceries When a Child is Sick

\$75

When a child is catastrophically ill, things happen fast. Medical bills add up quickly. It's expensive to travel to the hospital, and soon enough the money runs out. It's stressful enough to have a child with a catastrophic illness. Having to worry about how to feed siblings and keep gas in the car can add even more stress. Your gift will feed a sick child's family, softening a family's burden and letting Dad focus on caring for the child with a life threatening illness. Just knowing that he can buy groceries and feed his family helps a parent cope better during a traumatic time.

Bring A Grandparent To Help Out Dad

\$150

When a child is diagnosed with a life threatening illness, life changes in an instant. A single dad might quit his job to be at the hospital with his child, but who will help out the siblings at home? Siblings need a loving parent now more than ever.

Your gift will pay for transportation for a grandparent to visit and care for siblings. Your gift will help with gas, a long distance bus ticket, or plane fare. Not only will your gift give siblings their loving grandparent during this fragile time, it will give Dad peace of mind knowing that he can focus on his sick child's healing.



Fathers & The Children They Love

A is a young lady suffering from a malignant tumor on the brain stem. She is unable to talk or move, and her only method of communication is by lifting her finger. Because of the severity of her disease, her single father is unable to work, as he is caring full time for his catastrophically ill 13 year old.

A is a 13 year old boy diagnosed with Leukemia. His mother left him and his four siblings in the care of their father who is raising the five children by himself. The family does not have documents and are eligible only for a few services. Mother lives in Mexico and has tried at various times to reunite with the family since A's illness. She was caught each time at the border and has not able to cross to date.



Share In Our Story, Connect With Us

" Pediatric disease happens to an entire family."

*Valerie Sobel, Founder
Andre Sobel River of Life Foundation*

The Andre Sobel River of Life Foundation was created in the wake of founder Valerie Sobel's loss of her teenage son Andre from an inoperable brain tumor. She realized that it had been a blessing that she was able to care for her son and not worry about finances and other resources. Upon discovering that many single parents with critically-ill children are forced to chose between working to provide basic needs and staying with their terminally ill child, she created the foundation to relieve this financial and emotional burden.

The Andre Sobel River of Life Foundation (a 501(c)(3) public charity) provides emergency assistance within 24 hours to single caregivers of children with catastrophic or life threatening illnesses who are in financial crises. Working in partnership with 12 pediatric hospitals nationally, we have helped over 7,000 family members in the past nine years. Without ASRL's support, many children with life threatening illnesses would be facing pain, treatments, fear, and at times, even their death, without a parent by their side.

For mail donations:

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