



# Olivia Schrader

Olivia, the 5 year old daughter of Buffalo Grove High School Head Girls Gymnastics coach and former Palatine HS Gymnast Stephanie Schrader, was recently diagnosed with cystic fibrosis. She has responded tremendously to treatments and has made great improvements in her overall health. The hope for the future has never been brighter for children with cystic fibrosis. In January 2012 the FDA approved a drug that es-

entially cures one mutation of cystic fibrosis (there are over 1800 different mutations). This drug however, only works on 4% of the CF population. The most common mutation, which Olivia has, still needs a cure. The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation works with the companies developing treatments and potential cures to improve the quality of life for people with cystic fibrosis. Because of the work of the foundation, there is hope for all children of cystic fibrosis, and their dreams of living a long, happy, healthy life.

Friends and family of Olivia have formed a team to walk in the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Great Strides Walk on June 2nd, 2013 in Barrington. Donations can be made by cash or check (made out to Cystic Fibrosis Foundation) or online by going to [cff.org](http://cff.org), Great Strides. Search for A Cure for Olivia or Stephanie Schrader to donate in Olivia's honor.

## What Is Cystic Fibrosis?

Cystic fibrosis is an inherited chronic disease that affects the lungs and digestive system of about 30,000 children and adults in the United States (70,000 worldwide). A defective gene and its protein product cause the body to produce unusually thick, sticky mucus that:

- clogs the lungs and leads to life-threatening lung infections; and
- obstructs the pancreas and stops natural enzymes from helping the body break down and absorb food.

In the 1950s, few children with cystic fibrosis lived to attend elementary school. Today, advances in research and medical treatments have further enhanced and extended life for children and adults with CF. Many people with the disease can now expect to live into their 30s, 40s and beyond.

The predicted median age of survival for a person with CF is in the late 30s.

Since 1955, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation has been the driving force behind the pursuit of a cure. Thanks to the dedication and financial backing of our supporters — patients, families and friends, clinicians, researchers, volunteers, individual donors, corporations and staff, we are making a difference.

