PEWC FINALS
FUNDRAISER

OCT 11 - OCT 13, 2024
R&J Arena Verndale, MN

Saturday, October 12th
Silent Auction

Drop off items by 10AM Saturday.

Bidding closes 3:30PM

All Weekend
Late fees 100% donated

All proceeds split between the Belluzzo Family for Colton's medical expenses and the PEWC Foundation Scholarship Program.

PEWC Finals

11TH ANNUAL PEWC FINALS

Colton's Story:

Colton was born on February 10, 2017, a seemingly healthy baby. However, at 5 months old, he began a challenging journey. On July 3, 2017, Colton suddenly started vomiting and was taken to urgent care. Initially suspected to have a twisted intestine, he was airlifted to U of M Children's Hospital. Although the issue seemed resolved, follow-up tests revealed elevated liver enzymes.

Further examinations by a pediatric GI specialist showed Colton had elevated CK levels, indicating a muscular issue. Colton's case was reviewed by Dr. Karanchonski (Dr. K), a neurologist specializing in Muscular Dystrophy. Dr. K diagnosed Colton with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, confirmed by DNA testing.

Over the next year, Colton's care team monitored his progress every 6 months. In 2019, Colton was accepted into a drug trial program at UCLA, where he started on Atalauren. A year later, he began a permanent drug trial through U of M.

Now, Colton is 7 years old and just finished 1st grade. He loves playing outside, swimming, working with his animals, and riding his four-wheeler. Despite some muscle weakness and challenges with tasks like getting up off the floor or climbing stairs, Colton leads as normal a life as possible. He takes trial medication three times a day and steroids on weekends to help manage the effects of Muscular Dystrophy.

We are always looking forward to new treatments that will hopefully provide a cure or at least minimize Colton's symptoms. His care team keeps us updated on ongoing research. As a family, we are remodeling our house to be more accessible for Colton. We've added ramps to the outside doors, which Colton loves, and are planning to install a wheelchair lift to give him access to all levels of the house without needing to use stairs.