## Dear Jennifer,

Thank you so much for getting me on a Sunshine Kids trip! It. was so much fon! It was one of the best trips I have ever been on! Not only for the things we did but the people I met. I made so many against aussome friends from all around the U.S. with the same type of cancer I nave. It was good talking to them because they are going through the samething as me. For example, Aldo Deña a I have the same cancer and "was aligaround a week before me. We evre also the same age and we have close Dirthdays! I thought that was so could I still keep in touch with everyone I met there. The Sunshine Hids is such a great organization because it helps kids have for and to get away from the hospital, needles, and other not so fon stuff. Its amazing that you can take kids on dream vactions that cost O, nothing, nadal when I grow up I want to work) volinteers for you guys because I think I would be good at 1+8 because I would like to give back. Everyone was so sweet to me, especially all of the volinteers and workers, on and the norses! You sen helped me get on this trip

very last minute! It was such a hard choice to choose between L.A. and NYC but I am SQ glad small I choose NYC because If I didn't have I wouldn't have met everyone. My fovorite parts of the trip was seeing the Broadway snows and hanging out with everyone! I will never forget the people I met or this A-M-A-Z-I-N-6 trip! manks for making this an awesome trip! manks for taking good care of me! And thanks for this memorable expiercence!!!) On and I hope I will beable to go on another trip. That would be awesome!

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(Ps. heep mount)

To those who made the trip of a lifetime a reality, I never imagined I would be one of those 25 kids chosen to go to L.A. And honestly, I didn't think I really deserved it. My chemo only lasted 12 weeks, radiation just under four. I didn't get sick, and I only had to get a transfusion twice. I felt that I was very lucky in terms of side effects. The only painful thing I suffered was the loss of my hair. At most times, I felt it was harder on my family than it was on me. But the fact of the matter is, I didn't think I would fit in. When I got to L.A., I met so many kids from all across the country. And after getting to know the other kids, talking to them felt natural. They made me realize that no matter how much you went through, how long your treatment was, what side effects you got, or even what type of cancer you were diagnosed with, we're all in the same boat. It wasn't about who had the worst experiences. We were faced with something that no child should ever have to be put through. But let me tell you, we are different people because of it. They inspire me, every one of them. Not just because I know what they went through, but because of the courage and strength they have. Each and every one of us kids were handpicked. Not only to fight this disease and beat it, but we were handpicked to go on that trip to have the time of our lives, forget about the problems back home, and become a family of our own. Thanks to you, we were able to accomplish all of those things plus many more. I cannot express how grateful I am to have been one of those kids. I'm truly amazed at how far you will go out of your way for us. I honestly can't say it enough; thank you, for everything. It meant the world to me to be a part of the family for a week.

Love The Sunshine Kid, Kennedy Grzeskiewicz <3



Dear Sunshine kids Organization I can't begin to explain how thankful and greatly appreciated I am to have gone to Florida. Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would be able to go to Disney World. I had so much fun, this mill be an experience to remember for the rest of my life. This was a wonderful blessing

the bad times the good came. And ithout all your time and great efforts. This would have ever been possible. With much love, Andrea Alambyla

Dear Sunshine Kids Foundation,

What can I say. It was a trip of a life time for our patients and myself. You have impacted the lives of these children forever. The friendships, the experiences, "the food", the places of interest in the city, you covered it all The Big Easy was presented to these children in a way they will never forget and will want to visit again. From the Staff to the volunteers- the Sheriff Dept to the Swamp Tour Guide – everyone went Above and Beyond to give these children an exceptional experience. I have been blessed to attend 3 Sunshine Kids Trips and everyone I attend just gets better and better. Thank you so much for including our program and children. I can't say enough about how great all of you are. Edrian, Ben, Jennifer Thank you for all your hard work and dedication. To Miss Judy, Miss Hilda, Shaun, Tiny, Nay Nay, etc and all those I am forgetting and to the Restaurants who donated sooo.... much food for the entire week. Thank You. What you do for these children is beyond words. On behalf of Memorial Children's Hospital. Miranda Thomas, Jesbel Garcia and Jamie Kirk, we want to say "Happy Mardi Gras" to everyone in New Orleans and "Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez"!

Sincerely,

Tammy Robison

Parent Advocate

I cried as soon as I got home. You guys do something amazing for us that we don't get anywhere else. You bring us all together with other people who have the same thing in common with us, and that's fighting for our lives, and we get a week or a few days to be with people who actually understand us. These other kids, teenagers, adults understand everything about us, and it's something none of us get at home. It's almost like a therapy session, but only in the most fun sense. We get to spend time with people who understand what life is really worth, who get just how precious life is, and this week especially created an atmosphere that I never wanted to leave. All of us around similar ages, all with a sense of life and what it has to offer. I wish you could have experienced the last night with us, every single one of us has HUGE plans for our future. We all know our lives are worth so much more now, and all of you at SSK help us to realize that every time we get to go on a trip.

I really hope this helps explain just how blessed each and every one of us is to get to go on any trip. What you do is the best job in the world in our eyes Jen. Every single one of us talked about how amazing you are, and you put together trips that make each of us love life even more. It gets difficult at times to be in a world where people just don't understand, and then we go on these trips and we realize just what we're all meant for and why we made it through. The fight is worth it when we have amazing people by our sides, and you are one of those people. I am more than happy to be a part of anything I can do with SSK and getting to spend time with good people that actually care. Thank you so much for that

Patrick Betters Temecula, CA

## Hi Friends,

I wanted to take a minute to say thank you to all of you. I had the most amazing time at the Lake Escape this year. I feel so blessed and completely honored that you allowed me to take part in this trip once again. You are some of the most amazing people I have ever known and I am so lucky to call you my friends. The Lake Escape has been one of my favorite memories for as long as I can remember. I know you guys don't believe me when I tell you, but the first year that I was on this trip (93) I was quite, shy and completely unsure of myself. I think that your love and kindness is one of the main reasons that I was able to come out of my shell and return the next year (and the next, and the next) as the outgoing, crazy Kasey that I am. The Lake Escape was one of the places where I always felt that I was 100% accepted for who I was, bald or not, on treatment or ofI, quiet or crazy... I told a few of you during conversations this past week that when I think back about my battle it's not the sickness and pain I remember, it's the smiles, laughter, love, fun, hugs, and YOU that I remember. You made my battle bearable and you are doing and have done the same for countless kids. I just want you know how truly grateful I am to know each one of you and how much you have blessed my life. I CAN'T WAIT for next year. Thank you for being you and for all that you do to help in the fight against childhood cancer. Thank you for creating a trip that allows kids with cancer to just be kids. Thank you for bringing smiles to the faces of kids who truly deserve to smile. You are amazing and will forever hold a very special place in my heart.

Much Love, Kasey