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## ON GIVINGTUESDAY ON NOV. 30, A CHANCE TO HELP A LOCAL MOTHER IN NEED Wife and Mother Daisy Checo Needs Helps with EDS-Related Medical Bills

**CHARLOTTE, N.C.**—On the global giving day GivingTuesday on Tuesday, November 30, the Charlotte community will have a special chance to change a local life. Mom and wife Daisy Checo has partnered with the nonprofit Help Hope Live to fundraise for the overwhelming medical costs related to her diagnosis of hypermobile Ehlers Danlos syndrome (EDS). On November 30, the nonprofit will waive all credit card fees associated with donations in Daisy's honor for greater impact with every donation.

Daisy was diagnosed with EDS in 2016, but she had been living with the symptoms and associated surgeries since she was a teenager. EDS is a connective tissue disorder that leads to progressive complications ranging from chronic pain to mobility issues to greater injury and dislocation risk.

From slipped bones to spasms and pain, Daisy said, "I experience multiple symptoms on a regular basis. Can I hold my neck up without support today? Can I walk to the kitchen without overwhelming pain? Can I interact with my child? It's constant management to keep my body moving forward and keep it from collapsing." In addition to the physical impacts, Daisy lives with stress, sleeplessness, and significant impacts on her relationships and mental wellness.

Daisy's life as a wife and mother with EDS is extremely expensive, including a highly specialized nutrition plan, daily medical supplies, specialist appointments, and mobility equipment like ramps, wheelchairs, and walkers. Just one custom orthotic brace sets her back \$500 out-of-pocket. That's why she turned to the national nonprofit Help Hope Live to start a medical fundraising campaign.

Donations are tax deductible, medically verified, and managed entirely by the nonprofit to protect Daisy's state-based benefits. On GivingTuesday on November 30, the nonprofit will waive the credit card fee for all online donations in Daisy's honor. Donate: <u>https://helphopelive.org/campaign/17574/</u>

Since 2012, <u>GivingTuesday</u> has provided an opportunity for people around the world to offset the heavy spending of Black Friday and Cyber Monday with charitable contributions and support.



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To Daisy, the impact of fundraising goes beyond financial assistance. "I hope my fundraising efforts will pave the way for other individuals living with EDS," she explained. "When you live with this diagnosis, it's easy to feel hopeless. While fundraising gives me back hope for the future, I also hope it will give others living with EDS the confidence they require to seek out financial help and community support."

Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law, and all funds raised will be managed by the nonprofit to cover verified medical and related expenses. Help Hope Live verifies medical and financial need for every patient.

Help Hope Live is a national nonprofit that specializes in engaging communities in secure, tax-deductible fundraising campaigns for people who need a transplant or are affected by a catastrophic injury or illness. Since 1983, campaigns organized by Help Hope Live have raised over \$158 million to pay patient expenses.

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