

PRESS RELEASE

JUNE 2009

FAMILY ASKS FOR ANOTHER HOUR OF HOPE

FAITH FOR FERN - \$75,000 in 120 days, that is \$858 a day or \$35 an hour – family ask the public to donate an hour of hope for Fern.

Respected Albertan business coach and motivational speaker Faith Wood is desperately seeking funding to help her ailing, identical twin sister Fern Kwantes, raise \$75,000 to receive her only hope now for recovery; a ground breaking medical procedure in Mexico. Wood has created Faith for Fern, an initiative aimed at getting her sister the help she so desperately needs.

\$75,000 in 120 days, must be raised to progress onto the trial, which is \$858 a day or \$35 an hour - however every \$35 Kwantes receives from the public brings her one hour closer to helping her get her life back.

Since 2003, B.C. resident and mother of three Kwantes has been in chronic pain, suffering from a rare condition called Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy or RSD. A progressive disease of the autonomic nervous system, RSD is characterized by constant and extremely intense pain. Kwantes was told by doctors last year that they had exhausted all known treatment to help her. Her only chance for recovery now is a Ketamine coma trial in Mexico.

With a definite goal of \$75,000 in mind, Wood has taken on the awe inspiring task of raising the massive amount of money in 120 days – and she needs the public's help. Wood said, "I think we can make this work, because of the power of people."

A light breeze across Kwantes' legs is enough to cause excruciating pain. The disease can result in complete loss of limb function; however she battles this symptom daily by spending painful hours working her limbs to keep as much muscle mass as possible – husband Theo, children Zach, 19, Elise, 16 and Harrison, 14 along with sister Wood are not giving up without a fight.

Kwantes has been through years of painful treatments, one of which resulted in a disk in her back being torn; requiring surgical replacement. She has decided to attempt the experimental treatment as a last resort. The trial is extremely dangerous, as the patient is put into a five day coma, to help 're-boot' the nervous system. Although risky, the prognosis for those who successfully complete the trial is very encouraging.

Wood is asking for people to contribute \$35, or whatever they can afford, to buy an hour of hope for Kwantes' recovery from a life sentence of pain, distress and sorrow.

To donate to Fern's cause, then please do so via the www.faithforfern.com website.

This is truly, Kwantes and her families' last chance at a normal life. What else can a family do now but ask.

To donate to the Faith for Fern cause, or for more information, please visit www.faithforfern.com

For more information or to arrange an interview, contact Faith Wood at 403-461-3498 or faith@imind.ca , or Kirsty Young at kirsty.young@tinypr.ca