

# Journey of Faith and Healing

November 1, 2014

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## Brief Timeline

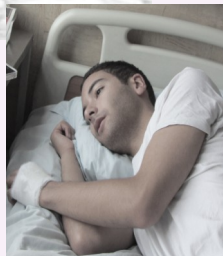


Growing ~ Healthy and Happy. Full of Love, Life and Laughter and then....

- 2000 House floods and mold grows. Ari becomes ill, followed by Dannie a month later (and Kate to a lesser degree) with toxic mold exposure.
- 2001 Ari and Dannie no longer able to attend school, bedbound
- 2002 Kate must resign as Executive Director of non-profit and sell house to care for children
- 2004 Kate must go back to work, two jobs, kids home alone
- 2005 Diagnosed with Lyme disease in addition to toxic mold exposure
- 12 years of various treatments, IV antibiotics combined with complimentary medicine and multiple hospitalizations
- 2012 January~Ari goes to India for First Human Embryonic Stem Cell Transplant (HESC), two rounds.
- 2012 March~Dannie goes to India for first round of HESC transplant.
- 2012 February and July~Dannie experiences significant strengthening and improvement receiving treatment in Wichita, KS.
- 2013 October Ari returned to India for 3rd round of HESC transplant and returns miraculously improved. Dannie spends this same full month in the hospital experiencing uncontrollable pain.

See webpage for more information about Lyme Disease: [helpAriandDannie.com](http://helpAriandDannie.com)

*Life as they knew it changed. The trajectory of their lives headed rapidly down and 23 doctors later, a diagnosis was determined and Lyme treatment began.*



Dannie at UCSF  
Ari at NuTech

### About Lyme Disease

Lyme disease is a seriously complex multi-system inflammatory disease caused by a bacterial infection produced by the spiral-shaped bacteria called *Borrelia burgdorferi* (Bb) that is most commonly believed to be contracted by a tick bite. The ticks that carry the Lyme bacteria often carry microorganisms that cause other diseases which also require treatment. When Lyme disease goes unde-

tected or is not adequately treated, it can affect every tissue and every major organ system of the body. A complete symptom list is too long to be included here and includes chronic joint, connective tissues and muscle pain, GI disturbance, immune dysfunction, heart irregularities, headaches, body heat disturbance, and neurological disease. In severe cases, Lyme disease can be fatal.

See the website to learn about toxic mold illness.

On a daily basis Ari experienced exhaustion, dizziness, migraine, back pain, sweats, insomnia, cognitive impairment, nausea, skin rashes, stomach pain, visual disturbances, sensory sensitivity and more. The symptoms are quieter now!!! He is steadily getting better thanks to God and the help of many.

Dannie experiences the above with excruciating bone, muscle, joint and skin pain resulting in her being isolated in bed. Near death, she was hospitalized four times in 2011, twice in 2012, and once for a month in 2013. She remains in bed, gradually improving and anxiously awaiting additional needed treatment.



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“The amount of love that pours out of each of them simply cannot be measured. It is a family that truly is a light on a hill for all to see and... exemplify.”

Kevin Gonzales, 12Point Productions

### Ari's Progress



**Ari at NuTech** Ari has continued to improve, going to the gym, and enrolling in school. His first quarter back at school after returning early November 2013 from his second trip (3rd treatment) to India to receive Human Embryonic Stem Cell Transplant he was welcomed into the home of

family friends, as he could not return to the house in Belmont which was found to have mold. He took a photography course and produced an impressive portfolio, finding a passion for photographing nature. After so many years stuck inside, he could not get enough of the outdoors. He began working out at the gym for the first time on a regular basis and resumed gardening, another passion. This last quarter, a full time schedule of academics proved to be too demanding at this stage of his healing (with some remaining physical and neurological challenges) and precipitated a threatened relapse, with a return of symptoms he had not experienced

since his transplant in the fall. He quickly addressed this, and is recuperating with a report card filled with A's this summer (three A+'s and an A to be exact!!!). A 26 year old, feeling literally dropped into a body that is functioning reasonably well for the first time since the age of 12, he is challenged to figure out how to fit the pieces of his life together. Anxious to be in the stage of life reflected in his mid-late 20's peers, and with a driven entrepreneur's spirit, he is exploring how to forge a path between here and there... profound gratitude, with some angst and impatience!!!



Ari and Kate at SFO as Ari left for his second trip to India and third round of Human Embryonic Stem Cell Transplant. The outcome has been nothing short of miraculous...

### PUTNAM VOLVO helps Steele Family



Rich, of the Service Department of Putnam Volvo, Burlingame, CA seen with Ari, left. The generous Putnam Dealer-

ship and Volvo of Northern America replaced the Steele's transmission in their 2003 Volvo. Ari's 2001 Volvo was totaled by a road rage driver, (Ari was uninjured) then 2003 transmission went out. There was no "budget" to cover this and...VOLVO, without being asked, took on the replacement and other needed repairs, 100% cost free. **Prayers were answered!** Thanks upon Thanks....



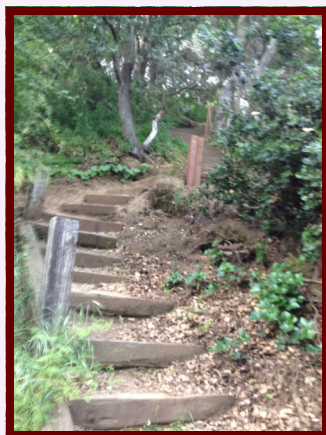
### FAMILY CHANGES

The Steele Family finished 2013 with such a mix of experiences—challenges and victories --- which continued into 2014.

In February the Steele Family moved, after having discovered mold in the

home they lived in for 12 years. Happily, and quite miraculously, they were able to rent a home in San Carlos.

At right, Ari at Ryde for Lyme August 3, 2014. Ari and Dannie were recipients of grants from LymeLight. [lymelightfoundation.org](http://lymelightfoundation.org)



Trail near new home

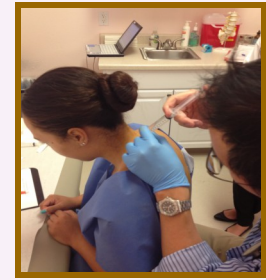
### With Gratitude, Ari

I cannot thank you enough for your game-changing support of my medical care/ treatment! Having recently returned from stem-cell treatment in New Delhi, I am stronger and healthier than I have been in over a decade. Not only do I feel so much better than before, my Spect scans also show a dramatic transformation in my brain. Head of Nutech Mediworld (where I received a total of 4 months of treatment), Dr. Geeta Shroff, has told me that with the exception of being re

-infected with Lyme, I should not require any further stem-cell treatment, and can resume life as "normal." Unthinkable even a few months ago, I am now using the gym 3-4 times per week. This experience has been truly miraculous! Without the blessings and support from you and your donors this would not have been possible, certainly not now. For this I am truly grateful beyond words. While I am cautious not to get ahead of myself with all of my physical improvements, I am very excited

to begin the process of adjusting to greater health, strength, stamina, and a virtual absence of symptoms as I learn how to build a full and active life!

**With gratitude and sincerity,  
Ari Steele-Baker  
(December 2013)**



#### Next Steps:

~Ari has completed three courses HESC transplant and does not appear to need any additional at this time. Dannie will need 3-4 more treatments .

~Dannie is in desperate need of multidisciplinary pain treatment and rehabilitation necessitated by years of being bedbound and not covered by insurance. She hopes to return to Hansa Center, consider HBOT, and tparticipate in a comprehensive rehabilitation/pain program to strengthen herself to return to NuTech.

**Both Ari and Dannie continue to need ongoing restorative medical care not covered by insurance, to maintain their gains.**

**Dannie needs continuing 24/7 care giving and we are in need of hiring someone to help her structure her rehab activities.**

~A core group of special people are needed ASAP to plan a fundraising activity .

### Treatment Delayed ~You Can Help with Summer-Fall Contribution

**Make a recurring or one-time donation through  
Pay Pal  
(not tax-deductible)**

**Go to Donations page at  
HelpAriAndDannie.com**

**Make a recurring or one-time donation. TAX DEDUCTIBLE through your own bank's "bill payer service" to:**

**Lymelight Foundation  
Steele-Baker Medical Fund  
P.O. Box 5142  
Belmont, CA 94002**

**Make a tax-deductible donation by sending a check:**

**Lymelight Foundation  
Steele-Baker Medical Fund  
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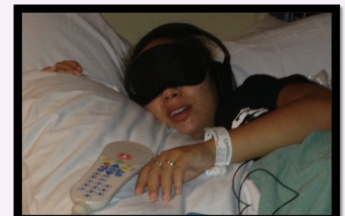
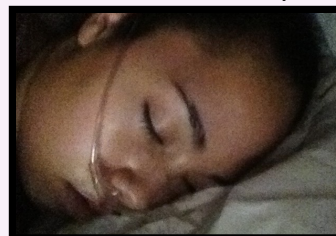
### With Love, From Dannie

Thank you for your ceaseless generosity! All that you have given so freely means more to me than words can convey, without which I surely would not have survived. Thank your furthering my life and increasing ability to enjoy it. My once intolerable pain has become more manageable, as well as lessened intensity of my other myriad

symptoms (like nausea, total exhaustion, migraines, insomnia, myoclonus, sweats, vision and hearing problems, heart symptoms.... ). While I am still in bed most of the time, I can now rest without the concern of impending death or further loss of ability. I am still fighting for healing and have a ways yet to go in this journey to wellness, yet I

now know that with the love and kindness you have granted me, I will make it. Thank you for becoming such a beautiful part of our extended family.

**With love, Dannie (February 2014)**





Steele-Baker Children  
Medical Fund  
P.O. Box 5142  
Belmont, CA 94002

helparianddannie@gmail.com  
Blog: AriAndDannie.com  
Twitter @Help\_AriDannie

## Thank You.

"The Lord bless you, and keep you;  
The Lord make His face shine on you,  
And be gracious to you.. And give you peace."

Numbers 6:22-27

## DONORS

**LymeLight Foundation** and to **Harvest Christian Center** Redwood City for providing grants, **Yoga of Los Altos, Crossroads Fitness** San Mateo and **Montgomery High School** Santa Rosa class of '73 for holding fundraisers, **Putnam Volvo** for their donation of a new transmission and repairs, **Salon Kavi** in San Mateo for nurture, and numerous individual donors of funds, services, supplies and air miles which enabled Dannie's and Ari's first life-saving human embryonic transplants in 2012 and Ari's return in 2013. For Financial Update go to **AriandDannie.com: August 3, 2014**

**Beyond the Headlines** with Ari and Kate Steele can be seen: <http://abc7news.com/242626/>

The Steele-Baker family has bravely faced devastating illness of both Ari and Dannie for 14 years and now needs a community of support. With our help, they will be strengthened and encouraged to not lose heart, and to hold onto their dreams for a vibrant future. It is our goal to assist Ari and Dannie to acquire the medical treatment they need to return to a vibrant state of health and to pursue their educational goals and aspirations. They are brilliant young people who have so much to offer the world, and are anxious to be self sustaining and to give back to the community, Ari as a business-minded inventive entrepreneur, and Dannie as a doctor, who dreams of serving people without adequate access to health care.



**Dannie's Condition** Dannie continues to press forward. After realizing significant gains from HESC transplant and two trips for treatment at the Hansa Center in Wichita, Kansas during 2013 to continue to strengthen her body in preparation to return to continue HESC, she returned home excited to share her new found improvement with friends and family. For a period of time, she was up, WALKING and making it to appointments DRESSED five days a week!!!

The experience of traveling home seemed to precipitate the return of her most onerous symptoms. She essentially became bedbound again, (hospitalized for a month in October 2013, and then seventeen trips to the emergency room between March and May 2014), followed by a three week episode in May-June of medication "poisoning" of sorts, induced by a combination of medicines/supplements and her body's reaction to them. She is continuing to fight valiantly, (dedicated to her healing protocol of supplements, meditation and restricted diet) Despite indescribable exhaustion, she was able to push to manage a few trips out, on Mother's Day to a LymeLight gathering where she met people she has known of for years, but never met, and to a movie for the first time in what seems like forever. She is now undergoing an assessment that we hope will illuminate, through two spect scans, what the presence of Lyme is doing in her brain, and how the improvement from her first embryonic stem cell transplant is coming along.

Insistent on moving forward, Dannie contacted her home teacher from High School, Elana Henderson, to resume visits with her. Elana is donating her love and time. While all visits are bedside, Dannie has begun to read some, pushing through visual and cognitive challenges. Her isolation is excruciating and she is enduring constant pain of an 8 on a 1-10 scale and a myriad of other symptoms which keep her in bed 90%+ of the time. Dannie has witnessed the amazing healing that Ari experienced after three rounds of transplant and is dedicated to doing what she can to prepare to continue HESC treatment. Her hope is to return to Hansa Center to gain more strength to return for her second/third rounds of HESC transplant which she/we credit as having saved her life in 2012.



I was fortunate to be able to accompany Kate and Ari to the ABC, KGO, Channel 7 studio on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Meeting both Cheryl Jennings and Amy Tan was exciting -watching the taping was very interesting. However, the most rewarding experience was watching two remarkable people tell their story to the world. Hearing about the Steele Family's 14 year gargantuan struggle with such an insidious disease such as Lyme has reinforced my high opinion of Kate and her two children who each have more faith, hope and courage than most could hope to possess. Most of us don't have to wrestle, as a single mom, with a misunderstood illness such as Lyme, a flooded home, wrecked cars, working two full time jobs, finding one care giver after another, keeping enormous numbers of medications straight, doing research and fund raising, getting kids to India and back twice, negotiating with ER doctors, enduring daily, intense and inexplicable pain, and on and on. And through it all, this family still has faith, hope and courage and the belief that this ordeal will pass and there will be a life after Lyme. I am so very grateful to be a small part of that journey. Jay



