

Mt. Juliet Middle Schooler Makenzie Matthews knew the first time she attended the Ride for Kids, she wanted to do something to raise money.

The event raises money for the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation. Matthews was diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor in September of 2008, and after 14 hours of surgery, she woke up blind, unable to talk, walk or use her arms and legs.

Today, Matthews is an A/B student, plays on a recreational basketball team, swim team, participates in a church youth program, smiles a symmetrical smile after four surgeries, and is passionate about raising awareness and funds so no other kids have to go through what she did.

Matthews raised \$3,001 at the 2012 car wash and \$4,000 at the 2013 car wash. A local business which asked to remain anonymous, matched her 2013 total to make it \$8,000, and then extra donations pushed it to \$9,134.19.

The 2014 Car Wash 4 A Cure will take place May 3 (rain date May 10) in the Burger King parking lot starting at 8 a.m. Makenzie wants to raise \$5,000 this year. One hundred percent of the funds raised will be handed over to the Rides for Kids event on May 18 at Jim Warren Park in Franklin.

You can donate to Makenzie's fundraising goal by going to her fundraising page at <http://pbtf.convio.net/goto/mmm>.