

# “\$1 for Tae”

## Fundraising Campaign for Cancer.....

### **The Tae Kami Medical Fund**

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[www.taekamifund.org](http://www.taekamifund.org)

#### **Who is Tae?**

Our daughter Tae Luisa Kami turned 13 (11 February 2006). This year she was looking forward to starting form 3 at Queen Salote College in Nuku'alofa but instead is battling cancer in Auckland, New Zealand. This follows five operations in 2005 to remove what was then a benign tumour and major surgery in February and March 2006. Despite her age, Tae is an inspiration to us with a genuine faith in God and a positive and courageous attitude to life.



Tae in October 2004

#### **A Brief History:**

**February 2005:** Tae was diagnosed in NZ in with an aggressive nasal tumour known as a *Recurrent Inverted Papilloma – left and right maxillary sinuses*. It is a benign tumour that normally occurs in 40 plus year old adults with re-growth usually taking over 2 years. Since her first major operation in February 2005, she had an additional 3 major surgeries in July, September and December 2005 with the tumour recurring on the left side and then spreading to the right side of her face.



**January 2006,** swelling in her right side of her mouth has been diagnosed with tumour and now showing signs of malignancy. .

**2006.** Cancer is confirmed – a malignant (Cancer) transformation of the tumour condition to a squamous cell carcinoma. This is a extremely rare condition for a child and after major surgery in February and March 2006 Tae's upper jaw, upper teeth, bone and tissue up to the bottom of her eye sockets have been removed and replaced with bone and tissue from her legs and arms. She completed radiotherapy on June 9<sup>th</sup> . Physically things may not be the same for her again but we are thankful she is still with us and determined to get through. The second phase of her treatment has begun August 2006 and looks like significantly more surgery before finally getting her new teeth before December.

#### **How Can I Help?**

Cash donations to can be made to the following accounts:

<b>General Support &amp; Reserve Account</b> (covers non medical expenses – family, transport, living, etc)  Name: Sina Kami, AC # 01 0210-0017441-50 ANZ Bank, Onehunga Branch, Auckland NZ. SWIFT code: ANZ BNZ 22	<b>Exclusively Tae's Medical Expenses</b> (mantained by ANZ Bank)  Tae Kami Medical Trust Fund A/C #01 0210 0140714 - 50 ANZ Bank , Onehunga Branch, Auckland, NZ. SWIFT code: ANZ BNZ 22
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Updates on her condition are available on *the Internet on [www.taekamifund.org](http://www.taekamifund.org)*

**We value the support of many friends and relatives over the past year through your prayers, donations or simply a kind word on the streets and want to express our sincere appreciation to EVERYONE. We also ask that you continue to pray with us for Tae's health through this ordeal.**

With our Sincere thanks, **Taholo & Sina KAMI**

If you want further medical information on her condition we can email / send summaries from her doctors.

## **Other Important Information:**

### **a. History of Illness:**

November 2004 – constant nose bleed appears

December 2004 – Operation in Vaiola Hospital to remove what was perceived as a polyp growth in nose by Dr. Lei Saafi  
Bleeding does not stop and leads to further hospitalization

February 2005 - Tae is operated on left sinuses through upper jaw to remove tumour – inverted Papilloma by Dr. Paul Simcock and Dr Nigel Parr in Auckland, NZ. This was funded by the Tongan Government via NZ Aid.

July 2005 - Tumour has regrown and protruding through left nostril. Operation in Tonga through incision down the left side of nose to remove Inverted Papilloma done by Dr Ngalu Havea and visiting ENT team from Melbourne, Australia

Sept 2005 - Operation on sinuses on right side of face to remove inverted Papilloma by Dr Simcock and Dr Parr in NZ funded by family, friends.

December 2005 – Operation on sinuses on both left and right side to remove inverted Papilloma by Dr Simcock funded by family and friends through Tae Kami Medical Fund.

Jan / March 2006 - Cancer confirmed and extensive surgery completed replacing upper jaw, upper teeth and tissue up to lower orbits of eyes. Dr John Chaplin, Dr. Nick Mclvor, Dr. Mark Innes, Dr. Mark Chapman, Dr Paul Simpcock, Dr. Parr.

May – June 2006 - Radiation Therapy

August 10, 2006 – Surgery at Ascot Hospital to replace dead and infected facial bone structure and tissue – reconstruction surgery is needed at later date.

### **b. Some Tae Quotes... (Taken from her emails )**

**Before the December Surgery on the Inverted papilloma:** *“...I don't really care how it is, but in the doctor's room, I felt that God was, and is with me and will be with me no matter what, and that if so, than let His will be done, **he still has my purpose tucked in his arm safely**”*

### **Summarizing 5 surgeries in 12 months**

*“I would also describe the year (2005) as a blessing and a challenge, but I'm up for it. **Time** has brought each of us together; **faith** has done the impossible, **support** has shaped me, **love** has given me all the things I asked for, **Hope**...makes me stronger”*

### **The possibility that it could be worse:**

*“I went to visit the doctor the other day to do a biopsy test, there is a swelling in my mouth, and the doctors are worried that it is from the tumour growth... right now we are just waiting for the results. When you think about it, you find that the whole change has only been a blessing.... I look to the bright side in things, And try not to think about all the rest, because it's all in God's hands, and I understand that perfectly now”*

### **Tae on confirmation its cancer....**

*“For the first time, I felt tired. Tired of going through so much... but, I still looked to the bright side of things. And for the first time, I didn't feel afraid of anything, going through so much gave me the strength to go through all of this once again. I'm really looking forward to getting back home, and make it a surprise! Once again, thank you all for supporting me, and please keep praying !*