



Kaiya's giving nature is no surprise to her family. Her mother Jennifer makes a point of saying that this was all her daughter's idea and she didn't need any encouragement. Kaiya had told her mom that it made her feel really good to donate the money – something Kaiya's mom takes pride in teaching her children: to have a giving nature.

The Foundation presented Kaiya with a plaque thanking her for kind donation and she was also presented with a personal letter from the Honourable Chris Bentley, Ontario's Minister of Aboriginal Affairs. Kaiya says she will hang the plaque and letter in the living room to remember "my parents love me and are proud of me." She tells us that she has some of the other kids on her hockey team also starting to collect donations so they, too, can help those in need!

The people at the Native Canadian Centre in Toronto were so touched, they gave Kaiya a blanket (seen here in the accompanying photo).

We at the Foundation thank Kaiya for her generosity and for thinking of the Foundation on her birthday.

## Generous Kaiya "just wants to help other kids"

You can feel eight-year-old **Kaiya Maracle**'s spirit in her smile and laughter as she sits down with us to explain why she decided to donate \$200—all of her birthday money—to the Dreamcatcher Foundation. "I just wanted to help other kids," she says as her family including grandmother, father, mother and older sister look on proudly at Kaiya's remarkably giving nature. "I just thought it would be a good thing," she continues shyly.

Kaiya came across an ad at a local powwow in Hamilton and asked her mother what the Dreamcatcher Foundation was all about. After realizing that there are other individuals—including kids just like her—who can't afford to live out their dreams, Kaiya didn't hesitate to ask her mother if she could give her birthday money to help these kids she had never met before so they, too, could play sports, take part in the arts, become educated and take care of their health.

Dan Brant, CEO of the Dreamcatcher Foundation was extremely grateful for Kaiya's donation. "It's more than just the money she has donated, it's the fact she recognizes how lucky she is that she gets to play hockey, attend school and be happy and she wants to share those dreams with other children."

*Taken from the January edition of the Dreamcatcher Foundation Newsletter.*