



Events Update from 2010

This past year has been busy and productive for the foundation. We continue to give to the pediatric patients at **The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida**. We also continued our efforts to solicit donations from the community to help with our mission.

In February we brought in **Gerard Tricarico** with **Out of My Hands**, a juggler that amazed the kids with his juggling that was set to music and even got the kids involved with the action. Performing in low light with black light illusion, he juggled basketballs, over-sized tennis balls, he had the kids spinning plates on a stick and for an added bonus, he performed some magic tricks.

In May **Twin Palms Construction** sponsored a hole on behalf of the Foundation at a local charity golf tournament. We were able to spread the news about the foundation and also received some generous donations. **Twin Palms Construction** also sponsored an association dinner for the Building Industry Association of Cape Coral. This enabled the Foundation to generate more potential donors and to spread the word about our foundation and what we are doing for the kids.

At a campfire event at the hospital, we brought in a professional story teller, **Gene Toncray**, to spin some tall tales for the kids. During this event we also provided snacks for the children to enjoy while listening to the stories.

2010 By The Numbers

- \$2,305 was raised in 2009
- \$1,136 spent on the kids in 2009
- \$395 was spent on Foundation Operating Expenses
- We served over 50 children at the different events we held
- \$4,000 invested to establish a reserve fund to secure a sound future

In October we once again brought back our good friend **Professor Patches** to perform another magic show for the kids. Of course there were plenty of snacks, drinks and even some magic tricks that the kids were able to take with them. As always **Professor Patches** is a total hit with the kids and they all had a great time! We will be seeing a lot more of **Professor Patches** in 2010.

In fall 2009 the staff at **The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida** expressed the need for some clothing and band-aids for the patients. We reached out to the community and were able to take in over 700 items of clothing, almost 200 boxes of child themed band aids and over \$300 in donations. We gave the staff at the hospital so much they practically ran out of room to store the supplies!

Mission Statement

Each year many children are hospitalized at The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida for treatment. Many think that these children are too sick to play; truth is that these kids still want to play. The *For The Kids Foundation* is a non-profit organization that believes in the healing power of smiling and laughter. Our mission is to bring joy and happiness to patients at The Children's Hospital. The entertainment and activities provided help distract the children from the medical treatment.



Plans for 2011

As always we will continue to bring in fun activities and events for the children. We are already in the planning stages of bringing back **Professor Patches** to a campfire night, we will be bringing the juggler back out and we are always looking for new activities and entertainment for the kids.

We have recently purchased numerous fun arts and craft projects for the play rooms at the hospital. We have also purchased many rolls of stickers to be handed out to the patients in the clinic. It's funny how these simple little items can help bring a smile to these kids' face and make their day just a little bit better.

We are working diligently with **The Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, Florida Gulf Coast University Athletics Department** and **The United Way** to host the first ever dance at the hospital. **Spring Bling 2010** is becoming a reality and will take place on April 17, 2010. On this evening 100 patients and their immediate siblings will take part in a night full of fun, dancing and games all set in the atrium of the Healthpark Hospital. There will be a DJ, photographer, food, games and even the "paparazzi" will be there to make the VIP's feel like they are the stars of the event!

A charity hockey game is scheduled for March 2010 between local police officers and local firefighters. This is a game prior to the local minor league hockey team, **Florida Everblades**. Proceeds from the tickets sales sold by the police officers will be donated to the **For The Kids Foundation**.

In 2010 the Foundation will have reached it's third year of helping children with cancer, the board of directors will meet this year to discuss the future of the Foundation and establish a strategic plan, review the existing mission statement and finances and discuss a financial plan for the future. This will all be done to secure the future success of the Foundation in its endeavor to continue to serve the children in the hospital.

We are always seeking donations to continue our efforts to fund entertainment and activities for the kids. Our goal for 2010 is to raise \$5,000, this will be used to continue our services to the children, we will be planning more activities to be held monthly at the hospital, as well as providing fun crafts and activities for the play rooms in the clinic and inpatient areas. We will also use the donations to help fund the spring dance event for 2011, our intentions are to make this an annual event. Of course there is always operating expenses that we must keep up with. I would like to point out our diligence at keeping our operating expenses to a minimum. In 2009 we spent just under \$400 on running the Foundation. However, as we grow these expenses will increase. Our promise is to be responsible for our money and focus on the mission!