

Logan's Fight

In a matter of minutes your life can be changed forever. Life as you once knew it comes to a screeching halt as the rest of the world carries on around you. Hospitals become your new home, clinic visits your new vacation destination, nurses and doctors your new family, tube feedings, administering medications, pulse oximeters, and things that most would find terrifying soon become a way of life for you.

November 17th, 2006 is a day that will always mark the end of life as we knew it. This was the day we learned Logan, our two week old son, had a very large hole in his heart and was showing signs of heart failure. We were told that babies like Logan can be born healthy but during the next six weeks can rapidly deteriorate until they are in serious heart failure. I froze in complete fear, unable to move, unable to respond, unable to feel anything. I was emotionless standing there staring at the x-rays trying to understand how this was happening to me. We had no idea that anything was wrong with our baby. He was perfect! He ate well, never cried, but he did sleep a lot.



Everything quickly became a blur after that. Further testing revealed not only did Logan have a hole in his heart, also known as a Ventricular Septal Defect (VSD), but he had four other defects as well: D-Transposition of the Great Arteries, Double Outlet Right Ventricle, Sub Valvular and Valvular Pulmonary Stenosis and a Right Aortic Arch. Dr. Atkins, the pediatric cardiologist, quickly stated the facts — **anyone** can have a child with CHD. No one knows why it happens. No one is to blame.

Logan needed to have a Balloon Atrial Septostomy performed immediately in their Cath lab to save his life. We soon learned about Logan's condition, his treatments, CPR, heart failure signs, and also what his future would hold: numerous surgeries. After three days, we were able to take Logan home.

Two weeks later, Logan underwent his first open heart surgery, a procedure called the BT Shunt. No one can ever fully prepare

a parent to see their baby for the first time after heart surgery. The countless machines pumping life saving medications into his body, the ventilator keeping him breathing, the constant alarms beeping, the surgical scar running down his chest, the chest tubes draining out of his chest, and how very tiny he looked laying in bed all by himself, unable to open his eyes and look at me. Our heart ached the first time we saw Logan post-surgery.

At ten months old, Logan underwent his complete repair, Rastelli procedure with RV—PA reconstruction using a Contegra Conduit. It was a six hour procedure full of many surprises and difficulty for his surgeons. When we were able to go into the room to see Logan, I was so shocked to see how pink he was. We never realized how very blue our little guy was before he had his repair.

It has been a constant struggle. We have had some very good follow up appointments in addition to some terrifying ones. Fortunately, Logan's condition has been stabilized by the increase in the heart medications he has been on since his first open heart surgery.

We have watched him grow into a vibrant little three-year-old boy, brimming with happiness and silliness, and full of all of the wonderment that comes with being a child. There is no written plan for Logan and no set number on the amount of surgeries or procedures he might need. There is only the hope that his surgeries are few and that he has the best quality of life possible – outside the hospital.

40,000 families this year in the United States will become the parents of a CHD child. They will feel alone, isolated and overwhelmed as they find themselves spending all of their time doing their own research, exploring all options, and trying to save the life of their child. They are looking for answers and praying for hope.

The Children's Heart Foundation gives families like ours hope. It is because of the continuous research they fund that our children will no longer be victims of their heart defects. The Children's Heart Foundation is solely committed to help make the lives of CHD children better. ♥





President's Message

by Megan Van Pelt, CHF President



Advocacy



We urge continued support for the Congenital Heart Futures Act.



October has always been one of my favorite months of the year. Not only does it signal the onset of fall and changing of the leaves but it is also my son Jack's birthday. His birthday is a reminder to me of the importance of The Children's Heart Foundation's mission of funding the most promising research. Without research and innovation, Jack would not be the happy, active kid he is today. Additionally, October is our Medical Advisory Board's Annual Meeting where our physicians take time out of their busy practices to review and score all the research grants that we receive throughout the year. This year is no exception with requests coming to us from all over the country. I want to extend my thanks to our Medical Advisory Board for their commitment and passion. They truly make the difference in the lives of CHD kids.

The past several months have been busy as we continue to raise funds for research, awareness, work on advocacy and prepare for the first meeting of our National Board. CHD Awareness is essential and I am ecstatic to announce the re-launch of our parent resource book, "It's My Heart". This valuable resource, which provides insight to families and friends about congenital heart defects, is in its last stages of alterations and will be available soon. The English and Spanish version of the book is available on our web site. Following our spring trip to Washington D.C. for Lobby Day 2009, we are continuing to advocate and lobby for the Congenital Heart Futures Act. When it becomes law, this legislation will increase federal funding of congenital heart defect research, create a patient registry, and increase awareness and educate the general public about congenital heart defects. Finally, we are busy planning for our first National Board Meeting. I look forward to sharing biographies of our National Board Members and outcomes from our first meeting in our next newsletter.

As always, I would like to thank our dedicated volunteers, chapters and our event sponsors and donors who continue to support our efforts. Each of you make a difference and bring health, hope and happiness to children impacted by congenital heart defects. ♥

ProFlowers

Brighten someone's day and benefit CHF at the same time. The Children's Heart Foundation has teamed with **ProFlowers**, the on-line fresh flower marketplace, to raise awareness and funding for the leading birth defect in America. Visit <http://www.proflowers.com/CHF> and choose from a variety of beautiful arrangements. Ten dollars from each purchase will benefit CHF! ♥

In July and August CHF volunteers united once again for Summer Lobbying 2009 to advocate for additional co-sponsors of the **Congenital Heart Futures Act (S.621; H.R.1570)**. The purpose of the Act is to increase public funding of CHD research, create a national patient registry and fund CHD education and awareness. As of October 6th, the Act has thirty co-sponsors in the U.S. House and three in the U.S. Senate. Please visit <http://thomas.loc.gov> and enter bill number **S.621** or **H.R. 1570** to verify whether your legislators have agreed to co-sponsor and to view the full text of the bill.

What you can do now to help pass the Congenital Heart Futures Act into Law...

The Congenital Heart Futures Act, like any other legislation, needs majority support in both the House and Senate in order to be passed into law. Anyone interested in helping is encouraged to e-mail their US Senators and Congress people today to ask them to become a co-sponsor of the legislation, which is bill S. 621 in the Senate and H.R. 1570 in the House. Here are some steps to follow in creating your e-mail:

- 1) Go to <http://www.senate.gov> and <http://www.house.gov> to look up your representatives and their e-mail addresses.
- 2) Draft your e-mail – Go to www.childrensheartfoundation.org and click on 'Advocacy' for an e-mail template.
- 3) Send your e-mail. Remember to include your full mailing address as well as your e-mail address. Don't use US mail, as snail mail goes through lengthy security clearance and takes weeks to arrive in Congress.

And lastly, if you are a constituent of the Act's lead sponsors, Senator Durbin, Senator Cochran, Representative Space and Representative Bilirakis, we encourage you to e-mail or call their office and let them know how much you appreciate their leadership of this effort.

If you have any additional questions on Advocacy, please contact Ellen Weiss at Eweiss@ChildrensHeartFoundation.org. ♥



The Medical Advisory Board Update



Carl L. Backer, M.D., Chairperson



As this newsletter goes to press the Medical Advisory Board of The Children’s Heart Foundation is busy evaluating this year’s grant proposals. This is perhaps the busiest time of the year for the Medical Advisory Board. The Board met on October 24 at the Union League Club in Chicago. At that time a peer-review was performed of the 11 grants that were submitted for new funding evaluation. In addition the 3 grants that were approved for funding last year had their second-year funding reviewed and recommendations for approval were discussed.

This year there are 11 research grant proposals which have been submitted. The total amount of first year funding requested is \$1,015,058. Three grants are cardiac intensive care unit studies, three grants are basic science studies, one grant is a surgical

study, and four are pediatric cardiology studies. The members of the Medical Advisory Board have all completed their evaluations and scoring of these grants. Those scores are collated and a mean score and relevancy score to The Children’s Heart Foundation were computed. At the peer-review meeting these scores were used to set a preliminary ranking of the grants. Each grant was discussed in detail by the members of the Medical Advisory Board. The scores can then be changed based on the discussion of the grant. Considerations is given for the originality of the grant, the fundamental research plan, the significance of the research, and the research background of the investigator. At the conclusion of the grant review process, the grants were ranked and that ranking was sent to the Executive Board of The Children’s Heart Foundation to decide at what level the funding will proceed.

The three grants that were funded last year have all submitted their one-year evaluation progress reports. Those grants are the following. ♥

First Year Funding			
Title of Research Proposal	Principal Investigator	Institution	Funding
Computationally Guided Design of Biodegradable Drug Eluting Stents for the Treatment and Reversal of Vascular stenoses in Children with Congenital Heart Defects	Marlene Rabinovitch, Professor of Pediatric Cardiology	Stanford University School of Medicine	\$ 100,000
Determining the Natural and “Unnatural” History of Anomalous Aortic Origin of a Coronary Artery with an Interarterial Course (AAOCA): A multi-institutional study	Julie Brothers, M.D., Assistant Professor	Division of Cardiology, The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia	\$ 50,000
Cell Based Therapy for Congenital Cardiomyopathy using Endogenous Cardiac Stem Cells	Sunjay Kaushal, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Surgery	Children’s Memorial Hospital, Chicago <i>(This grant is funded by the Tiana Tillman Research Fund from The Children’s Heart Foundation)</i>	\$100,000
Total			\$250,000



Save the Date



Please join us at the activities below. For additional information, please visit our web site at www.childrensheart-foundation.org

February 20, 2010 – Phoenix, AZ

Third Annual “A Heartfelt Affair” wine tasting/cooking event will take place at the National Restaurant Supply Company.

February 20, 2010 – Chicago, IL

The Annual Family Benefit “Hearts at Play” will be held at the Museum of Science and Industry.

March 28, 2010 – Tucson, AZ

The Sixth Annual “Swing Fore Their Hearts” Golf Tournament will be held at the Omni Tucson National.

October 10, 2010 – Chicago, IL

Calling all runners! Be part of TEAM CHF and run the Chicago Marathon on behalf of CHF. ♥



Chapter Development Update



Arizona Chapter



The Arizona Chapter is very excited to officially become a new chapter. We would like to recognize our current board members and thank them for their early efforts: Dr. Amy Bjorkman (Secretary), Dr. Todd Camenisch (Medical Advisory Board Liaison), Jama Carpenter (Vice President), Gina Kelley (Treasurer), Jason Mannos (Chapter Development) & Jennifer Wolff (Public Relations).

As of today, Arizona has two fundraising events set for this coming year. The Third Annual "A Heartfelt Affair" (AHA) Wine Tasting/Cooking Event will be held on Saturday, February 20th at National Restaurant Supply Company. Chef Eddie Matney will again be our demonstrating chef for the evening. We are anticipating another fun night with good food & wine. A BIG thank you to our newly formed AHA Committee: Amy Bjorkman, Jama Carpenter, Judi Gregor, Gina Kelley, George Kokodynski, Bitsy Schubert & Judy Wright for volunteering your time and energy to this fundraising event. Know that you are all appreciated!

The Sixth Annual "Swing Fore Their Hearts" Golf Tournament will be held at the Omni Tucson National. This event will take place in the Spring of 2010. Check the CHF web site for further details ♥

Our thriving CHF Chapters in the states of Arizona, Florida, Iowa, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Oregon and Pennsylvania have each been successful in fundraising, awareness and advocacy for CHDs throughout 2009. Organized to support the CHF mission, each Chapter is 100% volunteer driven and is always looking for more support and assistance to continue to grow. If you live in a state with an existing CHF Chapter and are interested in getting involved, please contact the Chapter President.

Arizona	Janeen Kokodynski	janeen.kokodynski@dcranch.com
Florida	Dr. Mark Hepp	mjhepp@aol.com
Illinois	Todd Ford	CHFIL@comcast.ne
Indiana	Brian Velez	bvelez1980@comcast.net
Iowa	Mick Landauer	Tinman1inoz@msn.com
Ohio	Tammy Thomas	tsthamas@columbus.rr.com
Oregon	Heather Helmy	chdhelp@yahoo.com
Pennsylvania	Patty Cheshire	patrish@thecheshires.com

For those who do not live in a state with an existing Chapter, we also want to hear from you! Are you interested in learning more about CHF, starting a chapter, volunteering, advocating, building awareness, or speaking with the CHF national staff? Please e-mail Ellen Weiss at EWeiss@ChildrensHeartFoundation.org for more information and to be included in the next Chapter Development Seminar. ♥

Welcome aboard to Sheila Guastamachio, our volunteer Chapter Public Relations Coordinator. With a background in PR and a passion for supporting CHD research, Sheila has offered to lend her expertise and to support local chapters with their Public Relations needs. ♥

DID YOU KNOW... The Children's Heart Foundation is proud to partner with Build-A-Bear Workshops throughout the United States for the month of February 2010, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Month. Build a Bear workshop guests will have an opportunity to donate to CHF at the end of their purchase throughout February 2010. This partnership will enable CHF to continue to fund the most promising research to advance the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of congenital heart defects. ♥



Illinois Chapter



The new Illinois Chapter has been very busy this summer with numerous events. In July, **Joanna & Mike Agne** raised \$23,300 with their first "Summer Luau". Everyone loved the casual attire and the summer weather (even though it was a record low for the July night!) During the past six years the Agne's have raised over \$179,000. Previously they hosted a black tie affair. The "Forever in our Hearts" committee has voted, and will be doing another summer event in 2010. You're all invited.

The Illinois Chapter had their 10th Annual Golf Outing at Conway Farms Golf Club. On a spectacular fall day some 28 foursomes enjoyed the Tom Fazio course in Lake Forest. Later in the evening, Dr. Carl Backer was presented the Founders Award for his dedicated and distinguished work on behalf of the CHF. When Dr. Backer isn't being Division head, Cardiovascular-Thoracic Surgery; Surgical Director, Heart Transplant Program at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago,



Betsy Peterson, Dr. Backer and Family

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Illinois Chapter, continued from page 4

he gives his time as the chairman of CHF's Medical Advisory Board. Our thanks goes out to **The Exchange** as presenting and contest sponsor. Other sponsors included: **TaylorMade Adidas Golf, Curran Group, L & W Supply, Macquarie Capital, Sprint Nextel,** and **Blackhawk Steel.** Contributors to the golf event included: **Colliers, Bennett & Kahnweiler, Paul Hills, Steve and Betsy Peterson** and **St. Jude Medical.**

Please mark your calendars for the Hearts at Play 2010 Family Benefit. This year, it will be held at The Museum of Science and Industry on Saturday, February 20, 2010 from 6–10 pm. For more information, please visit www.childrensheartfoundation.org. ♥

Ohio Chapter

In May, CHF– Ohio Chapter was included in a volunteer fair sponsored by local radio station 94.1 The Sound at Newport On the Levee in Newport, KY. We were one of more than 200 charity groups that came out to educate the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky area on volunteer opportunities available. CHF – Ohio was able to make contact with several individuals, some of them heart families looking for support from such a group, and collected about 50 names and e-mail addresses to be used for fundraising efforts and volunteer support for upcoming events.

In August, the Ohio Chapter celebrated another successful outing as they hosted the 2nd Annual Heart Game with the MLS Columbus Crew. A booth was set up on the plaza before the game to spread awareness about CHF. Thanks to a lot of hard work, persistence, and generous donations, we were able to triple our ticket sales from last year and raffle off several prizes.

None of this would have been possible without the help and support of some key people. CHF – Ohio would like to recognize the following individuals for their actions: **Angela and Greg Wrather, Joe Koontz, Jim and Kathe Schofield, Gary and Diane Wrather, Amanda Bruemmer, Grant Schofield, Jim Gregor, The Prunty Family, Evan Prunty, CJ Heil, Jake Lesinski, and Alec Debruler.** Special thanks to **Adam Carney and the Crew Staff** for making all of these things possible. ♥



Pennsylvania Chapter



After three years of building our network, The Children's Heart Foundation – Pennsylvania Chapter has officially opened its door. We are happy to be a part of The Children's Heart Foundation family.

“Share Your Heart”, our first fundraiser as a chapter, was held May 9, 2009 and included dinner, a live band and a silent auction. We had one hundred and fifty guests, including twenty-one heart parents, six heart grandparents and three adults with congenital heart defects.



“Share Your Heart” committee.

We would like to thank the following sponsors: **Terumo Medical Corporation, Chrysler Jeep** and **Comcast Spectacor**, our corporate sponsors, **Culinary Concepts** donated the food, **Fresh Ideas** for decorations, our band **Red Planet Groove, The Brunet Family** for their home and **HBO** for copies of their movie, “**Something the Lord Made**” (the first open-heart surgery). A special thanks goes to **Theodore and Linnea Lynch** and **Timothy and Alexandra Connors** for their continued generous support.

At the end of the night, it was a proud moment for the committee when The Children's Heart Foundation's Executive Director Bill Foley counted the proceeds and said “You have just funded a research project.” Our proceeds from the evening were \$42,000.

Outside of Pittsburgh, **Denise and James Kahler** held a golf outing in memory of their beloved son, Alec James Kahler (AJ). “Remember An Angel, Swing for a Survivor” took place at the Cedarbrook Golf Course in Belle Vernon, PA. and raised over \$20,000. Congratulations, Kahler Family ♥



Oregon Chapter

The Oregon Chapter's focus in 2009 has been a "Year of Connection." Given the current economic climate, we have focused on deepening our connections with the community. These efforts have optimized our fundraising capabilities for 2010 and will drive the future success of our organization.

To this end, we would like to thank the following foundations, businesses, and individuals for their support of our efforts this year: **B.P. Lester and Regina John Foundation, Joseph A. Galati, CH2M Hill, A. J. Frank Family Foundation, Linette Dobbins, McGee Financial Strategies, Inc., Providence St. Vincent Medical Center, Jay Culbertson and Broadway Medical Clinic**

Our inaugural Heart Family Picnic was the centerpiece of our community-building efforts this year. Staged at beautiful Blue Lake Park on July 11th, the Picnic provided a chance for families to connect and share their stories of courage and hope. Dr. Marc LeGras (Pediatric Cardiologist at Emanuel Hospital in Portland) joined families and CHF-OC Board Members, and shared information how research is influencing care and advancing treatments for CHD.

In addition, thanks to CHF-OC Board Member Kelly Aicher and the generous contributions from **The Bike Gallery**, our chapter was again the beneficiary of proceeds from The Children's Heart Foundation Wine Rides. These rides feature quiet rural roads through the acclaimed Northern Willamette Valley wineries. Each ride offered perfect weather followed by a fantastic meal and wine tasting. Riders were able to choose between four different rides, starting and ending at three different wineries: **Penner-Ash, Vista Hills, and Stoller Vineyards.**

Information for next years rides, as well as other CHF-OC events and activities will be available on our website at www.chforegon.org. ♥

Iowa Chapter

The Iowa Chapter held its 2nd Annual Golf Tournament in September. This year the weather was ideal, not the torrential downpour we experienced last year. The golfers had great weather, good golf and an enjoyable time at the John Deere Golf Course located in Silvis, Illinois.

We raised approximately \$4,000 but more than that we raised awareness about the mission of The Children's Heart Foundation and gained new members for our Iowa Board. ♥

Indiana Chapter

Low and steady is the pace of the Indiana Chapter.

In December, an annual fundraiser is planned in memory of Jalynn Valez. The proceeds will benefit the Indiana Chapter. We have had great support from people and businesses in the area. We are looking to increase awareness, to further our vision for CHF. ♥

Florida Chapter

The Florida Chapter held its "Third Annual Healing Hearts Walk" on October 10th. Despite an unseasonably hot, humid day, we were about 125 people strong and raised approximately \$20,000. The mood was upbeat as we walked our 5K, with the **Chik-Fil-A Cow** and local firefighters on hand to cheer us on.



Most of the walkers were kids and teenagers with CHD's and their families and friends. Sadly, the event also included families and friends walking in memory of a loved one who hadn't survived a heart defect—reminding us all of the importance of our participation in the event. Our Junior Board worked especially hard fundraising and helping to run the event.

We had over two dozen heart sponsors and we would like to thank the following sponsors: **Gold Heart Sponsor: Gastroenterology Consultants of Clearwater, Silver Heart Sponsor: St. Jude Medical, Bronze Heart Sponsors: Gagnon Foundation, Haley and Lonnie Klein, Ellen and Michael Weiss, Adrienne and Alex Weiss, James and Amy Shimberg Charitable Trust, Family Heart Sponsors: Mahesh Amin, MD, Phyllis and Richard Baker, Robert M. Geller, Polly and Barry Kraus and Family, S.B.T.—The Pickren Family.**

Thanks to our in-kind sponsors, who added fun and food and kept us well hydrated: **Costco, Dipsy & Doodle, Jennifer & Dennis Hill, Balloon Productions—Rick Weil.** ♥



Heartfelt Thanks



THANK YOU to all our donors and volunteers for your generosity, support and efforts to spread awareness. We cannot do this without you! ♥

Team CHF – A Hearty Welcome

We would like to thank and welcome individuals who have raised and/or who are currently raising funds for CHF by running marathons.

In Ottawa, Canada, **Tara Seigny** ran the Ottawa Race Weekend in honor of Lily Grace.

In California, **Sheila Gustamachio** ran a 10K in memory of her brother, Shaun Bracker. She surpassed her goal and raised over \$2,000 to CHF.

In Oregon, Joah Flood ran the Portland Marathon. Many people in his life have been affected by congenital heart defects.

In Chicago, **Nick Bulthuis, Michael Holden, Dan Johnson, Jeff Kennedy, Kasey Morgan, Todd Morgan, Jeff Nickerson, Ross Petersen, Marrey Picciotti, Chris Sanders, and Kat Yucius** ran the Chicago Marathon. They surpassed the goal and raised over \$20,000. Kudos to **Chris Sanders** who raised over \$13,000 and is planning on running for CHF in next year's Chicago Marathon.

In Georgia, **Nels Matson** ran the Ironman Augusta. CHF is a foundation close to his heart. Due to a CHD, Nels had open heart surgery right before his 3rd birthday. He surpassed his goal and raised over \$2,000. Nels is currently training for the Jacksonville Marathon to take place December 20, 2009. To sponsor Nels and view his progress, visit his fundraising page at www.firstgiving.com/nelsmatson.

In Florida, **Scott McKenzie** will be running the Walt Disney Marathon on 1/10/2010 to raise money for CHF and in honor of Cain Austin Clinkscales. To sponsor him, visit his page at www.firstgiving.com/scottmckenzie/chf.

In Kentucky, **Paige Battcher** will be participating in the Ironman Louisville Marathon in August 2010 in honor of her sister, Grace. To sponsor her, visit our web site and donate in honor of Grace. ♥

- ♥ Our thanks goes out to **Mac Kline**, who continues to advocate and spread awareness for The Children's Heart Foundation.
- ♥ **Alpine Childrens Charity** – once again selected The Children's Heart Foundation as one of their beneficiaries and presented CHF with a check in the amount of \$55,000 from the funds they raised this year. Bringing their total to over \$235,000.
- ♥ **Michael and Holly Goughnour and Richard and Ellie Goughnour** for hosting the 3rd annual "Grants Gala" event held in August. This event is held in loving memory of their son Grant. In the past 3 years, Grant's Gala has raised over **\$60,000** for The Children's Heart Foundation.
- ♥ **St. Jude Medical** for their continued support and generosity in sponsoring the following events: Florida-Chapter Walk, Chicago Golf Outing, Iowa Golf Outing and Grants Gala 2009.
- ♥ **Diageo Chateau & Estates Wine** through Napa Valley Community Foundation selected CHF to receive a grant in memory of Woody Rogers.
- ♥ **Bovis Lend Lease** designated CHF as co-beneficiary of their annual golf tournament and received over \$76,000. Bovis is one of the world's leading project management and construction companies and is home to CHF's President, Megan Van Pelt. We are grateful to Jeff Arfsten and the entire Bovis Lend Lease organization for their contribution to CHF and Megan.
- ♥ **Douglas and Haley Vander Haar** our 7 and 9 year olds from Alaska, this summer raised \$857 for CHF. Over the past three years, their summer ice cream sales have raised close to \$1900.00
- ♥ **Danielle Meyer** volunteered her professional Graphics Design services to the FL Chapter Healing Hearts Walk. In memory of their daughter Giselle, **Danielle and John Meyer** and their families have held fundraisers in Illinois and Iowa to spread awareness and garner funds for CHD research.
- ♥ **Deborah Huelsbergen**, Associate Professor of Art at the University of Missouri, graciously volunteered her expertise in Graphics Design to support the It's My Heart – New Jersey Chapter's walk which will benefit CHD research.
- ♥ **Lovetoknow Corp, Best Buy in Kentucky, Framingham State College, Gaslight Melodrama, Rebecca and Kevin Crocker, Amy Root, Tamara and Ross Stein, Matt and Neha Myers, Sydney and Patrick O'Hara, Stephanie Tantillo.** CHF was beneficiary for their various fundraising events.

DID YOU KNOW... The Children's Heart Foundation has a new relationship with **CafeGive**. CHF earns a percentage of the purchase price, every time a purchase is made—join the CafeGive Community, build a widget, share your widget and shop for CHF. Visit <http://cafegive.com/?cause=childrens-heart-foundation> for more information. ♥



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P.O. Box 244
Lincolnshire, IL 60069
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About CHF



The Children's Heart Foundation was established in 1996 by Betsy and Steve Peterson to honor the memory of their son, Sam, who died from congenital heart disease at age eight. Today, the Foundation is a national organization with local chapters and a network of volunteers working to eradicate congenital heart disease as America's number one birth defect. To date, CHF has distributed \$3.4 million through 37 research grants. ♥



Our Goal



The goal of The Children's Heart Foundation is to bring health, hope and happiness to children impacted with congenital heart defects, the number one birth defect in the United States. We accomplish this goal by funding the most promising research to advance the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of congenital heart defects in children.

Saving Children's Lives – One Heart at a Time ♥