


HEARTS and SMILES



Volume I, Issue II, November 2006

NEWS

Welcome to our second edition of the newsletter for The Hearts and Smiles Foundation. Thank you for taking the time to learn who we are and what we are trying to accomplish.

OUR MISSION

To provide assistance to low-income families with special-needs children in Montgomery, Bucks, Chester, Delaware and Philadelphia counties, with a particular focus on the needs of *siblings* in those families.

HELPING HANDS ACROSS THE COMMUNITY

Children at a Montgomery County elementary school collected items during their October community awareness project. The students and their families donated toothbrushes and toothpaste to be included in the toiletry baskets given to each family that we help. More than 1,000 items were collected in just two weeks. Thank you to all who contributed!

Several students from Chestnut Hill College spent a Sunday afternoon in November helping to sort clothing and toys that have been donated. The girls earned their community service credits for school and The Hearts and Smiles Foundation benefited tremendously from their efforts. More than 25 bags and boxes of items were sorted. Thank you, girls!

A mother in Mount Airy invited all guests at her son's first birthday party to bring gifts to be donated to the foundation instead of gifts for the birthday boy. Many great items were collected to help special-needs children and their siblings. Thank you, Michelle, and happy birthday, Dylan!

If your group or organization would like to collect items to benefit The Hearts and Smiles Foundation, call 215-669-4221 to set up a program.

**** PLEASE THINK ABOUT US WHEN YOU ARE MAKING YOUR YEAR-END DONATIONS. ****

**** CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE. ****

WE ARE ONLINE

Recently, The Hearts and Smiles Foundation's corporate website went live. Check it out for more information about how we operate and what good things we are doing in surrounding communities. We will post organization events, volunteer opportunities and photographs of some of the children we have helped. You can even make a contribution online using a credit card. Our web address is www.heartsandsmiles.org.

P.O. BOX 1253, SOUTHAMPTON, PA 18966
PHONE 215-669-4221 FAX 215-997-7987

WEBSITE: www.heartsandsmiles.org
EMAIL: heartsandsmiles@comcast.net

~ Sharing Smiles ~

Thanks to The Hearts and Smiles Foundation,

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- ☺ A 12-year-old girl with spina bifida is supplementing her schooling by playing computer games on a donated computer.
- ☺ A grandmother in Philadelphia will be able to put a stack of presents under the Christmas tree for her granddaughter and disabled grandson, for whom she is guardian and care giver.
- ☺ Four-year-old twins, both with special health care needs, are outfitted in warm clothing this winter.
- ☺ A 14-year-old high school freshman, who lost one of her special-needs brothers to illness last year, picked out some new clothes for school.
- ☺ The parents of a 3-year-old autistic boy received some respite while their son attended a special camp for a week during the summer.
- ☺ The bed ridden expectant mother of a special-needs child received grocery store gift cards to help her family get through a difficult time.

OUR NEEDS

You can help by donating any of the following items:

- ✓ Monetary Donations (cash or a check made payable to "The Hearts and Smiles Foundation")
- ✓ Store Gift Cards (Acme, Giant, Weis, Redners, Genuardi's, Wal-Mart, Target)
- ✓ New Personal Grooming Items (shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, Chapstick, lotion, soap)
- ✓ New Paper Products (paper towels, toilet paper, napkins)
- ✓ New Arts & Crafts Supplies (pencils, markers, crayons, paper, stickers)
- ✓ Diapers, Wipes
- ✓ New Children's Clothing (especially larger sizes)
- ✓ New Toys, Books, Games

We are in need of corporate sponsors. Please consider nominating The Hearts and Smiles Foundation for your company's charitable giving program.

You can also help by spreading the word. With more people helping and giving, more families can receive this gift of kindness.

TESTIMONIALS

The following is a letter sent by one of the parents who received assistance from the foundation for her autistic son.

Dear Melissa,

Our family is particularly grateful for the financial support your Foundation, Hearts and Smiles has provided us so that our autistic son could attend the [summer camp]....

With quality physical and creative activities in the mornings for an entire week, [our son] returns home in a great mood and says he "had fun at the gym!"

Again, thank you for giving [him] an opportunity to attend [the program]... You have put smiles on all our faces!

According to one social worker, the three families referred by her agency "would not be having Christmas this year without [the foundation's] help." One mother, upon receiving word that she will receive grocery store gift cards, stated, "I've been blessed. I didn't know what I was going to do for Christmas dinner."

HELP US TO SAVE

If you have received this newsletter in print form, and would like to help us reduce our administrative costs, please send an email to heartsandsmiles@comcast.net. Type "Newsletter" in the subject line and include your name and mailing address for removal from the print mailing list. We'll place you on our electronic mailing list.

OUR FORMATION

The Hearts and Smiles Foundation was incorporated as a nonprofit organization in the state of Pennsylvania on June 12, 2006. The federal government recognizes the foundation as a tax-exempt organization under Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3), which makes any contributions tax-deductible.

~ Thank you for your support ~



I want to help families in need. Enclosed is my gift of \$_____ to be used where it is needed most.

Please make checks payable to The Hearts and Smiles Foundation and mail to P.O. Box 1253, Southampton, PA 18966.

Donor Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Email address _____