

New Hope News!

New Hope for Kids • Children's Grief Support & Children's Wish Programs • (407) 331-3059 • www.newhopeforkids.org

A Very Special Family Reunion

Matty has mitochondrial encephalomyopathy, a rare genetic disorder causing mutations in his DNA. Matty turned 4 in October, but he cannot walk or play like other children his age due to extreme muscle weakness. This illness also causes seizures and negatively affects his brain and nervous system. Every day his parents fight a battle to help him survive. In March, 2007 his brother, who was also Matty's best friend, died of the same illness. Matty's parents became committed to having the best Thanksgiving with him and his grandmom, granddad, aunts, uncles and cousins. Herein, developed the wish for a trip to Phoenix, Arizona where Matty's extended family live. They dreamed of a family reunion where Matty could be surrounded by lots of love and happiness. *New Hope for Kids* and *Team Strive* of UCF made Matty's wish come true! Embassy Suites of Phoenix joined us by donating accommodations for part of Matty's trip. Southwest Airlines Charity provided airfare. While in Arizona, the family made an outing to the Grand Canyon.



Debbie shared, *"Finally have caught up from our trip and wanted to send my sincere thanks and gratitude to you all for making Matthew's wish come true. He had a wonderful time with his Family and going to the Grand Canyon. I've included a few snap shots from the trip. The flight was perfect and Southwest was very helpful to our situation. The General Manager of Embassy Suites came out himself to meet me at check in and was very pleasant and helpful. Our first morning down to breakfast we were greeted by the Office Mgr and team at the restaurant. They all knew who we were and gladly welcomed us. The cook, Bob Painter, took a quick liking to Matty and every morning would reserve us a table. He put a sign out saying 'Reserved for Matty' with a big smile on it. The words thank you do not seem enough. We truly enjoyed this time and made many precious memories with Matt. Thank You All and God Bless."*

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Be the Next BMW Winner !!

Every year, one lucky winner drives away from our Annual Art of the Vine fundraiser as a proud new owner of a brand new BMW. This year, it could be you!



Fields BMW of Winter Park has once again graciously donated a new 2008 BMW 328i for our drawing of chance. All proceeds benefit *New Hope for Kids* programs.



Tickets are \$100 each and your second ticket is only \$50 more. The drawing will take place on April 4, 2008, at our 7th Annual Art of the Vine.

Get your tickets early! We will only print 2,000 tickets and they are running out fast!

**For tickets and rules, please visit our website
www.newhopeforkids.org or call (407) 331-3059 x10.**



What is New Hope for Kids?

New Hope for Kids is the largest independent grief center in the State of Florida. We are also one of the oldest wish-granting organizations in Central Florida. We concentrate on children, ages 3-18, and families coping with life-threatening illnesses and/or the loss of loved ones due to death.

How many children does *New Hope for Kids* help?

We assisted almost 250 children in 2007 through grief facilitation and granted 49 wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses. Since inception, *New Hope for Kids* has helped over 3,000 children -- over 2,000 through grief facilitation and over 1,000 children who had their wishes granted.

What programs does *New Hope for Kids* provide?

New Hope for Kids helps children and families cope with significant grief and loss related to a death through our **Grief Program** at the **Center for Grieving Children**. We have parent support groups, community awareness projects, information and referral services, as well as family events and summer camps for children and families.

Our **Wish Program** grants wishes to children who are not yet 19, and are diagnosed with a life-threatening illness. The two programs work together to provide a total family support program.

To help us through volunteering, individual and corporate donations, or to refer a child, please call us at:

(407) 331-3059

Join us for the 7th Annual Art of the Vine

Date: Friday, April 4, 2008 at 6:00pm
Place: Fields BMW, 963 Wymore Road, Winter Park

Enjoy a beautiful spring evening sampling fine wines and delicious foods from many local upscale restaurants. Join old friends and make new ones while you dance to live music and find bargains on incredible auction items.

Each year our caring community comes together, donating all of the food, beverage and auction items for this exceptional evening hosted by Fields BMW of Winter Park.

Fabulous Central Florida artist Marla E has donated the featured artwork for Art of the Vine since 2005. In this year's piece she puts us under a shaded canopy of grapes in a 'Vineyard Hideaway', where we can relax and enjoy a fine glass of wine.



'Vineyard Hideaway' by Marla E will be in the live auction!

Tickets are \$85 in advance and \$100 the night of the event. Sample mouthwatering specialties from Antonio's, Austral Latin Fusion, Brio Tuscan Grille, Café Tu Tu Tango, Fleming's Steak House, Harmoni Market, Panera Bread, Puff 'n Stuff, Ruth's Chris and other generous establishments that prepare exquisite menus for the evening.

All proceeds benefit *New Hope for Kids'* Grief and Wish Programs so you can have a wonderful time while supporting Central Florida children.

To purchase tickets, visit www.newhopeforkids.org or call 407-331-3059 x10. If you would like to donate auction items, please call 407-331-3059 x10.

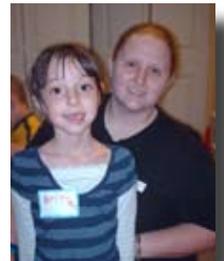
New Hope for Kids Grief Facilitators

A team is only as strong as all of its members. *New Hope for Kids* has been blessed with many wonderful Volunteers and Grief Facilitators. Our highly trained Grief Facilitators help us fulfill our mission to support Central Florida's children and families grieving the death of a loved one. Without them *New Hope for Kids* could not function, or even exist, and because of them we are able to shed light and bring hope to children who are on their journey of grief. It's important to recognize these wonderful people and their giving hearts. Whenever the need arises, they're always there to lend a hand, taking time away from their own busy schedules each week to make things better for someone else. Our Grief Facilitators have always taken pride in reaching out and seeing other people smile. Their selfless spirits brings out the best in *New Hope for Kids* and we just want to say Thank You for making our organization not only a reality, but a true success.

- Jaime Talbert, Volunteer Coordinator

Why I am a Grief Facilitator! by Timmarie H.

"To say that New Hope for Kids has been an inspiration to me would be an understatement. When I was ten years old my father died and my brother, grandmother, and I started attending group at New Hope. I gained a lot of different things and did not want to lose that feeling of belonging. So I volunteered with New Hope until I was sixteen and then attended Grief Facilitator training. I became a Grief Facilitator in August 2007, the week of my sixteenth birthday, and thus far very few things have been as rewarding as helping these kids through their grief. I love New Hope; I love the kids, the employees, the other volunteers, and the whole ideal that New Hope works towards. I've wanted to do this work for six years and now that I am, I must say nothing has been disappointing. I can not wait to work with New Hope in the years to come!"





New Hope for Kids 2007 Holiday Season

Thanksgiving kicked off our 2007 *New Hope for Kids* Holiday Season with the usual flurry of activity surrounding the gathering and distributing of food for the families in our grief and wish programs. This year we provided Thanksgiving meals to 103 families... more than ever before!

Center for Grieving Children

Signs of the holiday season are all around very early in the year. Seasonal music can be heard on most radio stations and in department stores, decorations adorn store fronts and light posts along the streets, stockings are being hung and lights and ornaments illuminate trees everywhere. What is to be a time of cheer and elation for some, for others is a time for reflection on memories of past holidays with loved ones that will be no more. To prepare the children and families that we serve at *New Hope for Kids* for the struggles the holidays can bring and to acknowledge their loss, a candle lighting ceremony was held each group night to allow time to remember and commemorate the lives of their loved ones who have died. In the midst of all the hustle and bustle the holiday season can bring, those who are left to grieve the death of someone who helped fill the season with joy are often forgotten and lost in the shuffle. We want the families to know that we honor their courage to face the holidays, oftentimes alone with their children, and that it is okay to do whatever feels right for their family to move through the days with as much peace and comfort that can sustain them. In addition to the candle lighting ceremony, all families were invited to a Holiday Memorial Luncheon, held at Orangewood Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. This provided another opportunity for families to support one another and to honor their loved ones. During this event, families presented recipes that their loved ones enjoyed to cook, eat or created. Many recipes were accompanied by the actual dish to share during the meal. These recipes will be compiled into a NHFKs Memorial Cookbook.

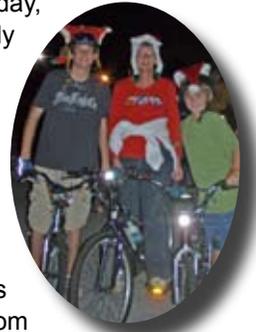
Candle Lighting Orlando was held on November 11, 2007 at the Lake Eola Amphitheater, hosted by Vitas Innovative Hospice Care of Central Florida and *New Hope for Kids*. This beautiful ceremony provided our community with an opportunity to hear words of encouragement and advice about dealing with loss and grief in anticipation of the holiday season. The program also offered inspiring music, time for personal reflection and a candle lighting ceremony. Candle Lighting Orlando is free to the public, and has been a Central Florida tradition for 9 years.

Old Town hosted our annual Holiday Festival on Sunday, December 2nd, 2007. Children and families from *New Hope for Kids* enjoyed lunch, popcorn and ice cream at this fun attraction in Kissimmee. Amusement rides kept many kids and adults happy while others preferred to casually stroll through unique shops along the brick-paved streets. A highlight of the day for the children was having their picture taken with Santa, providing a treasured memento of this special day. As part of the Holiday Festival, a special wish was granted to Ruth. She and her family enjoyed a week at Give Kids the World and our Central Florida attractions.



Christmas Bike Ride

Hundreds of bicycle riders gathered on Saturday, December 8, 2007 for this very unique family outing. Escorted by local law enforcement, riders of all ages cruised through 10 miles of neighborhoods full of holiday lights. One very special house is extravagantly decorated every year. This home provided the riders a chance to get off their bikes and enjoy the sights and sounds of this wonderful display. *New Hope for Kids* Christmas Bike Ride has become a yearly tradition for many families from the Central Florida community and beyond.



King of Kings Lutheran Church was the scene of another fun-filled Holiday Party this year. On December 15th, 135 children had fun shopping at Santa's Secret Shop, a first for our December family party. Kids delighted in checking out the selections and making their decisions from plenty of items for moms, dads, grandparents, siblings and other special family members. Another first for this event was live entertainment provided by Trudy Perry and Emory's Mile. A delicious lunch was prepared by our wonderful and talented Acevedo family. To add to the fun of the day, Randy received a wish for a TV and Play Station 3 along with a bag full of games. Santa Claus paid a special visit to the party-goers, bringing his sack-full of gifts for all the good little boys and girls who attended. All these things and more made this party one of the best ever for *New Hope for Kids*.



Our toy drive began with a rather slow start, but momentum quickly grew as we gathered toys and cash donations from around the Central Florida community. The gifts given to *New Hope's* kids provided much more than presents under the tree, they brought joy and smiles to kids in our grief and wish programs.

The generosity of so many individuals and local businesses helped make it possible for us to distribute over 1,748 gifts to 356 children... another record setting number for *New Hope for Kids*! Thank you Panera Bread, Fifth Third Banks, Hannover Life RE America and employees, Central Florida Blood Centers, Winter Park Hospital, Fiserv, Avalon Park Group, Home Town Mortgage, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, L & J Accessories, Journey Christian Church, Nuvox Communications, Cracker Barrel Altamonte Springs, Cushman and Wakefield, Dr. Butler's office, Fields BMW, Steak and Ale Maitland, St. Andrews School, Darden Restaurants, SunTrust, International Center for Leadership Development, David Viers CFE, Gary and Renate Weber, Joseph and Sandy Donnelly, Terri Celenza, Angelina Carbinetti, Beat Kahli, Bill Chychota, Brenda Raza, Dawn Knight, Eric Marks, Joe Macau, John Alexandrou, Ross Halle, Sheila Best, Stephanie Hodson, Zaida Rosada, Pat Stolz, John and Sarah Schondelmayer, MaryLou Chandler, Kaivan Rahbari, Olivia Pitkethly, Evelyn Stetler, Rob Beers (pictured with daughter above), Kristina Delia, Logan Williams, Brittany Simms, Stephanie Steele and many, many anonymous donors!



Thank You New Hope Donors!

We would like to say thank you to some of the many individuals and corporations that donated in 2007.

\$10,000 or more

Alice Bien Memorial Foundation	Melnik, David and Cynthia	Seminole Youth Ranch
Central FL Sports Commission	Panera Bread	Seretta Construction, Inc.
Cushman & Wakefield of Florida	Ronald McDonald House	Turner, Marcus

\$5,000 to \$10,000

American Douglas Metals, Inc.	Drusilla Farwell Foundation	Notre Dame Club
Bank of America	Hannover Life Reassurance Co.	Palladeno Enterprise, Inc.
Bracco, Frank and Sherril	Keene Technology, Inc.	Piercy, Tyler and Kim
Disney Worldwide Services, Inc.	Mid FL Home Builders	Private Wealth Management

\$1,000 to \$4,999

AD Satisfaction, LLC	Husty, Todd and Yvette	Rotary Club of Orange County
Aggressive Appliances & Fine Furniture	International Contractors	Rotary Club of Winter Park
Alan & Wendy Wiginton Family Foundation	Ipjian, Jerome	RPM One
American Home Mortgage Corp	John Weesner	Sanford Auto Dealers Exchange
Bright House Networks	Keene, John and Terry	Schaffer, John and Elena
Broad & Cassel	Knightsbridge @ Stoneybrooke Lake, Harriett	Secrist, Robert and Denise
Bruce K Gould Foundation	Land America	St. Andrews Catholic Church
Burkey Risk Services	Lynch, Jill S.	St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church
Childs, Jennifer	Maitland Rotary	Teph Seal Auto Appearance
Church Of The Holy Spirit Inc.	Mantione, Joe	The Golden Rule Foundation
Cichocki, Matthew and Cicilia	Mantione, John and Leigh Ann	The Golden Steppers
CNA Foundation	Margaret R. Binz Foundation	The Lee Law Firm, PL
Coldwell Banker Res Brokerage	Marston, Hal and Josie	Tip Land Holding LLC
Craig, Mickey	Martin, Anthony	United Church of the Nazarene
Fields BMW	Maxwell, Charles	Valentin, Edwin
First American Title Insurance	McEachron, Andrew and Barbara	Wachovia
Ford, Gavin and Annette	Medical Audit Resource Services, Inc.	Wal-Mart Foundation
Fritz Bogausch Concrete Specialists, Inc.	Modern Plumbing Industries	Walsh, Keiko
G & G Advertising	Moore's Caulking & Coating	Weber, Gary and Renate
GeoTel Communications, Inc.	Nissan Motor Acceptance Corp	Wells Fargo Home Mortgage
Global Impact	Orlando Infiniti	WESH - Hearst
Gruber, Brian	Otte, Bruce and Kathleen	West Colonial Kia
Heart of Florida United Way, Inc.	Peter M. Kuc Consulting LLC	Westye Group Southeast, Inc.
Hewitt Associates Foundation	Pfizer United Way Campaign	Whitney, Daniel
Higgins, Stephen and Mary Jo	Rotary Club of Altamonte Spgs	Wilding, Ernie
		Zaugdney, Andrew

In-Kind Donors

Advance Body and Facial	L & J Accessories	Siemens IT Solutions and Services, Inc.
Apple Blossom Florist	Miller, Louis	Southwest Airlines
Burn, Frank	Mission Inn Resort & Club	St. Paul Travelers
Christmas Airstream Park	Orlando Ale House	The Venetian
Continental Airlines	Panera Bread	Walt Disney World
Corporate Entertainment Inc.	Publix Supermarkets Inc.	Community Relations
Darden Restaurants	Remembering When Event Planning	Westgate
Fields BMW	RGI Marketing Group	Winn Dixie
Finn, Rebecca	Sheraton Downtown Orlando	
Greene & Lee, PL		
King of Kings Lutheran Church		

A Special Request...

Each year, *New Hope for Kids* Camp Ray of Hope provides a time of sharing, remembering and healing for kids in our grief program. This year we're returning to Disney's Fort Wilderness Campground, but our budget is tight! Can you help us? We need 6-man tents, sleeping bags and battery-operated or electric lanterns. All items need to be new. If you're interested in contributing, please contact Dana Duffie at (407) 331-3059 ext. 10 or dana@newhopeforkids.org.

From Dominic Nori, Chairman of the Board



As the 2008 Chairman of the Board for *New Hope for Kids*, I'd like to introduce myself to you and share with you the vision our board of directors has for the upcoming year. I've supported *New Hope for Kids* since 2001 when I organized the Fall Classic 5K Run in the Heathrow area. This is my second year serving on the board of directors, and I can honestly say that it has been a privilege to work with such a fine group of people. You can rest assured that we are very committed to helping *New Hope for Kids* become the strongest organization it can be. We had a record-setting year in many areas of our organization in 2007 and we want to exceed those in 2008.

One of the ways we are planning to grow is by building a new facility on Wymore Road in Maitland. Our grief and wish programs, as well as administrative offices, have been housed in separate locations for several years. In order to grow and to work efficiently, all facets of *New Hope for Kids* need to be located in one place. You'll be hearing much more about this in the months to come, including ways you can help support this endeavor. Everyone is excited about this new project, and as plans become realities we will see our dreams come true for that strong organization we are striving to become.

I thank you for the opportunity to serve *New Hope for Kids* and ask for your continued support in 2008. I believe in the vision and mission of its programs and look forward to a year full of success.

Dominic Nori
Chairman of the Board

Give the Gift of Hope

Please consider becoming part of *New Hope for Kids* Annual Giving Program. We offer many annual giving levels that can meet every budget. All levels can be broken down into manageable monthly donations to make giving easy. No matter which level you choose, Central Florida's kids will directly benefit from your generosity. To start giving, please call us at (407) 331-3059 x12.



Over 93 cents of every dollar raised directly benefits *New Hope's* kids and families!

Our New Way of Life

My name is Danielle and my daughter is Sabine, who is 9 years old. We started coming to *New Hope for Kids* in February 2007. I lost my husband in May 2005, due to a heart attack. He was my best friend, support and hope and for my daughter she lost her Daddy, who was everything in her eyes.

When I started *New Hope for Kids*, I had no idea on how it would change our lives for the better. From the first time we came, my daughter, who was withdrawn, quiet, and angry, suddenly opened up and couldn't wait for the next time we could go. It was like watching a child who went through such an experience finally feel safe, excited, and its a place where she feels other children can relate to her. I could see in her attitude and eyes, this is where she feels she belongs.

New Hope for Kids have given us such support in understanding that this is our "new way of life" and that we will and can move on, even though it is tough, especially during the Holidays but we have support and wonderful activities to keep us going. This past Christmas, which was our first with *New Hope for Kids*, not only did we have a Christmas gift giving, which Sabine wouldn't have a Christmas without it, due to financial strains, made by the generosity of donations made by the community, but we got to experience the Champs Bowl Festival for the kids, the Champs Bowl football game, as well as a wonderful time at Sea World's Shamu's Yuletide Celebration. Words cannot express my gratitude to *New Hope for Kids* and the wonderful sponsors who participated in making this one of the most cherished experiences we've had since Gordon's passing.



Sabrine & Danielle at the Champs Bowl Festival

Sabrine and I are so thankful to *New Hope for Kids* and the community is supporting such a wonderful program and in continuing to help us heal that one day we will be strong enough to be able to give back and help others.

16th Annual Celebrity Mascot Games!

Start getting ready! The infamous Celebrity Mascot Games are returning to Orlando this July!



Over the course of three days, more than thirty of the nation's top professional and collegiate mascots will tumble their way through wacky, zany games at the Amway Arena and Stetson University. The games benefit *New Hope for Kids*' Grief and Wish Programs and are hosted by *New Hope for Kids*' partner for the event, the Central Florida Sports Commission.



Join us as we step into the world of these big-hearted mascots and see what silliness they will bring to the Games this year!

Make sure to check our website at www.newhopeforkids.org for all of the event details.



You will not want to miss it - this is going to be our biggest year yet!

UCF Cornerstone Students

The UCF Cornerstone Team "Wish Grantors" hits the top! They put their full efforts into granting Victoria's wish for a Disney cruise. I think they even surprised themselves with the results of their efforts. Their original goal was \$3,000, and they far exceed it by raising \$7,500—the most ever raised by a team in the 5 years of partnership with *New Hope for Kids* and Cornerstone! Beyond their monetary success, they had excellent communication and people skills. Add marketing abilities to that and there's no wonder they were a success!

Team Wish Grantors faced challenges of scheduling, implementing fundraisers and "stretching" their skills. Their largest fundraiser was a golf tournament. This is an extremely ambitious event for a semester, but they pulled it off, attained 57 players and numerous sponsors. Timacuan Golf & Country Club generously augmented their fundraising efforts by providing an excellent venue for the tournament. The Wish Grantor's commitment to Victoria and *New Hope for Kids* did not waiver.

New Hope for Kids Wish Program Director, Rosie Wilder, shared, "I was very impressed with the team's commitment and creativity. They expressed to me that the best part of the project was meeting Victoria and her family. She is 8 years old and has spina bifida, a birth defect in which the backbone and spinal canal do not close before birth. It has caused paralysis in her legs, and she uses a wheelchair. Victoria has hydrocephalus as well as other health concerns. In spite of these challenges, she has an enthusiastic spirit. And just like every other little girl, Victoria wanted to be a "Princess" on the big Disney boat with all her favorite princesses. She underwent surgery last fall, and the cruise helped to encourage her and bring many smiles to her beautiful face!"



University of Central Florida business students are required to participate in a philanthropic assignment in the community. In 2007, Cornerstone teams raised over \$60,000 to grant 31 wishes to *New Hope for Kids* children with life-threatening illnesses. An additional \$10,000 was raised for family support and events. Remember to visit our website to see a video created by one of our outstanding Cornerstone team "The Producers".

New Hope Videos



We have recently added videos to our website, which you can view at anytime! These videos have been put together by local college students, families and TV stations. They give you a special insight into the programs and services we provide to Central Florida children and families. Stop by the newsroom section of our website and take a look!

New Hope for Kids, Inc.
900 North Maitland Ave.
Maitland, FL 32751
407-599-0909

www.newhopeforkids.org

ADDRESS UPDATE

- Please remove my name from your mailing list
- Please change my address as noted on the right
- I am receiving duplicates

This information will help reduce our mailing cost.
Cut your address label and mail to address above.



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U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit 114
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NEW HOPE FOR KIDS NEEDS YOUR HELP

New Hope can always use your help with our special events! Please check your calendar and call Jaime Talbert at (407) 599-0909 ext. 26 if you would like to volunteer at any of our upcoming events:

- BMW Drawing of Chance Ticket Sales
- NHFK Spring Fling - March 15th
- Art of the Vine - April 4th
- Summer Camps - April 25-27, June 12-14
- Celebrity Mascot Games

THINGS WE NEED..

- Items for Silent Auction
- Cookies, salty snacks & Capri Suns
- Gifts for teens: Video games, DVD movies, CD/DVD/MP3 players
- Craft supplies, paint paper & Tempera paint
- Disposable cameras
- Store gift cards
- Tents, sleeping bags & electric lanterns for camp

Volunteers Needed

Grief Facilitators: Make a difference! Have you always wanted to help kids? *New Hope for Kids* is looking for that special person who is willing to come in twice a month from 5:00– 8:00 p.m. and facilitate activities for kids who have had a death in their family. Volunteers are asked to make a one-year commitment. Spanish-speaking grief facilitators are always needed.

Office Support: Help needed M-F between the hours of 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. with typing, filing, mailings, record keeping, computer entry and reception desk.

Grief Center Assistants: Assist with arts & crafts projects, organize playrooms, assist with gardening, cleaning or maintenance.

Family Events Assistants: Be a part of the planning committee, help decorate for children's events, be a friend to the kids during the events.

Wish Program Assistants: Visit a wish child, do Internet research, make home visits, help grant or celebrate a wish.

Speakers Bureau Committee: Visit area organizations to communicate the mission of *New Hope for Kids'* grief and wish programs.

We need your help. If you would like to volunteer for any of our fun and exciting events, would like to become a grief facilitator or contribute to our wish program, please call us at: (407) 599-0909 x26.