


# New Hope News!

New Hope for Kids • Center for Grieving Children & Wishes for Kids • 407-331-3059 • www.newhopeforkids.org

## Annual Holiday Food & Toy Drives - How YOU can help!

All donations directly help our Grief & Wish families in need of assistance this holiday season.

It's sometimes hard to imagine the challenges families face during the serious illness of their child, or following the death of a parent. Emotional struggles are compounded by financial difficulties due to the increasing costs of medical care, or because of the loss of half of the family's income after the death of a parent. We can all help bring some relief, and even joy, to the holidays of *New Hope for Kids* families by participating in our Food and Toy Drives.

We invite you to be a part of these  wonderful opportunities to bring new hope into the lives of the families we serve!

During our **2013 Food Drive** we will gather grocery store gift cards instead of canned goods for the families in our programs who need a little extra help. (We distributed gift cards to over 300 families in 2012!) You may purchase a gift card of any amount from Wal-Mart, Publix or Winn Dixie and drop it off at the Center for Grieving Children, 900 N. Maitland Ave in Maitland M-F 10am-5pm (Wednesdays until 3pm) now through November 21st, or visit our website to make a donation to help purchase gift cards.

The day after Thanksgiving will be the official start of our **Annual Toy Drive!** Each year we hear from parents that their holidays wouldn't be the same without our help. Your donations will bring smiles to very special children as they feel the joy of the season made possible by your kindness and generosity. This year we will provide gifts to over 650 children!

Have you ever thought about having a toy drive for *New Hope for Kids* with a group of friends or at your place of work? It can be a fun way to celebrate the season and help bring joy to the kids in our grief and wish programs! Perhaps you'd like to decorate a tree with our gift tags or place a collection box in your office. You can even schedule "Santa's Trailer" to come to your business where employees can help "fill Santa's trailer with hope!"

Please send an email to [Rhonda@newhopeforkids.org](mailto:Rhonda@newhopeforkids.org) to learn more about this fun opportunity!



**How can you help?** Visit designated local Panera stores (locations can be found on our website) where you will find trees with special *New Hope for Kids* gift request tags. Donations may be taken, unwrapped, back to the

location from which you got your tag, or may be brought to our Center for Grieving Children. (see drop-off schedule online) We prefer to let parents and caregivers wrap their children's gifts, so please bring your donations unwrapped!

### Holiday shopping made easier!

Shop online at Amazon and Walmart from the comfort of your own computer chair. You can even have items shipped directly to us!



Visit our website for direct links to our lists.

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Shake up your evening at **Shaken & Stirred** presented by **Private Wealth Management** on Friday, **October 11th** at 6 p.m. benefiting **New Hope for Kids!**

Join us for a stylish night of jazzy fun that features your favorite Vegas-style casino games, slot machines and blackjack tournament.

We are returning to our host, **Orlando Mini** where you can gamble to your heart's content knowing that it's all for a great cause: helping support children at **New Hope for Kids!** Admission is \$65 per person (2 for \$100) and includes fine food, martinis, wine and beer.



### Feeling Lucky Drawing of Chance

One lucky winner will win a brand new Vespa!

Drawing of Chance Tickets are \$20 each, or 3 for \$50. Only 1000 will be sold!

The drawing will be held at our **Shaken & Stirred** fundraising event. (Admission not included. Need not be present to win.)

To purchase tickets, or for more information about the event and drawing, visit [www.newhopeforkids.org/casino](http://www.newhopeforkids.org/casino)



## 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 375 children in 2012 through grief facilitation and granted 51 wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses. Since inception, *New Hope for Kids* has helped over 5,500 children -- over 4,000 through grief facilitation and over 1,500 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.

# A Story of Grief, Hope and Healing

The Bernard family consists of father, James, and his children, Ava, Chloe, Mia, and Asher. They are an energetic, talented family that attends *New Hope for Kids* Center for Grieving Children. James' wife and mother of their four children died in 2011 after a long battle with leukemia. After his wife's death, James had concerns about some of the ways his children were experiencing grief: acting out, feeling depressed and expressing rage. Since they began attending the Center for Grieving Children, James has seen many positive changes in his kids, who are now ages 4-10. They love the grief support groups and James knows that the sessions have had a huge impact on their lives. Ava has even expressed interest in becoming a grief facilitator in the future to help others dealing with grief. *New Hope for Kids* has also benefitted James as a parent. As he does not attend counseling, participating in sessions at the Center for Grieving Children is his only chance to talk to other parents and caregivers who are facing very similar challenges. James' advice to new families contemplating whether or not they should contact *New Hope for Kids*: "Just do it. It is an inviting, non-judgmental environment that ends up feeling like home." The Bernard family has made connections with other local families who are dealing with grief. James feels that this is an added benefit to the services *New Hope for Kids* already offers. He thinks the group and community atmosphere at *New Hope for Kids* is particularly effective for him and his children because they enjoy being around people. Overall, James and his family cherish their time at *New Hope for Kids* and they cannot imagine where they would be without it.



## DPR Commitment to 'Build Great Things' extends to NHFK

Since December 2010, the DPR Foundation has supported *New Hope for Kids* with grants totaling \$95,000. Our celebration for 2013 was held at the Center for Grieving Children with a check presentation award of \$40,000!

"DPR's commitment to 'Build Great Things' extends far beyond our offices or customers -- we strive to go into the communities where we work and live," said Peter Nosler, co-founder of DPR Construction and president of the DPR Foundation board. "Through the Foundation, we focus on building long-lasting relationships with local organizations that help kids gain an enriched community experience. Once we select an organization, our commitment is solid and we expect to continue our financial and volunteer support year after year."



"Passionate is how we feel about *New Hope for Kids*" states Maritza Mojica, who serves as the liaison between DPR's Orlando Office and NHFK. "We stay connected and energetic to further strengthen our relationship. The more we learn, the better we serve." She has coordinated DPR team members for this year's Magic Game/Teen Outing, summer camp, and has begun planning for upcoming family events in the fall.

The Foundation measures the success and progress of these programs on an annual basis to ensure each grantee stays on mission and is achieving results. Among other activities, DPR Orlando volunteers participate in annual family events, back-to-school, holiday gift card and holiday toy drives benefitting *New Hope for Kids*.

## Maitland Fire Department Visits New Hope for Kids

Keeping our families safe and protected is not only the belief of *New Hope for Kids*, but also that of our very own Maitland Fire Department. Their recent visit to the Center for Grieving Children was educational and allowed for learning on both sides. We toured and talked about safety and fire procedures so that our staff, volunteers and families can feel confident while spending time at the Center. Plus, we have been invited to bring our children for a tour of their new Fire station in the future!



Do you know a child that could benefit from one of our programs?

**407-331-3059 x10**

For more information please visit:  
**[www.newhopeforkids.org](http://www.newhopeforkids.org)**



## Kids Kamp

This year's *New Hope for Kids Kamp* was held at Christmas RV Park on June 13-15, and boy was it filled with fun! In addition to 50 "kampers", we had a generous group of volunteers that joined in the excitement of activities and new friendships. It was endearing to see the volunteers help and engage so wonderfully with our children.

Everyone was involved with fun kamp projects including swimming at the pool, rock painting, making tin can chimes and crafting memory boxes. We also had a special fire truck presentation and a hay ride (minus the hay, helps with allergies)!

Everyone had lots to eat and drink (a *New Hope* tradition!) and families were able to relax for a few days knowing that their children were well-cared for. *NHFK Kamp* ended with a family day BBQ and the kids received goodie bags and a *NHFK Kamp* group picture.

To all the volunteers that gave their time, *New Hope for Kids* staff and families appreciate your energy and compassion!



## Summer Wishes Light the Sky

J.P. wanted to see his New York cousins and celebrate in the Big Apple! One of his favorite things to do is sightsee at the iconic Statue of Liberty, Freedom Tower and the Empire State Building! *New Hope's Wishes for Kids* provided airfare, accommodations and spending money to make J.P.'s wish extraordinary!

Before he left, J.P. was treated to his own "prom" by the Shooting Stars UCF Cornerstone Team. They shared, "Our Prom on Monday night turned out fabulous. It really seemed like all the kids were happy and having a good time. Everyone was so helpful and sweet."



**Kaley** recently had a very difficult surgery to lengthen her leg. Before she faced months of treatment and therapy, Kaley only asked for one thing: a Disney Dream Cruise! Her family had the best time swimming, playing games, and sightseeing. Every day was an adventure beginning with a cool and windy day and moving into sunshine and the warmth of the Bahamas.

Parents Sindian and Felix wrote, "We thank you again for everything... We had an awesome time... We need a vacation after this vacation LOL so much to do, no time to rest. We participated in everything. Thank you all again for a wonderful vacation. God Bless."

# Building **NEW HOPE** Capital Campaign

A letter from our Executive Director...

*New Hope for Kids* is pleased to announce that we are closer than ever to achieving our goal of a larger facility! Our dream... of a home-like environment for our program services... of space to serve all age groups at once... of getting rid of waiting lists for program services... all of these dreams and more are about to be realized. We are thrilled with what this means for the children and families of Central Florida.

Since our founding in 1996, we have grown steadily and evolved to meet the needs of children and families in our community. Each year there has been greater demand for grief support services as the population of Central Florida grows and as more families learn of the services we offer. Children continue to face the death of loved ones through terminal illness, accidents, homicide and suicide. More heartbreaking cases of children with life-threatening illnesses like cancer, cystic fibrosis, and degenerative brain disease are presented to our wish program. Sadly, these are factors that are not going to diminish, but continue to increase.

We are excited to say that we are in the final stages of purchasing a 14,000 square foot facility in Maitland. Once renovated, this new building will allow us to undertake all grief and wish services offered by our organization in an efficient and effective way, as well as to offer additional programs and activities for the children and families we serve. Although we've been limited in our 4,000 square foot facility for some time, we see incredible opportunities for so much more in our new "home"!

Generous support from our community has helped build our programs and work with greater numbers of children every year. Soon we will launch our Capital Campaign, *Building New Hope*. This is a once-in-a-lifetime campaign designed to help us raise the money to buy and adapt this new building. We encourage you to help us achieve this goal by providing your support for this endeavor. There will be opportunities to give on every level, from a personalized brick in our "Path to Hope", to sponsoring a support or activity room, all the way up to naming rights of the building itself! The first \$300,000 in donations will even be matched by a local foundation. Consider asking your employer if they would provide matching funds for your donation. Or maybe you know of a foundation or potential donor we could contact. Every dollar helps!

We'll share more via email as we progress, so visit our website and sign up for our "New Hope e-News" to make sure you don't miss a single step of this exciting journey. I look forward to working with you as we continue to bring new hope to the children and families of Central Florida.

David Joswick, Executive Director

For more information on ways you can help, please contact:

Marla Sullivan, Development Director at 407-331-3059 ext. 12 or by email at [marla@newhopeforkids.org](mailto:marla@newhopeforkids.org)

# Welcome New Board Members

NHFK is pleased to announce the addition of 3 new board members!



**Christina Clark**, Vice President of Marketing for Olympus Insurance Group, was introduced to *New Hope for Kids* by current board member, Barbara Peckett. New Hope's Board of Directors was impressed with her enthusiasm for the mission of *New Hope for Kids*, as well as with her willingness to help wherever she is needed. "I am deeply humbled to be a part of the dynamic team that is the *New Hope for Kids* board, expressed Christine. "The passion for kids shown by this program is unparalleled and I am excited to see what we can do this year... and what the future holds!" Christina and her husband Robert have 2 children and live in Orlando.



**Jean Gallagher**, General Manager of Walt Disney World's Water Parks & Miniature Golf, was looking for a deserving, family-focused organization on whose board she could share her skills and support. After an extensive and thorough research into the non-profits of our area, Jean chose *New Hope for Kids*. The effects of loss in her life and in others close to her provided helpful insight into the needs of grieving children. This awareness made it clear that *New Hope for Kids* was the organization with which she could become involved. Jean shared, "The genius of New Hope is the focus on the entire family, recovering at their own pace and in their own way - no one left behind. New Hope provides faith and hope that healing will happen!" She and her husband James live in Clermont, and have 3 children.



**John Mikolajczyk**, Director of Operations at SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, had a desire to become involved with an organization that focused specifically on people and kids. After SeaWorld's community services team presented John with several choices, he found himself drawn to what *New Hope for Kids* is all about. John said, "The desire to help those who use your services, like I would want my kids to be helped if something ever happened to me, is just the right thing to do. I feel that the more people can hear about *New Hope for Kids* and learn what it does for those children in terrible circumstances will really help change the lives of many, many kids." John, his wife Kelly, and their 3 children live in Orlando.

Welcome to the *New Hope for Kids* family, Christina, Jean and John!

## A Healthy Way to Laugh, Share & Cope

Each month, our Events Manager, Rhonda Stankiewicz, coordinates our **Parent Support Luncheon** that is held at our Center in Maitland, our business office in Fern Park or at a local restaurant. This get-together serves as a therapeutic and social treat for the moms and dads who are caring for special needs children. They get to escape ever-so-briefly from a demanding environment for an opportunity to network with other parents.



There is a lot of laughter and friendship-building among this group and allows for a beautiful path of healing and care.

## Clay, Canvas & Kool-aid



We enjoyed a fantastic hands-on art experience for **Clay, Canvas and Kool-aid** held at the Center for Grieving Children this summer. With helpful and spirited volunteers from **FIS Global**, the children explored drawing, painting (both realism and abstract), clay and more!



"The children just loved the opportunity to get messy and creative" shares Grief Facilitator and recent UCF Art Major, Erin Huntley. "They enjoyed, creating creatures with clay, learning to draw their own faces with colored pencils, and delighted in the feel of paints on the canvas or outside between their fingers."

Studies have shown that art is an excellent way to reach kids who are grieving the loss of a significant person. Children sometimes don't have the words to articulate their feelings, but sensory activities such as drawing or other art activities are a natural language through which to express themselves with the imaginative world of symbols and picture making. We ended the day with a walk-around art show (fun!)...and yummy cupcakes!

## Read, Recycle, Rewards for NHFK

University of Central Florida and its Cornerstone program continue to embrace *New Hope for Kids* in so many meaningful ways. Our newest partnership is with Gray's Bookstore near the UCF Campus and General Manager, Colleen O'Boyle.

Colleen was introduced to *New Hope for Kids* when she was a Cornerstone team member. This group of business majors put their learning to work to help local charities. "Colleen's spirit, professionalism and Cornerstone experience has led to an ongoing commitment to *New Hope for Kids* and other charities. Our partnership with Gray's Bookstore provides wishes for children with life-threatening illnesses, thereby supporting our community's merit and substance," states Wishes for Kids Director Rosie Wilder who works with new teams each semester.



As Colleen developed her professional career, she continued to work with various Cornerstone teams. She offers a Book Donation Program that has already generated **\$7,570** for *New Hope for Kids*! "We collected 132 boxes of books this semester alone," states O'Boyle, "with most going to the efforts of *New Hope for Kids*, as that is a charity that is very close to UCF's heart, and mine as well. Plus, we have the UCF Community to thank for our continued success, and we look forward to serving our fellow Knights and the surrounding community for years to come!"

For more information about this **Book Donation Program**, please visit [www.newhopeforkids.org/books](http://www.newhopeforkids.org/books)



**Food serves as a great comfort for our families and volunteers.**  
**Thank you for your generosity and continued support of our programs**





## Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are the heart of *New Hope for Kids!* Would you like to be part of our caring and dynamic team of volunteers? We have opportunities to fit every commitment and skill level, and for every area of interest you can imagine! Here are just a few:



**Grief Facilitators:** Do you want to work directly with our children? *New Hope for Kids* is always looking for special people to become Grief Facilitators. We are looking for individuals who are able to commit to one night, every two weeks, from 5:00-8:00pm. On these nights you will help facilitate activities for kids who have experienced the death of a loved one. Volunteers are asked to make a one year commitment after training. Bilingual facilitators are always needed.

**Center for Grieving Children:** We need help organizing playrooms, assisting with gardening, cleaning or maintenance, and general office assistance.

**Marketing:** Represent *New Hope for Kids* at our booth at various events throughout Central Florida, speak to people about our mission and hand out materials, or research new events in the community that allow non-profits to participate.

**Family Events:** Be a part of the planning committee, help create a fun atmosphere by decorating for one of our children's events, or be a friend to the kids during our events.

**Wish Program:** Our wish kids win the hearts of all who meet them. Would you like to help grant or celebrate a wish, visit a wish child, or perhaps do Internet research?

**These are just a few of the many ways you can help!**  
Please contact Gloria Capozzi at 407-331-3059 ext. 15 or  
Gloria@newhopeforkids.org to learn more!

## Saying Good-bye to Talia



Eight-year-old Talia's face lit up when she rode Lily. After treatments for Stage 4 neuroblastoma, Talia just wanted to be a kid doing the things other kids did. In 2008, Wishes for Kids granted her a lease for a horse and horseback riding lessons. Unfortunately, Talia's cancer relapsed later that year, and even though the Jancy Aloma Animal Hospital generously extended the lease to accommodate Talia's time in the hospital, she was not able to ride very often. It was the beginning of many chemotherapy treatments, remissions and relapses. Despite this,

Talia displayed an unbelievable amount of spunk with courage way beyond her years. Longing to help others in their fight against cancer, Talia began a service to brighten their lives through make up artistry. Ellen Degeneres was so impressed with Talia, whose motto was "Make-up is my wig", that she invited her to be a guest on her show on NBC. On July 16, we sadly said good-bye to Talia Joy Castellano, the 13-year-old YouTube sensation who captured the hearts of Central Florida and beyond.

## Magical World of Wishes

Rosie Wilder has been a real-life "fairy godmother," granting wishes for kids since 1999.

We invite you to check out her new wish blog!

[www.newhopeforkids.org/wishblog](http://www.newhopeforkids.org/wishblog)



## 9th Annual Greater Maitland 5k Run & Walk



Plan now for the RDV Sportsplex 9th Annual Greater Maitland 5k Run & Walk, happening October 12, 2013 at 7:30 a.m. The RDV Greater Maitland 5K Run & Walk is an uplifting community event that benefits *New Hope for Kids* and Orlando Children's Church.

Established in 2005 by Orangewood Church in Maitland who partnered with Fleet Feet Sports soon after, this community event has donated nearly \$74,000 to local charities since it began. In addition, the RDV Greater Maitland 5K Run & Walk has raised awareness of the importance of helping those who are in need or are enduring tragedy and grief in their lives.

Pre-event activities are staged at Orangewood Church (1300 W. Maitland Blvd., Maitland, FL 32751) with the start line on Sandspur Road and finish line on the property of Orangewood. Register online or in person at Fleet Feet Sports, 303 E. Altamonte Dr. #1250, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Gloria@newhopeforkids.org. To register and for more info: [www.orangewood.org/5k](http://www.orangewood.org/5k).

## 11th Annual Holiday Bicycle Ride



Mark your calendars! Plans for our Holiday Bicycle Ride benefiting *New Hope for Kids* are now underway! This is our 11th Annual Holiday Bicycle Ride, and we have enhanced the route and added a few activities to make this magical night even more fun for families!

Each year hundreds of bicycle riders join us as we tour Casselberry neighborhoods to view the magic of the season as we ride by homes decorated with sparkling holiday lights. Our location will once again be South Seminole Middle School on **Saturday, December 14th** with registration starting at 4 pm. Riders decorate their bikes with lights and tinsel, and dress in festive hats and gear to embrace the excitement of the season.

Thanks to continuing support from Seminole County Sheriff's Office and David's World Cycle, this event is truly a safe, family friendly experience. For more information on our ride or to become a sponsor at the event, visit [www.newhopeforkids.org/bike](http://www.newhopeforkids.org/bike)

## Everyone's Favorite Fundraiser is Back!



Be one of the first to secure a chance to win  
**A BRAND NEW 2014 BMW**

Consider getting a ticket (or two!) as a stocking stuffer for that hard-to-buy-for person on your shopping list? Or buy one for yourself! Either way it's a perfect year-end tax deduction.

Tickets are \$100 each or sets of two for \$150.  
The drawing takes place on **March 28th 2014**  
at our annual **Art of the Vine** event.  
(Admission not included. Need not be present to win)

For tickets and rules, please call 407-331-3059 x10  
or visit [www.newhopeforkids.org/bmw](http://www.newhopeforkids.org/bmw)



900 North Maitland Ave.  
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[www.newhopeforkids.org](http://www.newhopeforkids.org)

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### ADDRESS UPDATE

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This information will help reduce our mailing cost.  
Cut your address label and mail to address above  
or email [information@newhopeforkids.org](mailto:information@newhopeforkids.org).



### ***New Hope for Kids needs your help!***

Our programs are successful because of generous people like you!  
Please consider making a monetary donation or donating items from the list below. As a non-profit organization, we depend on the kindness of others who donate supplies, gifts, funding and time.

To make a monetary donation, make your check payable to:  
*New Hope for Kids* - 900 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland, FL 32751  
To make a donation by credit card, call 407-331-3059 x10  
or visit [www.newhopeforkids.org/donate](http://www.newhopeforkids.org/donate)

### **Items we frequently need:**

- Silent Auction items and baskets
- Cookies, salty snacks & Capri Suns
- Gifts for teens: Video games, DVD movies, CD/DVD/MP3 players, etc.
- Low-odor dry erase markers, scissors (ages 4 & up), sharpies, white paint paper (9"x12") & Tempera paint
- Assorted greeting cards, scrapbooks, paper & supplies
- Gas station gift cards
- Store gift cards for food & toy drives (see page 1)

### **Upcoming Events... Save the Date!**

- October 11: Shaken & Stirred / Vespa Drawing of Chance
- October 12: 9th Annual Greater Maitland 5k Run & Walk
- Through November 21: Annual Food Drive (gift cards)
- November 29 - December 18: Annual Toy Drive
- December 14: 11th Annual Holiday Bicycle Ride

Stay up to date with our events by signing up online for our e-newsletter.

### **Get Acquainted With NEW HOPE**

Our monthly Get Acquainted Lunch hosted at *New Hope for Kids*' Center for Grieving Children in Maitland is a wonderful opportunity to educate the public about the grief and wish programs we offer to Central Florida families.

The lunch and learn format provides an informal opportunity for community leaders, local government officials, law enforcement, companies and corporations, medical and wellness personnel, teachers and donors to see, first hand, what we do at *New Hope for Kids*. Starting with a brief video and tour of the Center, this forum provides guests great insight to our needs and services... all over a nice, friendly lunch!

"I love the personal connectivity this program offers," states Gloria Capozzi, Volunteer & Marketing Manager at *New Hope for Kids*. "Guests learn from each other and are eager to get involved."

Space is limited to 16 people once a month.  
Please email [Gloria@newhopeforkids.org](mailto:Gloria@newhopeforkids.org) to learn more about this program.

***New Hope for Kids* is an approved 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Our mission is to support children and families grieving the death of a loved one and to grant wishes to children with life-threatening illnesses in Central Florida.**