



“OUR KIDS ARE EVERYBODY’S KIDS”



# 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GALA



## EARTH WIND & FIRE

*The Music Will Go On Forever*

AS THE SUMMER COMES TO A CLOSE, preparations are in full swing to make **Houston Children’s Charity’s 19th Annual Gala** the best ever! Please join **BMW of West Houston and Momentum BMW Southwest** on **November 7, 2015** as we honor our dear friends, **Hannah & Cal McNair** for their dedication and philanthropic support to the Houston community. Also contributing to the evening’s success are **Gala Co-Chairs Jana & Richard Fant** and **Brad, Melissa and Scarlette Juneau** – who are passionate about their causes and will bring a refreshing enthusiasm to the event.

The intimate setting of the Imperial Ballroom of the **Hyatt Regency Houston** will afford you the opportunity to be up close and personal with one of the most successful and critically acclaimed bands of the twentieth century...**EARTH, WIND & FIRE!**

Houston Children’s Charity is dedicated to improving the quality of life for our city’s underprivileged, abused, and disabled children, who might otherwise be left behind. Remember, **“Our kids are everybody’s kids”** and your support is more critical now than ever!

For more information please visit [www.houstonchildrenscharity.org](http://www.houstonchildrenscharity.org). Call today to reserve your seats **713-524-2878 Ext. 201**. On behalf of the special children we serve, we thank you for your consideration and look forward to seeing you on **November 7<sup>th</sup>**.



### *An Unprecedented Run as Title Sponsors*

We are excited to announce that **BMW of West Houston and Momentum BMW Southwest** are confirmed as **Title Sponsors of the 19th Annual Gala**. Houston Children’s Charity Board of Directors would like to extend a special thank you to **Maria Moncada Alaoui** – BMW of West Houston and **Tommy Kuranoff** – Momentum BMW Southwest for their unprecedented support for the past 8 years. Their generous contributions have made a huge difference in the lives of so many children. We are grateful for their continued loyalty and unwavering support.

Thank You Maria and Tommy, you truly care.



2016 BMW 228i Coupe



## CHARIOTS FOR CHILDREN

**HOUSTON CHILDREN’S CHARITY** IS DEDICATED to enhancing the lives of underprivileged, handicapped and abused children in the Houston community and surrounding areas. The **“Chariots for Children”** Van Program was founded in 1997 to provide special purpose vehicles used to deliver the freedom of mobility not otherwise available. This program is dedicated to providing specifically designed wheelchair accessible vans to families and equipped transportation to organizations with a similar mission.

For many children, our vans provide transportation to school, treatment, or therapy. For some, it is a first step into a larger world where transportation is restricted to school and home. Child-related activities, whether for an outing to the zoo, a trip to the movies or museum, might not even be in the picture. These vans are **LIFE ALTERING** for everyone involved.

Including our 2015 van recipients, HCC has awarded **89** passenger vans, **26** handicapped accessible vehicles, **3** box trucks, **1** car and **2** vehicle modifications to **93** agencies and **26** individual families. Over the past 19 years, these special purpose vehicles have delivered mobility freedom not otherwise available to these families and organizations.



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# A NIGHT ON "THE BOARDWALK"

ON A MILD FRIDAY NIGHT, IN LATE FEBRUARY, 50 guests were treated to a very extraordinary affair, courtesy of **Paige & Tilman Fertitta**. This spectacular evening began with guests enjoying Champagne and caviar while admiring the Fertitta's **164 foot** luxurious **Super Yacht, "The Boardwalk"** from the tented dock. A multi-course dinner was served with personally selected wines by one of Landry's expert Sommeliers.

Last November, during the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala Live Auction, a winning bid was placed by **DeeDee & Wallis Marsh, Danice & Randy Lowry** and **Julie & Alan Kent**. The party-goers were able to mingle with Aggie Greats **Coach Kevin Sumlin**, and his wife **Charlene**, and **Coach R.C. Slocum**, and wife **Nel**.

A moonlight cruise put the finishing touches on the majestic affair. What a way to end an incredible evening of "Super Stars on a Super Yacht."

In the crowd were **Laura Ward, Chita Johnson, Ellie Francisco, Shelley Ludwich, Sarah & Casey Oldham, Karen & Newt Vann**.



# BMW of West Houston - Grand Opening

**Maria Moncada Alaoui, BMW of West Houston** hosted their **Grand Opening on June 15, 2015** and invited **Houston Children's Charity** to be the beneficiary of this lavish festivity. Donations were collected at the door and raffle tickets were sold throughout the evening for an exquisite **Taft McWhorter** original art piece and a framed autographed **James Harden Houston Rockets** jersey. A silent auction to benefit Houston's special children was held during the event.

Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, and champagne, while enjoying an abundance of entertainment by aerial ballerinas, living statues and music performances throughout the evening.

We send a very special thank you to **Maria Moncada Alaoui**, General Manager – BMW of West Houston for her unprecedented support over the years and for allowing us to be a part of this special evening.



1. Laura Ward, Omar Alaoui, Deborah Duncan  
2. Maria Moncada Alaoui, Karen McKemie  
3. Robert Horry, Chester Pitts, Omar Alaoui  
4. Taft McWhorter  
5. Edna Meyer-Nelson, Laura Ward



# 24 Carrot Annual Kids Party

**Houston Children's Charity** hosted its **Annual Easter Party** on March 28, 2015 for Houston area families and agencies. This yearly event was held on the grounds of **Northland Christian School**, located in Spring, Texas, where over 250 underprivileged children enjoyed the planned Easter festivities.

The perfect spring forecast laid the groundwork for a fun-filled day. Slated activities included bunny hop races, moon walks, face painting, a petting zoo, pony rides, creating masterpieces in Play-Doh and a visit from the Easter Bunny. Field games were played, kids tested their skills with hula hoops and jewelry was crafted. Cotton candy, popcorn and homemade mini cupcakes were consumed and prizes were handed out to the children throughout the event. The excitement tripled when the kids saw over **4,700** donated candy-filled Easter eggs spread amongst the softball and football fields for their Easter Egg Hunt. Prior to leaving the party, individual Easter Baskets, stuffed animals, books, slap watches and board games were also distributed to each child.

HCC teamed up with **Wendy's Old Fashion Hamburgers, Borden Dairy Company** and **PepsiCo** to provide the food and drinks for the event. Entertainment came in various forms. The **Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo – Speakers' Committee Rodeo Clowns** donated their time and provided laughs and happy faces to the delight of many children. **Wendy, HPD K9 Mascot** and **Cookie Monster** mingled through the guests and posed for photos. Children and parents danced to the tunes and enjoyed a performance by **PAL Dancers (Police Activity League)**. **Klein Volunteer Fire Department** and the **Houston Police Department** had vehicles on site for show. The candy-filled Easter eggs were donated by **NCL –Wildflowers, Klein Forest & Klein Collins Student Councils, Harmony School of Excellence, Girl Scout Troops #17304 & #114012, Reese Davis** and **Harrison & Reese Atkins**. Other donations by **Violeta's Pastes, Arne's Warehouse and Party Store, Whataburger, Taco Cabana, In a Lifetime Photography** and **Northland Christian School** helped make this event unforgettable.

Houston Children's Charity would like to thank our gracious host **Steve Lemm** and Northland Christian School for allowing us to bring smiles to kids' faces year after year. Sixteen years ago this tradition began and we are excited that Mr. Lemm, NCS and our dedicated volunteers are able to pull out all the stops to continue this annual event.



EASTER 2015



2015 was a banner year for Houston Children's Charity due in no small part to your role! Through our "A Better Night's Sleep" program, we partnered with **Texas Mattress Makers** and over **730** beds were distributed. The **Rod Ryan Morning Show** cast and BullShirts

## Letter from the Executive Director

assisted HCC, for the 6th consecutive year, to hand out over **4,100** backpacks with our "Back2School" program. Over **200** families have shopped for needed items in our "HCC Closet." Through our van program, "Chariots for Children," you've helped broaden the horizon for countless children. This year **9** vehicles were awarded — **8** handicapped accessible vans and a 12-passenger van. Simply Amazing!

We are looking forward to noteworthy achievements as we move into September.

Our sponsors, volunteers and staff are kicking their efforts into high gear to make certain our upcoming **19<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala** is the most successful to date! On **November 7<sup>th</sup>, Earth, Wind & Fire** is sure to deliver an unforgettable performance to all in the ballroom. We are anticipating successful Christmas programs with partnerships from the **Marines Corp Reserves "Toys for Tots"** program, donated space from **Houston First Corporation** at **George R. Brown**

**Convention Center** and "Adopt-A-Family" sponsors like yourself.

We cannot take on such daunting tasks without you. Remember, "Our Kids Are Everybody's Kids" and you are helping us make a difference, one child at a time. And for that the Board of Directors and I would like to thank you.

Warm Regards,

*Laura*

Laura S. Ward, Executive Director

# On the Road Again...

Dedicated to enhancing the lives of the underserved children in the Houston community.

HOUSTON CHILDREN'S CHARITY is dedicated to enhancing the lives of underprivileged, handicapped and abused children in the Houston community and surrounding areas. The "Chariots for Children" Van Program was founded in 1997 to provide specifically designed and equipped vehicles to organizations with a similar mission and families in need of handicap accessible vans.

**Since 1997, HCC has awarded 89 passenger vans, 26 handicapped accessible vehicles, 3 box trucks, 1 car and 2 vehicle modifications to 93 agencies and 26 individual families.**

## Elizabeth Ellerbe

### HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE VAN

Elizabeth Ellerbe was diagnosed with Charcot-Marie-Tooth Disease at the age of 5. This is a disease of the peripheral nervous system that causes muscle wasting, lower and upper extremity atrophy. The Ellerbe's do not own a vehicle and must borrow a vehicle from a family friend just to make it to doctors appointments. This handicap accessible van is LIFE ALTERING for Elizabeth and her family. They can now transport her without assistance, the quality of her life has greatly increased and she will never be left behind again.



## Sebastian Driver

### HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE VAN

Sebastian Driver was born prematurely with Cerebral Palsy. His mother, Garia, is a single-parent that works as a pediatric nurse. At 13 years of age, Sebastian participates in a number of out of school activities and with his continuous growth it has become even more difficult to transport him without a wheelchair accessible vehicle. This new van is LIFE ALTERING to everyone in the family and helps Sebastian work to achieve success in his activities.



## Jose Jaramillo

### HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE VAN

Jose Jaramillo, 12 years old, suffers from chromosomal deficiency in Chromosome 17 and Epilepsy. Jose's family has a van but it is not wheelchair accessible. In the past, Jose's mom had to lift him in and out of the vehicle in order to make doctors appointments and simple trips to the grocery store. Now that he is much bigger it has become increasingly difficult to lift Jose. This new handicap accessible van allows Jose to concentrate on the simple things in life – opening doors to new adventures for him and his family.



## Kaalan Wilson

### HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE VAN

At the age of 5, Kaalan Wilson was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). Today, at age 19, he is 5'1" tall and weighs 89 lbs. Kaalan is a student at Lone Star College but lives with his mother. This wheelchair accessible van will support Kaalan and his family in their everyday life adventures and his quest for a college degree – creating new opportunities for everyone...LIFE ALTERING!!!



## Jasmine Gonzalez

### HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE VAN

Jasmine Gonzalez is an 8 year old girl who suffers from Congenital Muscular Dystrophy (CMD). CMD is a genetic muscle disease that occurs at birth. Jasmine's mother, Jane, is a pediatric nurse and Jasmine's dad is unemployed because of the frequent days off to take Jasmine to the doctor. Due to Jasmine's size Jane is no longer able to lift her and is dependent on Jasmine's dad for transport in and out of her wheelchair. A handicap accessible van allows Jasmine and her family to go places with significant ease.



## Alexi Oliveira

### HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE VAN

Alexi Oliveira is diagnosed with Schizencephaly, Microgyria and Cerebral Palsy. All of these disorders inhibit her physical movements. At age 12, she is 4'8" tall, weighs 90 lbs., has no physical movements and cannot speak. Alexi's mother, Alisha, is her sole care giver and had to transfer Alexi from the wheelchair to their car and out just to visit the doctor or go to school. The days of lifting her to and from her wheelchair are gone – This has been LIFE ALTERING!!!



## Julian Ruiz

### HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE VAN

Julian Ruiz is a 14 year old boy that suffers from Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD). Julian's mother, Angela, works full-time and his grandmother cares for him after school. As a growing teenager, Julian's increased weight gain has made it difficult for his mother to lift him in and out of their truck. This handicapped accessible van allows Julian to get out of the house and spend more time doing activities with his family and friends... LIFE ALTERING!!!



## Big Brothers Big Sisters

### 12-PASSENGER VAN

Founded in 1950, Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) has been mentoring the youth in the Houston area for over 65 years. They currently mentor over 1,200 children. These children come from moderate to high risk categories of need – defined as poverty, non-traditional parenting, and/or impacted by incarceration. The addition of a 12-passenger van has provided students in the "Beyond School Walls" program transportation to the BBBS offices each day.



## Abigail McDougle

### HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE VAN

At age 18, Abigail McDougle has had 3 major heart surgeries, with the first being when she was a year old. She suffers from Down Syndrome, Pulmonary Capillitis and was placed on hospice in 2008. Abigail is able to stand but only for a number of seconds due to a totally dislocated hip caused by the lack of muscle strength from the heart condition. She is homeschooled by her mother, Sharon. The addition of a van for this family has eliminated some of the pain endured when Abigail is transferred from her wheel chair.



**Big Brothers Big Sisters**

# Ready or Not—It's Time for Back2School

EACH YEAR VOLUNTEERS BRAVE THE SCORCHING TEXAS SUMMER HEAT to help distribute backpacks, full of supplies, to eligible students. This annual end-of-summer event is designed to provide a backpack containing basic school supplies to underprivileged children in our community.

On Saturday, August 15, 2015, **Houston Children's Charity** teamed up with **The Rod Ryan Show** from **94.5 The Buzz** and **BullShirts** to begin the scholastic preparation for Houston area families and agencies. Over **4,100** underprivileged children were handed a backpack and supplies to begin the 2015-2016 school year on the right foot.

For a 6th year in a row, the hard work from this duo has made this event a success and we were beyond LUCKY to have them as our gracious sponsors. Their incredible efforts set NEW records, in 2015, as we were able to distribute backpacks with age appropriate supplies to over **850** deserving & qualified families. Students from Harris, Ft. Bend, Galveston, Brazoria and Montgomery counties, which applied for our "Back2School" program, will walk into school – Day 1 – ready to learn.

A special thanks to **Air Conditioning Contractors of America (ACCA)**, **Whataburger**, **Which Wich?**, **PrimeWay Federal Credit Union**, **Squeezed Online**, **Twin Peaks Restaurants**, **Office Depot Foundation**, **HAHU**, **Bury Inc.**, **F-11 Heart Failure Floor from Methodist Hospital**, **Arnold & Itkin LLP** and **MEDCO Supply Company** for helping make this event unforgettable for those deserving children. Also, for the second year in a row, book donations from **Maddy's Annual Children's Book Drive** saw **Vanessa Streavel** (Maddy's mom) put a book into the hands of every child regardless of their circumstances. Upon receiving a backpack, book and a Whataburger pencil case, families also collected a "goodie bag" from the dental offices of **Charles E. Dyer, IV**.

We have some of the best volunteers in the city of Houston and we could not have distributed all of the backpacks, books and goodies without the assistance of these GREAT volunteers. The day's events were captured in photos taken from **Stephanie Alvarado**, **Sylvia Garza** (Salviace Photography) and **Paige Kummer** (KTG Photography). THANK YOU for your assistance at the 2015 distribution. HCC VOLUNTEERS ROCK!

Sydney J. Harris said "The purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows." HCC would like to thank everyone for being a part of this event and laying the foundation for each child to have a successful year. But most importantly, we say thanks for helping us create windows to the future.



## WHAT'S IN YOUR CLOSET?

OF THE 1.7 MILLION CHILDREN LIVING IN THE GREATER HOUSTON AREA, 26.7% of them are living below the poverty line. The "HCC Closet" is one of the many programs that continues to support these children. Struggling families visit our closet to shop for much needed clothing at absolutely no cost to them.

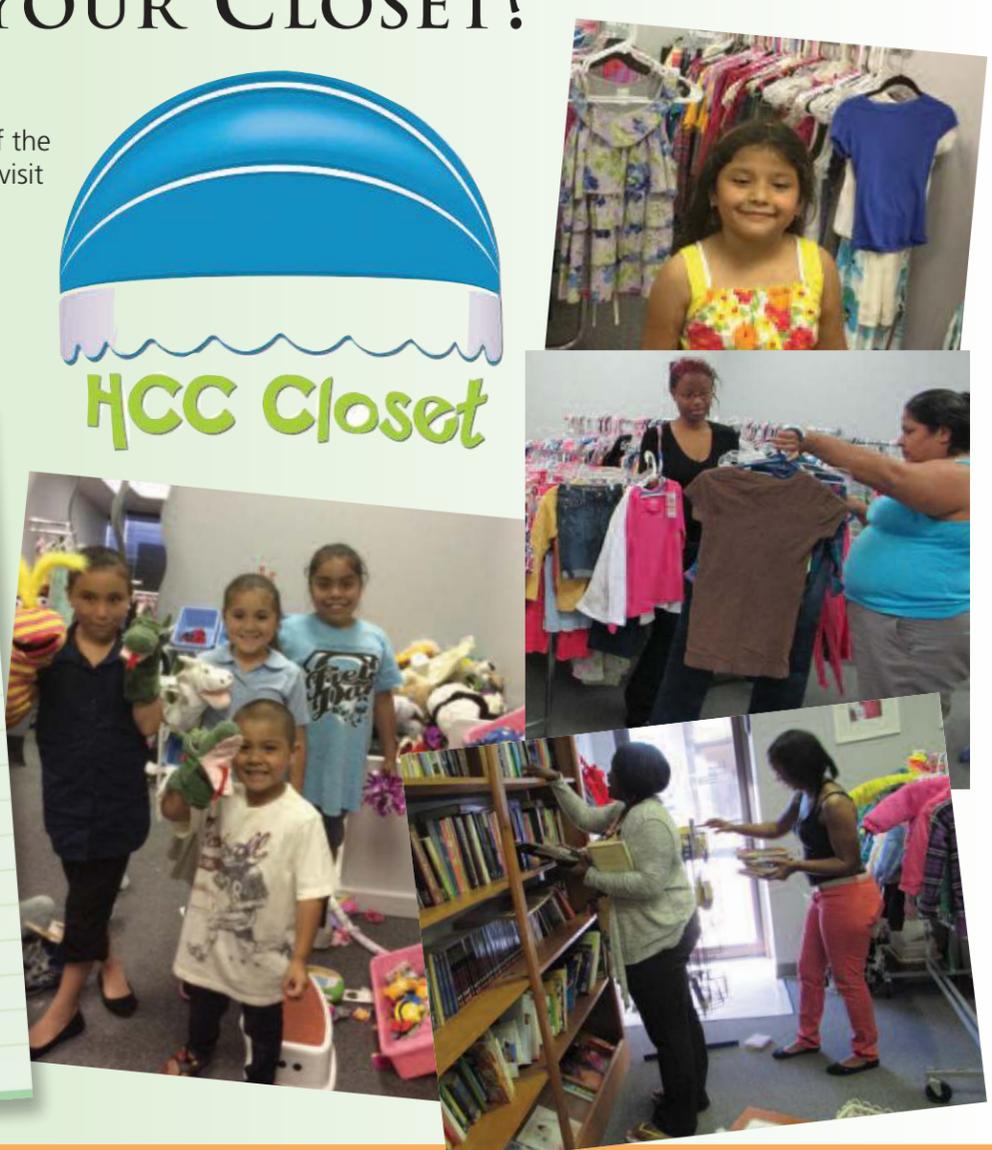
Each time a family visits our "HCC Closet," they leave overjoyed for the blessings received. This would not be possible without the many community donors and volunteers that have kept the closet filled with an abundance of gently used or new clothing items. Over and over individuals, families and groups continue to clean out their closet to assist our families. The "HCC Closet" does not solely prosper on donations of clothing, but also the many hours of hard work put in by dedicated volunteers and staff members to manage and maintain the unique atmosphere.

On behalf of the families served, we thank all those that assist in our efforts to keep our closet full and children and their families clothed. We would also like to send a very special thanks to **Melissa and Brad Juneau** for their many years of involvement and support of this program. We also send a very special thank you to **Gary Becker** for his recent assistance for keeping the doors of our closet open.



"Thank you so much for everything you helped me with for my baby. It was such a blessing, you helped me save money that I did not have."

—HCC Closet Guest



# 2015 ANNUAL GALA AUCTION



## Cabo

PARADISE AT THE SEA

5 couples will enjoy a **7-night stay** in Los Cabos at "Casa Playa" overlooking the beautiful waters of the Sea of Cortez.



## Private Party with the Houston Texans

BE ONE OF 100 GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE!  
Exclusive Party with **Houston Texans** Players and Coaches at the home of **Paige & Tilman Fertitta**.



## Play Like a High Roller at the Golden Nugget

ESCAPE TO THE NEWEST GOLDEN NUGGET IN LAKE CHARLES  
3 Couples will enjoy a **3-night stay** at the Golden Nugget. **\$1,000** in Promotional Chips. Dinner at Vic & Anthony's, Grotto or another restaurant within Golden Nugget. Transportation on **Executive Golden Nugget Helicopter**. Play at the Championship Golf Course or be pampered at the Spa.



## Wayne Smith Jewels

SPECTACULAR AMETHYST AND DIAMOND EARRINGS. Custom designed by Wayne Smith exclusively for Houston Children's Charity.



## Judith Ann Jewels

FANTASTIC 18KT YELLOW GOLD **Tahitian pearl** and **diamond pendant** designed by **Erica Courtney**.



## Fishing & Skeet Shooting

6 FISHERMEN WILL SHARE 3-DAYS/2-NIGHTS- AT THE SHOAL WATER BAY CLUB IN PORT O'CONNOR, TEXAS.  
**4 bedrooms/4 bathrooms** with a game room including pool table, poker table and TV.  
Relax in the full sized swimming pool with a spacious deck.



## The Houston Rockets

**1** Autographed & Framed **#13 James Harden** jersey.  
**1** Autographed & Framed **#12 Dwight Howard** jersey.  
**4** Courtside Seats to the **2015-2016 Rockets** regular season home game.  
Dinner at **Vic & Anthony's**.



## "Trendy" Sakowitz Fur

BE THE ENVY OF YOUR FRIENDS, WHILE WEARING THIS TRENDY FUR.



## Cal-a-Vie

PREPARE TO BE NURTURED, INSPIRED AND INVIGORATED.  
3-NIGHT LA PETITE SPA PACKAGE

Private guest villa accommodations, all meals, nutritious snacks, daily laundry/room service, all fitness classes, a group cooking demonstration with the chef, nutrition/health lectures presented by Cal-a-Vie's registered dietitian.

**6 Spa Treatments** including **2-50 minute** massages, reflexology, hydrotherapy, facial and hair/scalp treatment.



## Houston Texans Autographed Memorabilia

**Brian Cushing**—1 football.  
**Arian Foster**—1 **#23 Houston Texans** jersey.  
**Past & Present Texans**—1 autographed football.  
Andre Johnson, JJ Moses, Chester Pitts, Matt Schaub and J.J. Watt.



## BMW

THE ULTIMATE DRIVING MACHINE.

**2016 BMW 228i Coupe**  
donated by  
**BMW of West Houston** and  
**Momentum BMW Southwest**



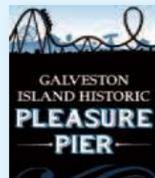
## Houston Astros Game and Autographed Memorabilia

**Astros Game**  
**4 Front Row Diamond Club** seats directly behind home plate to a Houston Astros game during the 2015- 2016 regular season.  
**Autographed Memorabilia**—1 **Jeff Bagwell** bat.  
**1 Nolan Ryan** baseball.—1 **Roger Clemens** baseball.



## Original by Taft McWhorter

ORIGINAL 60" X 40" ABSTRACT PAINTING  
by **Taft McWhorter** from his **HOME** series.  
A Lone Star State themed painting.



## Family Package

Family Membership to the **Children's Museum of Houston**.  
Mascots for private party provided by **TJ Party Mascots**.  
**Party at Pleasure Pier for 10**  
Lunch at **Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.**, **All-Day Passes** for rides



## Dove Hunt in Argentina

4-DAY DOVE HUNTING TRIP TO FAMOUS CORDOBA  
AT PLAZA REAL LODGE FOR 4 PEOPLE.  
Breakfast/all meals in the field with soft drinks, beer and wine/dinner with a bottle of wine per person. Vehicles and ground transportation for every hunt. Welcome at the Cordoba Airport.



## Lake Tahoe

BEAUTIFUL "MEADOW LAKE" HOME NESTLED IN THE PINES  
Enjoy **7-days/6-nights** in a beautiful **3 bedrooms, 2.5 bath** mountain home with spectacular meadow and lake views.  
Newly renovated and ideally located in **South Lake Tahoe**.  
Enjoy your welcome basket upon arrival.



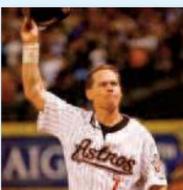
## J.J. Watt Autographed Memorabilia

**1** Framed **#99 Houston Texans Jersey**  
**1** Football  
**1** Life Size Cutout



## Earth, Wind & Fire Autographed Memorabilia

A collection of **Earth, Wind & Fire** memorabilia.



## Craig Biggio

ASTRO'S HALL OF FAME GREAT MEMORABILIA  
**1** Autographed baseball.  
**1** **Houston Astros #7** jersey.



## Gil Bruvel

"Go in Peace" designed by Award-Winning International artists and sculpture, **Gil Bruvel**.  
12.5" x 14" x 9" Bronze Sculpture



## Hyatt Regency - Spindletop

SKYLINE DINING ATOP THE HYATT REGENCY HOUSTON  
**3** Course Dinner for **8** at **Spindletop**, Houston's only revolving restaurant.  
Dinner will be served with Hotel Select Wine pairings  
Includes **Valet Parking** for all guests.

Purchaser will receive **1 complimentary night stay** in a **Premier King Room**



## Hermes Sac De Chien Dog Carrier & Labrador Puppy

This **Sac de Chien** features 2 rolled leather top handles, removable shoulder strap, zipper enclosure and a cushioned dog bed.

**Labrador Puppy from Watercross Kennel.**

For a more detailed description of auction items please visit [www.houstonchildrenscharity.org](http://www.houstonchildrenscharity.org).

## Talbots - Shop with a Purpose

IT IS ALWAYS SO EXCITING TO BUILD NEW COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS. This past spring, **Talbots in Town & Country Village** joined the Houston Children's Charity network. The ladies at Talbots were in search of ways to make a difference in their community when they found us!

On **March 11, 2015**, Talbot hosted a **"Shop with Purpose"** day filled with shopping and refreshments. The community shopped through the latest fashions and **10%** of all pre-tax sales made were donated to our **"A Better Night's Sleep"** program. Thank you, Talbots – Town & Country Village.



## TICKETS galore

OUR MISSION IS FOCUSED on improving the quality of life of children through our various programs, but one of our biggest joys is giving children the opportunity to experience other pleasures of life. These multicultural events range from performing art shows to sporting events. Many of the children assisted through Houston Children's Charity are attending these events never having experienced such joy before. We would like to thank our many supporters that help expand awareness among Houston's children.

### Dynamo Charities - Kicks for Kids

In 2015, Houston Children's Charity was selected to be a recipient of **Dynamo Charities' Kicks for Kids** program.

This program strives to give an underprivileged child the opportunity to enjoy a positive morale building experience by attending **Houston Dynamo** or **Houston Dash** games. Through this partnership, HCC has been able to provide **50-75 tickets** per game to **11 different games** during the 2015 season. **112 families** have been able to experience the excitement of professional soccer thanks to the Kicks for Kids program.



### Society of Performing Arts

The **SPA** strives to bring the world's best in performing arts to Houston. This past spring they provided **100 tickets** to **19 families** and **1 organization** to a two night show of **The Illusionist** in support of our efforts to provide our children with a new form of entertainment! Children got to enjoy mind-bending acts of magic and illusion by seven of the most incredible illusionists on earth. Acts included grand illusion, levitation, mind-reading, disappearance and a full view water torture escape.

### City Lights Theatre



**200 tickets** were donated to **27 families** and **2 organizations** to see their production of **"The Addams Family the Musical"** on **February 11, 2015**. Families got to enjoy a musical based on the bizarre and beloved family of characters created by legendary cartoonist Charles Addams. Once again, giving families an exposure of the wonderful joys of entertainment our city has to offer.

### Mr. Kevin Washington – Houston Astros

**Mr. Washington** of Austin, Texas also donated sets of tickets, along with parking passes for 19 home games during the **Houston Astros 2015-2016 season**. The tickets were donated specially to our wheelchair bound children. **Mr. Washington** was inspired by our mission and our work towards some of Houston's most special children and wanted to make a contribution that would provide an experience for these children that they will not forget.



We cannot show enough appreciation to the many agencies and individuals that continuously help us put a smile on each child's face. These opportunities grant children and their families alike an amazing fun-filled time. We thank you all for your caring generosity.

## Día De Los Niños

**APRIL 24, 2015**, the **Association of the Advancement of Mexican Americans (AAMA)** invited Houston Children's Charity to honor and celebrate the children and families in the East End community. The celebration included food, recreation and a family festival showcasing the talent of local youth through musical and dance performances.

AAMA's purpose is to encourage a safe and wholesome environment where families can bond with peers and also learn about resources in the Houston area, such as Houston Children's Charity!

The East End is an area with many children in need, and we cherish any opportunity we

get to reach those who have yet to find us.

In a city as large as Houston, needs are never ending and we

hope to continue to be able to reach those needs with the support of our community.



## Sauce Twinz & Boost Mobile Donation

Up and coming Hip Hop artists, **Sauce Twinz**, teaming with **Boost Mobile**, donated **\$1,500** to our **"A Better Night's Sleep"** program. They wanted to show their support for the children in our city and selected Houston Children's Charity as the beneficiary of this event.



On **February 26, 2015** Boost Mobile hosted a "meet & greet" for fans at a Boost Mobile store. To show their appreciation Houston Children's Charity was presented a check prior to their big show at Warehouse Live. We thank Boost Mobile and Sauce Twinz for selecting Houston Children's Charity as their charity of choice!

## College & Career Day - Klein Intermediate School

IT IS A JOY TO SPEAK TO THE PUBLIC TO SHARE our resources with communities in need. It is also a delight to teach children about the nonprofit sector and how we help children in the greater Houston area.

**Klein Intermediate School** is one of the many schools focused not only in educating their children, but providing any resources available to help their students achieve success. This past spring, Klein Intermediate School hosted their **Annual College & Career Day**, inviting professionals from different sectors to teach the students about their field. We were honored to be invited by **Dr. Hope Luster** to participate.

On this day we had the opportunity to share our mission in regards to our many programs. Children learned about all the work put in by staff, volunteers, board members, and donors to assist the thousands of children we help each year. They also learned about how important it is to give back to their community through volunteering, donating, or even someday obtaining a career in the nonprofit sector.

We thank Klein Intermediate School and Dr. Luster for allowing us to share all that is done to help the children in our communities that are in need.

## OKRA Charity Saloon

AS A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION, **OKRA** strives to show how an industry should operate and engage local communities. With this concept in mind, the OKRA administration found a way to mix their restaurant and bar experience with their giving hearts!

Every month the OKRA administration chooses four charitable organizations to compete for votes for the entire month. The rules are simple: for each drink or food item purchased, guests receive one vote that they cast that night for one of the four charities selected. The charity with the most votes at the end of the month receives **100%** of the next month's proceeds. This wonderful concept does more than raise money for charitable



organizations in Houston, it helps promote each organization to the many patrons that visit OKRA each month.

During the month of April, Houston Children's Charity was one of the four charities selected to compete for votes. Supporters throughout the city visited the bar to flood our ballot box leading us to victory! On **June 23, 2015**, OKRA staff presented **Executive Director, Laura Ward**, a check for **\$16,726**, proceeds generated throughout the month of May.

We thank all of our friends and supporters for their diligence and the time they spent in visiting OKRA Charity Saloon to allow us this success.

# A Better Night's Sleep

**I**N HOUSTON, THERE ARE THOUSANDS of children that sleep in shared beds, on the family sofas or on the floor every night. The goal of our "A Better Night's Sleep" program is to provide beds to children who may have never had a restful place to lay their head at night. With support from partners like Youval Meicler with Texas Mattress Makers, Houston Children's Charity has been able to provide many additional children with beds for exactly what the program envisioned...a better night's sleep. A sponsorship from the Katy Furniture family also assisted us recently.

Over 1,200 beds were gifted in 2014 and we have already distributed over 700 beds to children in 2015. During our monthly distributions, each qualified child receives a twin mattress set, bed frame, sheets, pillow and blanket. Since the program's inception in 2006, with your assistance, over 6,000 children in need have received beds. Obviously, there is an ongoing need in the Houston area and we continue to rely on your support to address this need each year.

We thank you, our loyal supporters, for the tremendous success of this program. And once again we thank our "A Better Night's Sleep" partner Youval Meicler with Texas Mattress Makers and his team for their tremendous outpouring of generosity.



## Wrapped with Care

As the seasons change and the weather turns cooler, Houston Children's Charity buckles down for its busiest time of the year. Our Adopt-A-Family program allows Houstonians the opportunity to open their hearts by becoming a family "Sponsor." A sponsor is then placed with a family or families to "adopt." Hundreds of families are adopted, which equates to hundreds and hundreds of children receiving toys and other gifts for Christmas. Sponsors are given information about the family and are able to purchase items that are specific to each child.

**Houston Children's Charity will accept sponsor applications on October 1st.**  
Visit our website  
[www.houstonchildrenscharity.org](http://www.houstonchildrenscharity.org)  
for more information.

The Christmas spirit was absolutely monumental for 2014. **470 Sponsors** brought joy and cheer to many Houston area kids. Thanks to the generosity of Houstonians, we were able to assist **624 families** with **1,872 children**.

*Christmas miracles do happen!!!*



We are proud to announce our continued partnerships for the **2015 Holiday Season...**  
**U.S. Marines - Houston Areas Toys for Tots**  
**Houston First Corporation -**  
**George R. Brown Convention Center**

As our Christmas Programs steadily grow, we are very thankful for the willingness of our contributors, sponsors and volunteers who assist us in this endeavor.

These two partnerships have vividly changed the backdrop of our programs.

We are forever grateful to the  
**1st Battalion 23rd Marine Regiment,**  
**4th Marine Division**  
and **Houston First Corporation -**  
**George R. Brown Convention Center.**

We are excited that, for the 8th consecutive year, we are the charity of choice for the Marine Corps Reserve "Toys for Tots" program. Along with this monumental partnership, our venue had to make significant changes. Since 2015, **125,000 square feet** of donated space, by Houston First Corporation, has allowed us to expand our toy distribution and assist the growing need in Houston.

### 2015 Toy Distribution

**Friday, December 18th Saturday, December 19th**

If you and/or your organization would like to **volunteer** to make "**CHRISTMAS MAGIC**" happen please contact  
[volunteer@houstonchildrenscharity.org](mailto:volunteer@houstonchildrenscharity.org).

## VOLUNTEER CORNER

We are always in need of caring volunteers for our events.

Houston Children's Charity seeks an ever-broadening base of support, dedicated sponsors and committed volunteers to expand its ability to help children.

### 2015 OPPORTUNITIES

- Bed Distribution Day .....once a month (Saturday TBA)
- HCC Closet Visits .....semi-monthly (on Tuesdays)
- Gala .....November 7th
- Christmas Party .....December 13th
- Toy Store Set Up .....December 14th - 17th
- Toy Distribution .....December 18th & 19th

Are you a registered HCC volunteer? Go online today and become one.  
[www.houstonchildrenscharity.org](http://www.houstonchildrenscharity.org)

If your group is interested in volunteering at an HCC event please contact **Elizabeth Atkins**  
[volunteer@houstonchildrenscharity.org](mailto:volunteer@houstonchildrenscharity.org) (713) 524 - 2878 ext. 200

### THANKS FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!

HCC measures success by the number of children's lives that are touched, and that is dependent upon how many of you, as individuals or companies, are willing to give of your resources, talents and time.

*Thank You*  
FOR YOUR HELP

We would like to take this opportunity to direct a special thank you to all of our donors, sponsors, partners, underwriters, volunteers and friends who have helped us create amazing memories in 2015.

*"Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory."*

— DR. SEUSS

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## Volunteer Corner

We are always in need of caring volunteers.  
We appreciate your support!

Please visit us at [www@houstonchildrenscharity.org](http://www@houstonchildrenscharity.org) to register.

## Out in the Community

We are always looking to reach more families in need.  
If you have a community event that you would like us to attend, please contact us.

Contact us the HCC office at **(713) 524-2878 ext. 202**  
or email us at [develop@houstonchildrenscharity.org](mailto:develop@houstonchildrenscharity.org).

## Stay Connected



[www.houstonchildrenscharity.org](http://www.houstonchildrenscharity.org)



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[www.youtube.com/channel/UCdDHJQyYITYiEV7rTVsIXdA](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdDHJQyYITYiEV7rTVsIXdA)

## 2015 Upcoming Events

### "A BETTER NIGHT'S SLEEP"

(bed distribution) –Every Month (Saturday)

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 13, 2015  
(at Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown)

### "HCC CLOSET"

Semi-Monthly visits (Tuesday only)

### ADOPT – A – FAMILY

October - December

### "KOOL KIDZ"

Spring - Fall

### TOY DISTRIBUTION

December 18, 2015 (Friday)  
December 19, 2015 (Saturday)  
(at Houston First Corporation –  
George R. Brown Convention Center)

### 19TH ANNUAL GALA

November 7, 2015  
(at Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown)



"OUR KIDS ARE EVERYBODY'S KIDS"

230 Westcott

Suite 202

Houston, TX 77007

713-524-2878