Dear Friends of Houston Children’s Charity,

On this, Houston Children’s Charity’s 10th anniversary, I would personally like to pay a well-deserved tribute to each of you, our supporters and friends, who have made the choice to support us over the last decade. Your continued dedication to Houston Children’s Charity is evidence of your commitment to helping children, the real beneficiaries of your generosity.

Over the last 10 years we have been proud to donate 62 vans and two trucks to Houston agencies, entertain over 3,500 children at our Easter party, host over 6,000 children at our Hyatt Christmas party, and provide for 25,000 children during the Christmas season. Additionally, we have assisted numerous individual families who would otherwise have had nowhere to turn.

HCC has helped children recover from and cope with debilitating disease and injury over the past decade by providing life-enhancing support ranging from surgeries to prostheses and from wheelchairs to specially equipped vans. We have also been proud to assist the many families who have made Houston their home in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Countless children with special needs are left without a source of support or refuge on a daily basis. The abandonment and abuse of these children are not acts of God, they are failures of love. We must dedicate ourselves to providing every child with the opportunity to grow up healthy, safe, and well educated.

Your contributions, and those of other individuals who believe in our mission, have helped many deserving children reach their full potential. Our programs and services for children have flourished through your combined efforts; our individual contributors, dedicated volunteers, and a concerned corporate community.

As we each invest our resources to help make Houston a more productive and supportive environment in which to live, we are nurturing America’s future, our children. Your continued support of Houston Children’s Charity will substantially increase opportunities for children and our ability to provide for them. “Our Kids are Everybody’s Kids.”

The past decade has been a journey full of service, love, and joy. Your continued support is an indication that you are along for the ride toward a brighter future for Houston’s children, and I thank you.

Warm Regards,

Laura Ward
Executive Director
Houston Children’s Charity celebrated its 10th anniversary on Tuesday, August 29, 2006 at the Hyatt Regency Houston. An awards luncheon was held in honor of all those who have made it possible over the last decade for HCC to improve the quality of life for Greater Houston’s underprivileged, abused and disabled children who have been otherwise left behind.

The reception in the Imperial Ballroom included Mistress of Ceremonies Warner Roberts, a message from keynote speaker Pastor Kirbyjon Caldwell and a presentation by Mayor Bill White issuing a special proclamation, declaring it “Houston Children’s Charity Day.” The afternoon also included a donation of specially modified vans to two “Gridiron Heroes”; young men who have sustained life altering spinal cord injuries during the course of playing football.

The 10th Anniversary Awards Luncheon was truly a touching event as we celebrated those who have benefited from our assistance and, in particular, those who have made that assistance possible over the last decade.

(Photography by Pete Baatz)
Distinguished Awards
Becker Family Emergency Fund Award - Shirley and Allen Becker
Shining Star - Dave Ward - KTRK - TV Channel 13 News/Anchor
Golden Gavel - Vixi Vines - Gallery Auctions
Media Champion - Shelby Hedge - Houston Chronicle
Society Columnist
Guardian Angel - David Devaney
HCC’s New Best Friend - Glenn Wakefield
HCC’s Largest Individual Gift - Gerri Greer
Heart Award - Cathy and Jesse Marion
Lifetime of Giving - Darla Lexington and John O’Quinn
Spirit of Service - Patricia and Pat Harrison
Warehouse Associates
Corporate Commitment - Bobbie and John Nau, III
Silver Eagle Distributors, L.P.
Heart of Houston - Warner Roberts

Excellence in Volunteerism
Janice and Kerri Buice
Vicki Matthews-Clark
Joans and Bill Crassas
Madeleine and Mark Crawford
Deborah Duncan
Frost Bank - The A Team
Gwen Joekel
Steve Lemm
Carol and Tom Sawyer
Patricia and Larry Sinclair
Anna Williams
Pam Wright
Marti Shlenker (posthumously)

Helping Hands
Phillip Diamond - Owner of Lily and...
Darryl Murchison - Owner of Darryl Murchison Designs
Bob Gonzales - President of RAG Printing
Ed Pritchard - V.P. Fleet Management,
Silver Eagle Distributors, L.P.
Richard Flowers - C.O.O., The Events Company
Kirksey Gregg - Director of Special Events,
Judy Nichols and Associates

HCC’s Scholarship Award
Recipients
Each Student Received a $12,000 College Scholarship

Desirae Mock - 10th Grade
Chloe Lewis - 10th Grade
Sanjuanita Mottu - 11th Grade
Jaime Alvizar - 11th Grade
(as pictured, left to right)

Special Thanks to Our Volunteers Who Have Supported Houston Children’s Charity Over the Last Ten Years

Jeff Abt
Katherine El Gaemai
Matt Krob
Nick Salinas
Dane Addison
Rob Elliot
Kristy and Greg Kronecke
Carol and Tom Sawyer
Leann Anderson
Ryan Ellis
Steve Lemm
Lindsye Stries
Suzanne and Jim
Steven Fernandez
Darla Lexington and John
Roselle
Anderson
Michael Arnett
Richard Flowers
O’Quinn
Jared Bane
Joey Garcia
Cathy and Jesse Marion
Kathie Marsh
Kristie Austin
Steve Foley
Michelle and Robert
La Donna Austin
Gina Forori
Robert Medoza
LaRosa
Janice and Kem Buice
Deborah Guthrie
Chelsea Mayslens
Krissy Gregg
Janie and Jon Buice
Deborah Guthrie
Darryl Murchison Designs
Kathie Bailey
Frost Bank - The A Team
Kathy Bailey
Will Bailey
Melissa Barton
Stephanie Baizille
Shirley and Allen
Carolyn Goodwin
Becker
Ashley Green
Susan and Gary Becker
Geri Greer
Jill Bell
Deborah Duncan

Chariots for Children Van Program
Since its inception, HCC has awarded 62 vans and 2 trucks at a total cost of $1,763,484.

1997
A Child is Born Family Outreach
(2 Vans)

1998
Children’s Assessment Center
Houston PAL
Casa de Esperanza

1999
Zima Garrison’s All Court Tennis
Foundation (2 Vans)
Children’s Assessment Center
Odyssey House Texas, Inc.
(2 Vans)
HOPE Shelter, Inc.

2000
Jaycee’s Children’s Center
Houston PAL
St. Joseph’s Inn
Covenant House Texas

2001
The Children’s Center, Inc.
Willie C. McCaffie
Treatment Center
Families Under Urban
and Social Attack

2004
Solutions 2 Changing Lives
Refuge Community Development Center
Conroe ISD/PAL
Jaycee’s Children’s Center

2005
Anointed Child Care, Inc.
The Center for Success & Independence
Treasure Our Community
City Wide Club
Covenant House Texas
Boys & Girls Country

2006
The Furniture Bank
Families Under Urban and Social Attack
The Nehemiah Center
House of Charity

2006 cont.
Houston Area Women’s Center
Wesley Community Center
Conroe ISD/PAL
KIPP Academy
La Rosa
Texas Adaptive Aquatics
Easter Seals
LaRosa
Casa de Esperanza

2002
Center for Success & Independence
The Seaborne Challenge Corps
S.E.A.R.C.H.
Greg and Pala Hampton
Pro-Vision, Inc.
The Nehemiah Center

2003
Covenant House Texas
Hope Shelter, Inc.
New Hope Youth Center
Ronald McDonald House
Treity Foster Care Houston

2003 cont.
Conroe ISD/PAL
Jaycee’s Children’s Center

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

2002

2003

Since its inception, HCC has awarded 62 vans and 2 trucks at a total cost of $1,763,484.
On the eve of the largest event in Houston Children’s Charity’s history, the event underwriters gathered at the home of hosts Penny and Paul B. Loyd, Jr. for an evening of cocktails, hors d’oeuvres and accolades.

Gala Chairpersons, Marilyn and George DeMontrond III, gladly accepted the honor of presenting crystal vases to the event underwriters including Becker Family Foundation, Charles L. Joekel, Edna Meyer-Nelson, Hyatt Regency Houston, Michelle and RobertMarsh Family Funding, L.P., Pacesetter Personnel, Paige and Tilman J. Fertitta/Landry’s Restaurants, Inc., Sterling Bank, The Lester & Sue Smith Foundation and Williams Bailey LLP.


Executive Director Laura Ward recognized the many giving people that help make the Gala a success each year in addition to giving a preview of one of the spectacular auction items for the following evening; a handmade 32-piece chess set created by the visionary artist Gil Bruvel. (Photography by Pete Baatz)
Celebrating a Decade of Caring, Houston Children’s Charity’s 10th Annual Gala literally rocked with great - you guessed it - rock n’ roll, a sell-out crowd, and the largest fundraising event in the charity’s history.

More than 600 guests crowded the Hyatt Regency Houston for the over-the-top gala chaired by Marilyn and George A. DeMontrond, III and honoring Sue and Lester Smith.

Never one to disappoint, HCC filled the Imperial Ballroom with ice carvings displaying the charity’s 10th anniversary logo atop custom designed square remote controlled light tables changing colors throughout the evening, a visual masterpiece of laser lights and four immense screens on which to view the events of the night.

In an exceptional moment of generosity, a $1,000,000 pledge in honor of HCC’s Executive Director Laura Ward was made by the Board of Directors of HCC to Texas Children’s Hospital Cancer Center to establish the Houston Children’s Charity Emergency Family Fund. But in the spirit of “breaking news,” Master of Ceremonies Dave Ward also announced to the wildly applauding crowd, that an anonymous matching gift had been made in the amount of $1,050,000 putting the charity’s net proceeds at over $2,100,000. The anonymous grant is to be used exclusively to support Texas Children’s Hospital Cancer Center at the direction of Dr. David Poplack.

In true HCC fashion, the live auction was over the top, netting $400,000 for the evening. High bidders included Robert Marsh, Allen Kent and Wayne Turner who paid $70,000 for a celebrity party at the home of Paige and Tilman Fertitta and John Speer who paid $40,000 for a private tour of Althorp in London, the home of the late Princess Diana, guided by The Right Honorable Earl Spencer. The crowd then boogied until the wee hours to the hit music of Huey Lewis and the News.

In the crowd were Shirley and Allen Becker, Brian and Stacy Becker, Sharon Bush, Suzette and Pastor Kirbyjon Caldwell, Kara and Ray Childress, Judy and Larry Dierker, Elizabeth and George Farish, Mary and Tony Gracely, Tissy & Rusty Hardin, Erica Hunter and Jeremy Leediker, Sunni and Gary Markowitz, John Speer and Donna Briggs and Sheridan and John Eddie Williams. (Photography by Pete Baatz and Leslie Suggs)
Thanks to Chairpersons Laura and John Johnson – Silver Eagle Distributors, L.P., the Spring Soiree generated a net of $110,000. Guests enjoyed a fabulous dinner at Vic & Anthony’s Steakhouse and the presentation of Montecristo Cigars, courtesy of Howard Covens of Stogies Fine Cigars. A photo-op with an Anheuser-Busch Clydesdale was a featured delight. The live and silent auction highlighted priceless sports memorabilia and included an extraordinary trip to the new Busch Stadium in St. Louis, courtesy of Budweiser and August Busch IV. Guests included Sue and Lester Smith, Charles Joekel, Susan and Gary Becker, Janice and Tad Brown, Paige and Tilman Fertitta, Ericka and Jeff Bagwell, Gaynell and Clyde Drexler, Marti and Kevin Young, Howard Covens, Greg Germenis, Penny and Paul B. Loyd, Jr., and Carolyn Faulk. (Photography by Pete Baatz and Gary Fountain)
The warm spring air was buzzing with the scent of fame during the backyard celebrity party at the home of Paige and Tilman Fertitta last April. With about 100 guests in attendance, it was truly a night of familiar faces and celebrity appearances.

Mario Andretti, a long-time friend of Houston Children’s Charity, made a “pit stop” in Houston just for this special evening. Along with Andretti, celebrity guests at the party included Nolan Ryan, Doug Drabek, Larry Dierker, Ray Childress, Elvin Bethea, and Elvin Hayes. The highlight of the evening came when Tilman presented each of the celebrities with a gift from the charity and provided personal comments about each of them. Many of the personalities assured us that they would enjoy joining us for a repeat performance in 2007.

The guest list also included Michelle and Robert Marsh, Julie and Alan Kent, Patsy and Wayne Turner, Jenny and David Moore, Grant Guthrie, Heather and David Huntington, Charles Joekel, and Vicki and Don Clark. (Photography by Gary Fountain)
At a time of year when so many Houston families go without, Houston Children’s Charity truly made it a season of giving with the Annual Children’s Christmas Party, Adopt-A-Family program, Toy Distribution and Food Assistance Program.

With smiles on their faces, over 600 children entered the Imperial Ballroom at the Hyatt Regency Houston on Sunday, December 10th to the sight of thousands of toys, tables covered with goodies and cheerful red t-shirt clad volunteers ready for the annual Christmas Party. The children, who came from 17 Houston area organizations and individual families, enjoyed a pizza/pasta buffet, “make your own” ice cream sundae bar, visits from Santa and Mrs. Claus, the James Coney Island Cowboy, Borden’s Elsie the Cow, Clowns from Cheerful Clown Alley and Kim See, the Living Christmas Tree. The day could not have gone smoothly without the help of the generous donations from the Houston Rockets, Kem Buice of Borden, Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Pepsi, Warehouse Associates, Kroger and Third Coast Comedy or without the assistance from the dedicated volunteers that included party chairwoman Vicki Clark, Kathy and Will Bailey, Gary Becker, Don Clark, David Devaney, Frost Bank A-Team, Patricia Harrison, the Hyatt Regency Houston, Gwen Joekel, Edna Meyer-Nelson, Dr. Lois Moore, our friends at Pearland High School, Deborah Schulze and group, the Westfield High School Baseball Team, Caitlin Young and Kevin Young.

HCC’s Adopt-a-Family program was a huge success and, thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, we were able to help 33 Houston families with 88 children. Athena was in need of food and furniture when she contacted HCC. She had two pieces of chicken to split between herself and her three girls, ages 6, 9 and 11. HCC and The Furniture Bank provided beds, couches, a dining set, lamp and coffee table as well as kitchen supplies and linens. HCC also provided toys and clothing for the girls, a basket of toiletries for Athena, and two $100 Wal-Mart cards for food and supplies. Our many sponsors included A & C Plastics, Inc., Susie Atkins, the Beasley family, Kathy & Mark Crosby, Frank DiMaria, ExxonMobil, Elizabeth & George Farish, Jr., the Gracely family, Industrial TX Corporation, JobIT, Melanie Johnson, Brian Kingshill, III, Melanie Lawson & John Guess, Sherman L. Lewis, John V. Lovoi, Christine Muraski, the Nichols family, Saundra & Raymond Platter, Richland Financial, Melissa & Jamey Rootes, John Gary Sellers, Jennifer Skrabana, Halley & Mark Stevens, David M. Underwood, Kelly & Zach Wright, Kevin Young, and Sherril Zucker.

The brisk winter air didn’t stop volunteers from “shopping” with parents and guardians from 149 Houston families for toys at HCC’s annual Toy Distribution on December 19 at Silver Eagle Distributors, L.P. For several weeks leading up to the Christmas Season, HCC toy boxes were filled to the brim by caring employees and customers alike throughout the city. For many of our families, the toys they selected that day would be the only gifts their children would receive at Christmas. The efforts of Gwen Joekel, volunteer and Chairperson for the Toy Distribution, and additional volunteers Suzanne Anderson, Heidi Birenbaum, David Devaney of Warehouse Associates, Clara Duran, Carolyn Faulk, Christie Kroenke, Silver Eagle Distributors, L.P., Leonor Soto, Al Vallejo and family, and Jodie Zolleman made this day a special one. Thanks to the donations of time, resources and toys from our volunteers and the many companies across Houston who supported us, 447 children experienced the joy a Christmas present can bring.

With the assistance of John Johnson and Kevin Young, HCC was able to begin a new Christmas Food Program, providing over 300 families with $100 Gift Cards to Fiesta, Food Town, Gerlands, Wal-Mart, and Sellers Brothers. These families were most grateful for the opportunity to provide their children with a holiday feast. (Photography by Pete Baatz and Leslie Suggs)
All the ingredients were there for Houston Children’s Charity 9th Annual Easter Party at Northland Christian School last April. Put together a basket full of sweet goodies, toss in a pinch of beautiful spring weather and add 300 underprivileged youngsters from nine Houston agencies and you had the makings for an amazing day.

Children, ages 3 to 12 from Nehemiah Center, Urban Outreach Center, Houston PAL, Bonita House, The House of Charity, St. Michael’s, Boys & Girls Harbor, Boys & Girls Country, TX Children’s Hospital, DePelchin Children’s Center, and Treasure Our Community came together for a rare afternoon of Easter partying.

Fun events scheduled for the day included a petting zoo, pony rides, face painting (courtesy of Northland Christian School students) and meeting with the Easter Bunny. Games, prizes, individual Easter baskets, hot dogs and “fixin’s” donated by James Coney Island, soft drinks courtesy of Pepsi, bottled water and apples supplied by Kroger with milk and assorted juices donated by Borden’s rounded out the afternoon.

The constant support of all the volunteers, the employees at Frost Bank, Deborah Schulze and group, the students of Northland Christian School, and Steve Lemm, Facilities Manager and Transportation Coordinator at NCS, made the festive party a day to remember for the children in attendance. (Photography by Pete Baatz)
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2007 Upcoming Events

Children’s Easter Party
11th Annual Gala
Children’s Christmas Party
Toy Distribution
Adopt-A-Family
Food Assistance Program

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

Please contact the HCC Office at 713.524.2878 or email us at hcc@houstonchildrenscharity.org with your name, address, phone number and availability.

We appreciate your support!

For further information, visit our website at www.houstonchildrenscharity.org