

# HOUSTON CHILDREN'S CHARITY 16th Annual Gala

"OUR KIDS ARE EVERYBODY'S KIDS"

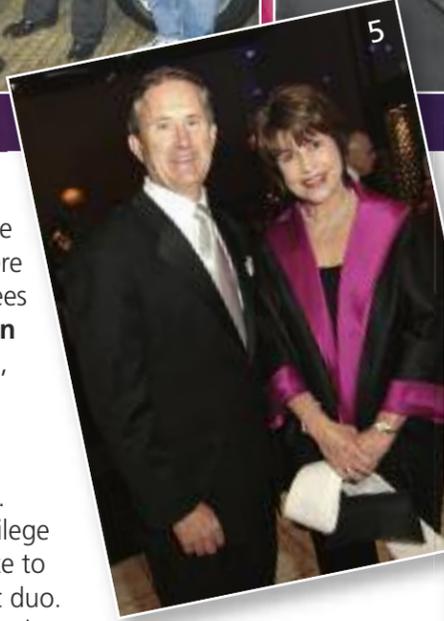


Don't miss  
**Diana Ross**  
November 2, 2013



## "Grease is the Word"

OVER 650 GUESTS FILLED the Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown Imperial Ballroom for the Houston Children's Charity 16th Annual Gala – many clad in poodle skirts and letter jackets! Olivia Newton-John did not disappoint as revelers danced to her familiar tunes.



Also in the spotlight were Gala Honorees **Lori and Dan Wolterman**, Memorial Hermann Healthcare System CEO. It was a privilege to pay tribute to this dynamic duo. Corporate Underwriting Chairman – **DeeDee and Wallis Marsh** hit homeruns with their outstanding support and

### MOMENTUM BMW SOUTHWEST

MOMENTUM  
www.bmwwest.com

We are thrilled to announce that for the 6th consecutive year, **Momentum BMW Southwest** and **Momentum BMW West** will be back again as Title Sponsors for the 17th Annual Gala on **November 2, 2013.**

contributions to this year's Gala. As in past years, **Dave Ward** spectacularly emceed the evening's festivities, while **Reverend Mary Gracely**, One Spirit Interfaith Community, generously provided her time and blessings. Thanks to the vision of Executive Director **Laura Ward** and

**Darryl Murchinson** of **Darryl & Co.**, guests entered an era gone by in the rock-n-roll 50's ballroom. "Pink Ladies" pink was the color of the evening along with oversized "root beer floats", film and record displays. The menu was "GREASE"

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5. Tony & Reverend Mary Gracely

# Hippity Hoppity Easter's on its way!

"Everybunny" ready for Easter? We are "hoppy" to announce that **Houston Children's Charity Annual Easter Party** is set for Saturday, **March 23rd** from **1 – 4pm** at Northland Christian School. Over 350 children from around the greater Houston area will be treated to a day filled with excessive fun, smiles and laughter.

This afternoon of excitement will include a petting zoo, pony rides, a moon walk, a sea of balls, a train ride, face painting, games, lots of food, and as always a special visit from Cookie Monster



and the Easter Bunny, himself. During the celebration, the kids will also enjoy outdoor activities, an Easter egg hunt and get to take home board games and an Easter Basket.



Houston Children's Charity is greatly indebted to **Steve Lemm** from **Northland Christian School** for his incessant hard work and bigheartedness. HCC would also like to thank **Wendy's, Pepsi, Randall's, Oak Farms Dairy, Awesome Events, Sugar Bella Cake Pops, Houston PAL Dancers, Define Body and Mind** and the **Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Clowns**. THANKS to all Easter Party sponsors for making this annual event such a tremendous success!

Our gratitude to those sponsors who responded beyond our print deadline.



Dear Friends,  
I am very pleased to report that Houston Children's

Charity did some great things this past year. Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of the Board members, advocates, donors, sponsors, staff and volunteers who assisted in making 2012 a banner year!

With your help, the 16th Annual Gala eclipsed \$1.2 million. Also, several of our programs experienced monumental growth. Through the "A Better Night's Sleep" program, over 730 beds were distributed. We broke

ground on the "Kool Kidz" program and distributed air conditioning units during the hot summer months. The Rod Ryan Morning Show Cast and BullShirts assisted HCC in awarding over 2,300 backpacks with our "Back to School" program. Our annual "Adopt-A-Family" program had a record 437 sponsor participants that supported over 590 families. This program touched over 1,564 children. Always at our side during the holiday season, Houston First Corporation – George R. Brown Convention Center and the Marines "Toys for Tots" program affected over 26,699 children in 2012. Simply Amazing!

We are truly blessed to have a multitude of caring and compassion-

ate friends that support our community. Without your generosity for the past sixteen years we would not have been able to impact the lives of so many of Houston's special children. And with your continued dedication, we will change the lives of many more in the years to come.

As we embark on 2013, we must continue to be steadfast in our approach to making a difference in the lives of the children we support. These times are exciting because they force each of us to dig deep into our own pool of resources to help our community's underserved children. After all, they are our future! I measure success by the number of children's lives that are touched by you. We will continue

underwrote the entire evening.

Join us for this year's Celebrity Dinner on May 9 2013, as we once again salute the best and the brightest! As always the event will be held at the home of Paige and Tilman Fertitta and only 150 tickets will be sold.

# A GATHERING OF CHAMPIONS



**"There have been great champions in every generation."**

—ANDY RODDICK

One balmy night this past Spring, Houston Children's Charity brought several generations of champions together for a great cause. On May 2, 2012, over 40 celebrities headlined the Annual "Gathering of Champions" event at the home of **Paige and Tilman Fertitta**.

HCC raised **\$130,000** for Houston's special children. Those in attendance enjoyed food stations representing various eateries in Fertitta's empire. Everyone swayed to the tunes of **Steve Tyrell** and **Joe Sample**. The ORIGINAL All Girl Rock Electric String Quartet, **Phat Strad**, also entertained the guests with music from their repertoire of various popular styles.

The allure of the evening showcased an outstanding lineup of sports personalities, athletes (both active and legendary), and heroes. Celebrities in attendance were **Elvin Bethea, Craig Biggio, Gregg Bingham, Bobby Boswell, Chase Budinger, Earl Campbell, Captain Gene Cernan, Ray Childress, Brian Ching, Samuel Dalembert, Larry Dierker, John Egan, Elvin Hayes, Robert Horry, Ed "Too Tall" Jones, Gary Kubiak, Mike Lee, John Lucas, Moses Malone, Rodney McCray, Kevin**

**McHale, Calvin Murphy, Travis Ortmayer, Chandler Parsons, Dan Pastorini, Drew Pearson, Wade Phillips, Chester Pitts, Robert Reid, Nolan Ryan, Joe Sambito, Matt Schaub, Luis Scola, Brian Vickers, Charlie Ward, Joe Washington and JJ Watt.**

Guests mingled with the celebrities and collected memorabilia and autographs. **David Jacquin** and **Richard Handler** were the high bidders in the live auction. Each took home an autographed group photo of themselves and all celebrities in attendance. **John B. Johnson** won a framed Matt Schaub jersey & Houston Texans tickets. Congrats gentlemen!

Special recognition goes to a few people who helped make this event possible: **John B. Johnson** of **Bud Light/Silver Eagle Distributors**, for the donations of Stella Artois Ice Buckets and for supplying the beverages. Thanks also goes out to **Paige and Tilman Fertitta** of **Landry's Restaurants, Inc.**, who



1. Tilman Fertitta, Earl Campbell, Steve Tyrell, & Wade Phillips  
2. Ray Childress, Gary Kubiak, & JJ Watt  
3. Earl Campbell, Dave Ward  
4. Chester Pitts, Brian Ching  
5. Chandler Parsons, Robert Horry, Chase Budinger  
6. Ruth & Nolan Ryan  
7. Laura Ward, Matt & Laurie Schaub  
8. Gene Cernan, Paige Fertitta, David Jacquin  
9. Laura Ward, Matt & Laurie Schaub

## Letter from the Executive Director

to seek out those children who have otherwise been left behind and strive to leave no legitimate request for assistance unanswered.

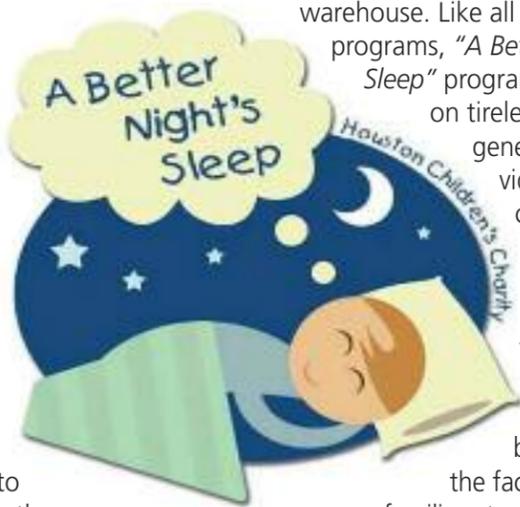
The Board of Directors and I want to thank each of you, not only for the unwavering support you've given in the years past, but for the wonderful moments of generosity that you will surely be a part of the future. You are helping us to make a difference, one child at a time. And for that I thank you.

Warm Regards,

Laura S. Ward  
Executive Director

# SWEET DREAMS

**Houston Children's Charity's "A Better Night's Sleep"** program allows Houston's special children the opportunity to sleep comfortably every night. There are thousands of children in Houston who do not have beds, many of them sleeping on the floor. Scientific research has been conducted that links better performance in school to a good night's sleep. The goal of this innovative program, is to provide beds to children who are sleeping on the floor, never having had a restful place to lay their head. Since the program's launch in 2007, and the outstanding support from various donors, HCC has provided many children in Houston with exactly what the program offers: "A Better Night's



*Sleep.*" To ensure that child has "A Better Night's Sleep", HCC provides a mattress set, bed frame, sheets, pillow and blanket to children in need all over the Greater Houston area. Each month HCC conducts a bed distribution held at the HCC warehouse. Like all other HCC programs, "A Better Night's Sleep" program depends on tireless efforts and generous gifts provided by our compassionate volunteers and donors. Our utmost appreciation also goes to the volunteers who help bring smiles to the faces of the families at each distribution. Along with, **Melissa and Brad Juneau**, who have underwritten the cost of the HCC warehouse space. Each of them continually answers our various needs, when called upon.



I am a single mother and very blessed to have Houston Children's Charity to help me. My daughter, Tylcia Johnson, didn't have anything to sleep on. I am struggling and appreciate the help that I have received.  
-LaShunda Johnson

Thank you so much for the help you have given me with 3 beds for my children. My kids are really in need for them. God bless you for the help. Trust me if I didn't need it I would not be asking for help. Thank you so much.  
-Dulce Escareno

## Snugglerama

A journey through dreams and sleepy time with **SNUGGLES**.

**Andrea White**, the wife of former Houston Mayor Bill White, and fellow author **Mimi Vance** take you on a voyage of bedtime adventures with their new book, Snuggles. This rhyming, illustrated children's book is about the importance of catching some Zzz's.

White and Vance were joined by other guests, on September 22, 2012, at **The Children's Museum of Houston**, for **SNUGGLERAMA**. Other guests included emcee Legally Blonde's **Elle Woods**, University of Houston Sleep & Anxiety Center for Kids psychologist **Dr. Kushnir**, Eyewitness News Anchor **Dave Ward**, **Mary Anne Weber** of the Houston Audubon Society, Houston Police Officer **Anthony Valle** and **Houston Fire Department Engine 33**.

SNUGGLERAMA was presented by the **Mostyn Moreno Foundation** in support of **Houston Children's Charity's "A Better Night's Sleep"** program. 71 Snuggles books were sold raising **\$710** for the bed program.



Elle Woods, Monte Osburn, Mimi Vance, Andrea White



May Ann Weber, Houston Audubon Society

### HOUSTON ZOMBIE WALK

The **Houston Zombie Walk** is exactly what it sounds like...an annual walk for charity to break open the Halloween season! EXCEPT this one happens to be themed, and it's one heck of a party! The walk itself is structured the same as any walk/run for charity. Our goal is to give back to our supporters as much as we give to our charities. At each annual event we give you a sweet concert! We are the **ONLY** Zombie Walk in Texas that runs year-round!



Huge amounts of time and energy were expended to bring zombies and other zombie walks out of the suburbs and into where they belong, downtown Houston! Founded in 2010 by a group with other zombie walk experience, we strive to bring our followers the biggest "bang for your buck" with your donations to our charities! We have corporate sponsors, but that's to cover the overhead. Your ticket price is a direct donation to our charities.

**Houston Children's Charity** was pleased to be announced as a 2012 recipient of the Houston Zombie Walk. **\$2,400** was presented to HCC by **Darren Tompkins** and **Lady Cocchia** after their yearlong fundraising efforts.

### 2ND ANNUAL PUB CRAWL

Zombies and superheroes took over Midtown on May 12th for the Houston Zombie Walk Pub Crawl for Charity. \$300 was raised for Houston Children's Charity "A Better Night's Sleep" program.

### MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING CO. (USA) INC.'S

**Mediterranean Shipping Co** chooses **Houston Children's Charity** to be their charity of choice for 2012. MSC was very glad to support Houston Children's Charity "A Better Night's Sleep" program. The entire MSC office was involved throughout the year in organizing fundraising events.

Some of the activities MSC held were: International food sales, bake sales, ping pong and pool tournaments and raffles. At the end of the year Mediterranean Shipping Co. presented HCC with a donation totaling **\$7,400**.



### DEFINE BODY & MIND HELPS HCC!

**Define Body & Mind** offered two classes on December 8, 2012 with proceeds benefitting HCC's "A Better Night's Sleep" Program. A donation in the amount of **\$670** was given to Houston Children's Charity after the event.



## Every Summer has a Story

This story started due to an overwhelming need for air conditioners for families in our community. Houston is the largest city in the state of Texas and the fourth-largest in the United States. In 2010, Houston broke the 1980 record of 32 days over 100 degrees and ended up with 46 days over 100 degrees. Can you imagine spending 46 days in that kind of heat without an air conditioner?

**Houston Children's Charity** launched "Kool Kidz".

It's an inevitable fact that a large number of Houston's most needy families don't have an air conditioner. This program has allowed 60 families (190 children) the opportunity to stay cool during the hot summer months.

On Thursday, April 26, 2012, on the floor of the **Toyota Center**, **BMC Software** and the **Houston Rockets** made the first donation to the "Kool Kidz" program. During the halftime ceremony, HCC Board Member **Grant Guthrie** handed out the first air conditioner unit to a family.



Thanks to HCC my son was able to come home from Texas Children's Hospital to an air conditioned room.  
-Denise, Marcus, Trasiy and Robert  
KOOL KIDZ 1ST RECIPIENT



# Chariots for Children

Houston Children's Charity is dedicated to enhancing the lives of underserved children in the Houston community and surrounding areas. The "Chariots for Children" van program was founded in 1996 to provide specifically designed and equipped vehicles to organizations with a similar mission.



For many children, our vans provide transportation to treatment or therapy. For some, a first step into a larger world. Transportation is restricted to child-related activities, whether it's a trip to the zoo, a trip to the movies, a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts, or a first visit to NASA.

Since the Chariots for Children van program began in 1996, Houston Children's Charity has awarded **93 vans, 3 trucks and 1 car to 82 deserving agencies and 8 individual families, at a cost of \$2,384,821.**

## 2012 Van Recipients

**GABRIELLA J. POOLE**  
Handicap Accessible Van

**JASON L. MACKEY**  
Handicap Accessible Van

**MISSION OF YAHWEH**  
12-passenger van

**GRACEWOOD**  
12-passenger van

**COVENANT HOUSE TEXAS**  
12-passenger van

**MARY SCALISE**  
Handicap Accessible Van

*The big thing about having a van is Jason's freedom and mobility. IT'S PRICELESS!!!*

*Jason is able to say "let's go here" or "let's go there" and we can. And without any help from anybody.*

*Jason had the first sleepover of his life. We picked up his friend and brought him over. EXCITING!*

*-Jessica Mackey & Jason Mackey*

*Sometimes words like "thank you" are not enough to express the gratitude we feel. We are overwhelmed by the generosity of Houston Children's Charity.*

*The gift of a 2011 Ford van will be used for years to come to take our moms and children to events that, without transportation being provide, they could not attend. You have blessed both our clients families and our staff, and we thank you.*

*Sincerely,*

*Debbie Rippstein  
Executive Director  
Gracewood*

## Congratulations, John B. Johnson! Chairman's Award



This Annual award is presented to a well-deserving Board Member who has gone above and beyond. Without a doubt, **John B. Johnson** and his endorsement to **Houston Children's Charity** has exceeded this standard. His unwavering support for every program is a blessing to HCC and the special children we serve.

### Thank You Mr. President!

After three distinguished years, Houston Children's Charity president bids the position farewell. At the Annual HCC Board Meeting **Laura Ward** thanked **John B. Johnson** for his outstanding service as President. A crystal gavel was presented in honor of his service.

As the gavel was passed, Laura welcomed the new President, **Thaddeus (Tad) B. Brown**, CEO

of the Houston Rockets and Clutch City Sports & Entertainment, and thanked him for his two year commitment as President and said that everyone was anticipating his great leadership.

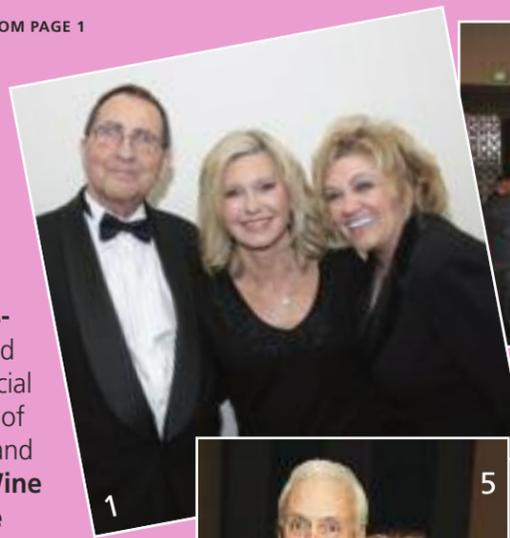
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inspired and carefully researched and prepared by **Chef Frank** and **Chef Robert**. As always, General Manager **Steve Trent** and Director of Catering **Leo Hamil** of the **Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown** surpassed all expectations. Also, special thanks to **Denise Ehrlich** of **Rathbone Wine Group** and **Leon Sierra** of **Bronco Wine Company** and **Mid-State Wine** for providing the fine wines throughout the evening.

By the end of the night, proceeds surpassed the **\$1.2 million** mark, thanks to underwriting, auctions and big board bidding – ALL for Houston's underserved children! HCC owes a very large part of the success to the ever generous **2012 Gala Title Sponsors** (and friends) **Monty Meave**, **Momentum BMW Southwest** and **Maria Moncada-Alaoui**, **Momentum BMW West**, who for the 5th year donated a BMW – The Ultimate Driving Machine.

High bidders for the evening were, without a doubt, the beyond generous – **Amber** and **Steve Mostyn**. They picked up 3 of the Live Auction items, an over-the-top **Super Bowl XLVII** experience, a **Golden Nugget Hotel** extravaganza in Las Vegas or Atlantic City, and not the least of which, a dazzling jewel-embellished necklace created by **Franco Valobra** specifically for the HCC Gala. **Edna Meyer-Nelson** is headed to the **Kentucky Derby** while **Kris Cogliano** is **Key West Bound**. **Laura** and **John Johnson** will **Escape to Cabo** as **Trini Mendenhall-Sosa** and **Frank Sosa** head to **Paradise in the Pacific**. **Alan Kent** will enjoy a **Texans "FAN"tastic Experience** while **Randy Lowry** enjoys some **Houston Rockets**. **Harry Faulkner** and **Tracy Orolin** were the winners of "The Wind" designed by the Award-Winning artist and sculptor, **Gil Bruvel**. **Laurie Holley** will "Look like a Million" in her **Wayne Smith Jewels** and **Sakowitz Fur!**

In the crowd were **David Huntington**, **Arvia** and **Jason Few**, **Melissa** and **Brad Juneau**, **Gary Becker**, **Anita** and **Gerald Smith**, **Margaret Williams** and **Jim Daniel**, **Paige** and **Tilman Fertitta**, **Darlene** and **Cappy Bisso**, **Michelle** and **Robert Marsh**, **Kristina Hornberger** and **Paul Somerville**, **Andrew** and **Karen McKemie**, **Carol** and **Dr. Tom Sawyer**.



# Underwriter Event

Houston Children's Charity supporters gathered at the home of **Paige and Tilman J. Fertitta** to celebrate the 2012 Gala Honorees **Lori and Dan Wolterman**. The evening was one of cocktails, hor'doeuvres and accolades.

HCC Chairman of the Board, **Tilman J. Fertitta**, and Executive Director, **Laura Ward**, began the presentation by honoring Lori and Dan Wolterman for their philanthropic work and generous contributions throughout the community. Taking the spotlight were **Monty Meave, Momentum BMW Southwest**, and **Maria Moncada-Alaoui, Momentum BMW West**, for their continued support as Title Sponsor for the 16th Annual Gala. These two dealerships have provided enormous resources to HCC over the past 5 years. They are truly champions of our cause.

After a brief personal message about each event underwriter, Laura distributed a Riedel "Face to Face" decanter to **Paige and Tilman Fertitta, Melissa and Brad Juneau and Penny and Paul Loyd, Jr.**

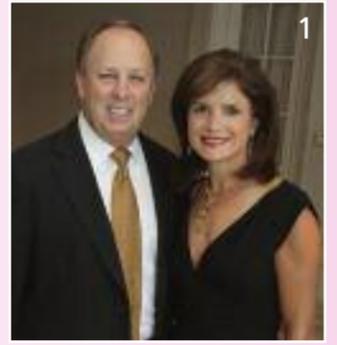
Laura then presented a Nambe Bowl to **Bud Light / Silver Eagle Distributors / John B. Jonson, Richland Investments / Edna Meyer-Nelson, Hyatt Regency Houston, BMC Software, Michelle and Robert Marsh, Memorial Hermann and Valero Family Oil.**

Other awards were presented to auction sponsors **Gil Bruvel, Judith Ann Jewels, Gittings, BullShirts, 94.5 The Buzz, Taft McWhorter Art, Catering by Culinaire, Bronco Wine Company and Darryl & Co.** Without each of your contributions the Gala would not have been so amazing.

In closing, Laura recognized the many giving people that help make the Gala a success each year.



1. Jergen (JB) Bartholomai, Olivia Newton-John, Edna Meyer-Nelson
2. Franco Valobra, Amber & Steve Mostyn
3. Steve & Amber Mostyn
4. Dave & Laura Ward
5. Alan & Julie Kent
6. Wayne Smith, Kathleen de Castillejo, & Denny Lyons
7. Trini Mendenhall-Sosa & Frank Sosa
8. Kris Cogliano, Rebecca Bolin
9. Mary Lou & Steve Dujka
10. Gil Bruvel, Laura Rathe, Harry Faulkner, Tracy Orolin
11. Greg & Linda Brown
12. Michelle & Robert Marsh
13. Don & Maggie Henderson
14. Debbie & Bob Ogle
15. Margaret Williams, Jim Daniel
16. David Huntington, Mike Hulsej, Kenny Stainton, Grant Guthrie
17. John & Laura Johnson
18. DeeDee & Wallis Marsh
19. Shafik Rifaat, Shelby Hodge
20. Sherry & Jim Smith
21. Carol & Dr. Tom Sawyer
22. Diane Lokey Farb, Judith Oudt, Martha Turner, Glenn Bauguss
23. Kristina Hornberger, Paul Somerville
24. Brian Wander, Andrew Cordes, Diana Wander, Brian Teichman, Bernie Cantu
25. Erik & Peggy Carrington



1. Dan & Lori Wolterman
2. Tilman & Paige Fertitta, Blake Fertitta
3. Maria Moncada-Alaoui, Laura Ward
4. Monty Meave
5. John & Laura Johnson
6. Edna Meyer-Nelson, Melissa Juneau
7. Steve & Pat Trent, Dan & Perri D'Armond
8. Laura & Dave Ward
9. Rod Ryan, Joe Dotterwiech
10. Brittany Zucker, Sherri Zucker

# Back 2 School

As the lazy days of summer slip away, it will soon be time to put away the



beach chairs and corner lemonade stands and prepare for going back to school. A new school year is exciting. There's a wonderful feeling about making a fresh start, catching up with old friends, and moving up a grade. But there's no denying that it can be stressful too.

All children should be able to go to school on the first day wearing a new backpack loaded with supplies. Since its creation in 2005, **Houston Children's Charity "Back 2 School"** program has helped thousands of children in the Houston area. These deserving kids are now able to walk into class that first day, armed with a new back pack, school supplies, hope and confidence.

Since 2010, HCC has teamed up with **The Rod Ryan Show of 94.5 The Buzz** and **Joe Dotterweich** of

**BullShirts** to host their "Back 2 School" program.

HCC is proud to report that the 2012 "Back 2 School" program was a tremendous success due to our sponsors and donors. Funds for this program were raised through a variety of sources. Listeners of **The Rod Ryan Show** raised **\$13,500** via the **On Line Store. Momentum BMW West** and **Rod Ryan of 94.5 The Buzz** held a **Casino Night** at the dealership which generated **\$5,483**. **Which Wich** collected **\$5,100** and **Top Dog Fireworks** donated **\$5,017** to this amazing program.

**Rich Howells**, owner of **City Line Cycles** of Deer Park, rolled in **\$1,200** with the **3rd Annual "Ain't Going to Sturgis" Fun Run** on August 4th. **HAHU Luncheon** brought in **\$478** towards the total backpacks purchased.

Along with amazing monetary donations, HCC received 250 sackpacs for the **Office Depot Foundation**, 25 stuffed backpacks from **Sasol** and a jeep full of supplies from **Santiago San Miguel**.

On Saturday, August 18th, families were able to pick up their students backpacks full of supplies. This day eased the worries of over 2,600 needy students in our area. Over 50

volunteers from around the community assisted with this single day distribution. **Total Waste Management Alliance, Inc., Richo-USA** and **EDP Renewables** were among those companies that volunteered to lay the foundation for upcoming success.

HCC extends a whole-hearted thank you to **Bull-Shirts, The Rod Ryan Show** and our dedicated volunteers for helping our kids begin the 2012-2013 school year ready to charge that the path of scholastic achievements.



*I did not want September to get away and not THANK YOU for the wonderful backpacks. You played an important party (role) in sending children back to school with school supplies and backpacks. Our parents are grateful..Just wanted to let you know that you are appreciated!*

Melodee  
Nehemiah Center  
Houston



1. Rod Ryan giving backpack to elementary student  
2. Back 2 School volunteer and another elementary school student ready for the new school year.

## WESTERN UNION

The Board of Directors of the **Western Union Foundation**, in cooperation with **PLS Financial Services, Inc.** approved a donation in the amount of **\$10,000** to **Houston Children's Charity**.

Western Union's Our World, Our Family program connects people with economic opportunity. They support access to better education, promote entrepreneurship and personal finance skills and equip individuals, families and entire communities with the tools they need to better their lives, as well as the lives of their families back home.



Through the Our World, Our Family program, Western Union helps those toward the lower end of the financial ladder. This grant is part of their commitment to the communities it serves. HCC is very grateful to have been chosen as the recipient of this grant.



## TICKETS galore

Due to generous donations, throughout the past year, Houston Children's Charity was able to treat some of Houston's special children to different Houston-area sporting events.

For the second year in a row, **Rice University** Assistant Athletic Director of Development - Donor Relations **Mark Laney** spearheaded the **Rice 100 Club** donation of 100 tickets (valued at **\$6,600**) to each home game at Rice University.

HCC is especially grateful to

**Houston Aeros** for 1300 tickets to a December home game. These tickets (valued at **\$41,600**) were handed out to the families that attended the Annual Christmas Party.

Also a big thanks to **24 Hour Fitness** for the Harlem Globetrotters for 20 tickets (valued at **\$840**) to their show on January 27th at the **Reliant Arena**.

Agencies receiving these tickets: **Devereux Treatment Network, No More Victims, Inc.** and **Houston Police-Activities League**

## HOUSTON ROCKETS & BMC SOFTWARE

HCC was honored to be the beneficiary of a **Houston Rockets & BMC Software** partnership. With every win the Houston Rockets achieved during the 2011-2012 season,



**Dan D'Armond** of **BMC Software** announced that his company would be donating **\$500** to **Houston Children's Charity**. On April 26, 2012 a check for **\$17,000** was presented to **Grant Guthrie**, HCC Vice President/Funding



Co-Chair, on the floor of the Toyota Center during the halftime presentation.

A special thanks to **Dan D'Armond** of **BMC Software**



and **Sarah Joseph**, Director of Community Relations for the Houston Rockets, for setting in motion the idea that made this generous donation possible. When the Houston Rockets win, HCC Scores!

## VALERO

Employees of the **Valero Houston Refinery** raised money through sponsorship of the **2012 Valero Texas Open Benefit for Children Golf Classic** in

San Antonio, Texas. We received the news that **Houston Children's Charity** was one of the recipients and in October 2012, HCC received a **\$15,000** donation.



## VALERO TEXAS OPEN LAUNCHES 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The **Valero Texas Open** officially teed off its 90th birthday celebration by announcing a series of events and promotions that took place in the weeks leading up to the 2012 tournament. "We want the Valero Texas Open's 90th Celebration to be something the entire family can enjoy", said Tournament Chairman, **Dean Lammert**. "And we wanted to use our 90th celebration platform as a way to say THANK YOU to the San Antonio community for supporting us for so many years".

In keeping with that spirit of thanks, officials from the **Valero Energy Foundation** and **Golf San Antonio** launched the 90th Celebration Campaign with a **Charity Golf Ball Drop**. 523 golf balls, each representing a charity supported by the Valero Texas Open, were dropped from a helicopter hovering over Brackenridge Park. Contributions totaling \$50,000 were divided among charities whose golf balls landed closest to the target. Congratulations to **Houston Children's Charity** for winning **\$750.00** in this event.

## Annual Collector's Night

On November 11, 2012 local artist **Taft McWhorter** showcased his work at his annual **Collector's Night**. A percentage of the night's proceeds benefitted **Houston Children's Charity**. A donation of **\$1,000** was made to HCC after the nights totals were in.



## FUNDANCE CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 19, 2012 Houstonians gathered to make new friends, be active, and have fun. **FunDance Houston** is all about real social dancing and fun in a relaxed but professional atmosphere. They want to make social dancing accessible for everyone, even if you have never danced before. At the event, **FunDance Houston** collected cash donations at the door for **Houston Children's Charity**. A donation of **\$2,300.00** was presented to HCC prior to the end of the Holiday Season.



## HCC Closet

**Houston Children's Charity** opened the doors to the "HCC Closet" with GREAT success. The purpose of the closet is to provide gently used clothing to families and agencies.

The unique feature of our "HCC Closet" is that these items are provided at absolutely no cost to our clients. Clothes are available for babies, young children, teens and adults.

Individual families, and those connected to agencies, are given an opportunity to make appointments to shop in the "HCC Closet". HCC Board Member **Melissa Juneau**, and her assistant **Jennifer Grigassy**, have done an amazing job heading this program.

Volunteers and staff are on hand to help them choose items that are

appropriate for each family member. The boutique atmosphere is a tribute to the numerous hours that **Melissa and Jennifer** have spent creating a happy and fun-filled space.

In a year when families that have never had to ask for assistance are finding themselves unable to make ends meet, we are happy to offer this service. Our families are forever grateful to the dedication and our generous supporters for their continued donations. We would like to thank **Melissa and Brad Juneau** for graciously supplementing the monthly costs to keep the doors open to the "HCC Closet".

Now that you know what's in the "HCC Closet", we ask you... "what's in your closet?"



... You Better Not Pout, I'm Telling You Why...

# Christmas 2012

... Santa Claus is coming to town!

As the seasons change and the weather turns cooler, **Houston Children's Charity** buckles down for its busiest time of the year. Putting together three different events for the Holiday Season becomes priority one!

During our annual **Children's Christmas Party** at the **Hyatt Regency Houston**, over 650 children and their families are treated to food, toys, goodies, entertainment and of course the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus (thank you **David Devaney** and **Jeanne Bulnes**).

The 100 families, with five or more children, were treated to a hamburger/ hot dog buffet and a "make your own" sundae bar. Partygoers were entertained with **Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Speakers Committee Rodeo Clowns** and **Denim & Diamonds Line Dance Team**, a family photo shoot, face painting, **Roly the Clown** (courtesy of **Best Entertainers**), children dancers from **Houston PAL**, the **Houston Rockets Power Dancers**, **Define Body & Mind**, **Primus Strongman "Feats of Strength"** and special friends from the **Houston Aquarium Downtown**. Appearances by **Cookie Monster**, a lion and a panda also brought smiles to the children's faces.

HCC received donations from **Sysco, Oak Farms Dairy, Randall's, and Pepsi. West Houston Orthodontics** provided candy through their Candy Buy Back event. **The Marine Corp's**

**Reserve "Toys for Tots"** program provided all of the gifts the kids received during the event.

Special thanks go out to **Beth Acton** for organizing the annual **Children's Christmas Party** for a third straight year. She led a team of volunteers to our warehouse to hand pick and package the toys to be handed out by Santa and Mrs. Claus. At the event, **Bryce Ballew** personally introduced each family as they entered the ballroom. It was a unique touch that made our families feel welcome and special.

The **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.

The Christmas spirit was absolutely monumental for 2012. HCC signed up over **430 Sponsors**. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, we were able to help 591 families with 1,564 children. Christmas miracles do happen!!! Our **Toy Distribution** has grown and grown over the past 5 years, thanks to **The Marine Corp's Reserve "Toys for Tots"** program and **Houston First Corporation's** donation of 125,000 square feet at the **George R. Brown Convention Center**. Both of these organizations have been instrumental in increasing our ability to assist more and more children.

Needy families, who have applied for the program, receive a wristband and an appointment time to attend our **Toy Distribution**. They are able to walk through the giant isles of toys and select "just the right one" for their children. The one day distribution benefitted over 9,800 children from over 3,200 families and over 16,800 children from local agencies bringing the grand total to over 31,800 children.

Just like the last few years, the children of the City of Houston became the benefactors of toys for yet another magnificent toy distribution. It is a true sign of the times when a city can pull together to this degree. HCC's Board of Directors is proud to partner with **Houston First Corporation** and the **Marine Corp's Reserve "Toys for Tots"** program to bring a little holiday joy and happiness to Houston's special children. Special thanks to **Staff Sergeant Jamie Sojos** for his assistance in securing

and organizing the "Toys for Tots" program. It would not have been a success without the help of these sponsors, volunteers and donors – we thank you!

In addition, this Holiday Season we had over 450 volunteers assisting us with our holiday programs, as well as **Houston Police Officers** securing our Annual Christmas Party at the Hyatt Regency Houston and Toy Distribution at the Houston First Corporation - George R. Brown Convention Center. Thanks to everyone that made Christmas Magic happen for so many children in and around the Houston area.



*We want to thank all of you who helped our families this year! Because of your hard work, we are going to have a very Merry Christmas! God bless you and your families to have a safe, happy and prosperous Holiday Season. Kathalyn Franklin and kids Frankie and JeCory Pritchett*



1. Executive Director Laura Ward and HCC Volunteers sorting toys
2. Santa getting a special thank you from excited guests
3. Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo Clowns
4. Bryce Ballew, Beth Acton
5. Staff Sergeant Sojos, Staff Sergeant Ferriz with toy donations
6. Face painting
7. Cookie Monster greets guest at Christmas Party
8. HCC Board Member Grant Guthrie and invited party guests
9. HCC Board Member Bob Ogle ready to help with toy distribution
10. Mrs. Claus and invited guest
11. Brian Vickers, HCC Board Member Gary Becker, Callie Best, Nick Best
12. Roly the Juggling Elf entertains
13. HCC Volunteer helps with check out at toy distribution

## Houston Children's Charity Board of Directors

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## Stay Connected!

We are always in need of caring volunteers. Please contact the HCC office at **(713) 524-2878 ext. 200** or email us at **admin@houstonchildrenscharity.org** with your name, address, phone number and availability.

We appreciate your support!

If you are interested in learning more about any of our programs featured in "Kidstuff", contact us at (713) 524-2878 or visit our web site.



[www.facebook.com/houstonchildrenscharity](http://www.facebook.com/houstonchildrenscharity)



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

## 2013 Upcoming Events

**"A BETTER NIGHT'S SLEEP"**  
(bed distribution) – monthly

**"HCC CLOSET"**  
Semi-Monthly

**CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY**  
March 23, 2013  
(at Northland Christian School)

**CELEBRITY EVENING**  
May 9, 2013

**"KOOL KIDZ"**  
Spring - Fall

**"BACK 2 SCHOOL"**  
August TBD

**16TH ANNUAL GALA**  
November 2, 2013  
(at Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown)

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
December 15, 2013  
(at Hyatt Regency Houston Downtown)

**ADOPT – A – FAMILY**  
October - December

**TOY DISTRIBUTION**  
December 20, 2013  
December 21, 2013  
(at Houston First Corporation –  
George R. Brown Convention Center)



**"OUR KIDS ARE EVERYBODY'S KIDS"**

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