



HEALING little HEARTS

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your consideration in supporting the 9th annual Healing little Hearts Gala & Auction to benefit Boston Children's Hospital, to be held Saturday, March 5, 2016. This will be the final annual Gala and our goal is to reach the million dollar milestone. Over the last eight years Healing little Hearts has raised nearly \$900,000...every penny to fund pediatric heart research at Boston Children's Hospital. We hope you will join us in reaching \$1,000,000 as we strive to help expedite this important research which will ultimately save the lives of babies and children born with Congenital Heart Defects.

About 1 out of every 100 babies are born each year with some type of a Congenital Heart Defect. This year, approximately 4,000 babies will not live to see their first birthday. In fact, Congenital Heart Defects are the most common birth defect and the leading cause of birth-defect related deaths worldwide. Nearly twice as many children die from Congenital Heart Defects in the United States each year as from all forms of childhood cancers combined.

In many of these defects there are one or more valves that are absent or malformed. Often within hours of coming into this world infants are undergoing risky open-heart surgery to place valves in their tiny hearts. They will then face repeated open-heart surgeries throughout their lives as they grow to replace these outgrown valves.

It's a long and difficult journey for the children and the families involved...we're on that journey now... Our son, Brady, is ten years old and has undergone over 20 procedures, including seven heart surgeries and four days on life-support. Many, many children face the fear and risk of these repeated procedures. With the help of some special friends and family members we are organizing the 9th annual Healing little Hearts Gala & Auction to bring awareness and raise valuable dollars for a very important medical research project being conducted by doctors and scientists at Boston Children's Hospital. Brady's surgeon, Dr. John Mayer, is directly involved in the research and creation of a valve that will grow with a child. They are continuously striving to achieve success, however, like all medical research, it is very costly.

As part of this 9th annual fundraising event we are asking businesses to sponsor our event and we're offering many different levels of sponsorship. We will also be holding a live and silent auction and welcome a donation of goods or services. Would you consider helping Boston Children's Hospital reach the next level of care for these children? Your generous contribution could make the difference in the lives of so many children.

Thank you for giving hope to little hearts.

With Sincere Thanks,

Marc & Kelly Weglowski

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