



HEALING little HEARTS

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your consideration in supporting the **Healing little Hearts Comeback Gala & Auction**, with all proceeds to benefit **Boston Children's Hospital** and pediatric cardiac research.

Did you know a child's heart beats 144,000 times a day...or that one in every one-hundred babies born have some form of a congenital heart defect? 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...our family knows that journey well. Our son, Brady, now thirteen years old, has undergone nearly 20 procedures, including seven heart surgeries and four days on life-support. Many, many children face the fear and risk of these repeated procedures.

Since 2007, Healing little Hearts has supported Boston Children's Hospital and Dr. John Mayer's research for a tissue engineered heart valve, a medical breakthrough that would be an exponential leap in the survival and quality of life for children born with life threatening heart defects. To date, and with the generosity of so many, we have raised over \$1,000,000 to help fund this research. I'm thrilled to say that Dr. Mayer and his team are getting very close to the next step...clinical trial!

Our Comeback Gala will take place on Saturday, March 7, 2020 at the New Bedford Whaling Museum. As part of the Gala and our hopes of giving Dr. Mayer and his team the financial push they need to make this incredible advancement happen, we are featuring a silent and a live auction. We are also offering many levels of sponsorship. Would you consider helping us with an auction donation, a level of sponsorship or a cash donation? Your generous contribution could make the difference in the lives of so many children.

Thank you for giving hope to little hearts,

Marc & Kelly Weglowski

Marc & Kelly Weglowski